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Lotus Starbase Official Newsletter of Lotus Fleet

Issue 9, December 2014

Lotus Fleet:: an authentically dedicated Star Trek community

RISA

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PLANET
EPSILON CETI
STAR SYSTEM

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Interview with Vice Admiral Spawnnner

1. *Where are you from?*

British Columbia, Canada

2. *What is your position in the Fleet?*

Vice Admiral (Event Director)

2.1 *You were recently instated in this position. What is your immediate intent within the new role/ position that you have assumed? What are some of your long-range goals?*

Immediate: Revitalize and increase participation in STO. Long-Range: rebuild the audio quizzes, have a healthy, multi-events presence within STO, to increase our player base and help with starbase projects. We want a healthy, active in-game fleet.

3. *When did you join Lotus Fleet?*

December 2008.

4. *Lotus Fleet has often been described as more than just a gaming fleet, what does that mean to you?*

It is a lifestyle. We are a like-minded group of people who live and espouse the ideals of StarFleet. We are at our core 24th century StarFleet officers, simply a little before our time.

5. *What is your favorite Star Trek series?*

TNG

6. *What is your favorite Star Trek movie?*

First Contact

7. *Who is favorite Star Trek captain and why?*

Picard. Exceptional diplomat, not afraid or unequipped to fight and win when necessary. He combines a brilliant tactical mind with mercy and compassion. He will attempt a diplomatic non-violent solution first, fight and disable if necessary, kill when ABSOLUTELY necessary.

8. *What is your favorite Star Trek ship?*

Sovereign

9. *Other than a captain do you have another favorite Star Trek character?*

Cmdr. William T. Riker

10. *What is your favorite Star Trek uniform?*

TNG Movie

11. *What keeps you interested in Star Trek despite the lack of a current episodic series?*

STO and the hope of a "non- JJ" Trek movie line.

12. *Is there a character or actor you wish had never appeared in Star Trek?*

No.

13. *What are your thoughts on J.J. Abrams Star Trek movies?*

I watch them because it is TREK, but he is simply taking "generic action movie" and placing the actors in space in Star Trek Uniforms. Not adding to the trek storyline, simply changing it to suit the un-trek masses.

14. *Is there someone else you'd like to see direct a Star Trek film?*

Anyone who is a Star Trek purist.



15. How do you think we can best apply Gene Roddenberry's vision today?

Look past our petty differences; strive collectively to achieve the common goal (the betterment of mankind).

16. Are you active in Star Trek Online?

Very.

17. What is your impression of the game today since when it launched?

Lots of progress in the right direction, however there has been some very shortsighted decisions by the devs.

18. Do you believe Cryptic stays mostly true to Star Trek's vision?

Yes.

19. What is your passion in life or your biggest aspiration?

To be an exceptional husband and father.

20. What is your biggest peeve?

People who cannot follow direction when they ask for help.

21. What would you say is the highlight in your life to this point?

My Daughter (almost 4 yrs old).

22. What is one thing nobody in the Fleet knows about you?

I gained my love of Trek from my mother.

23. Could you describe yourself in 5 words?

Courageous, dutiful, honorable, intelligent, compassionate.

24. Do you have a personal motto?

Shoot for the moon; if you miss you will still land among the stars.

25. What advice would you give new members?

Embrace the community we have built. You will find it very welcoming and rich.

26. How would you define leadership?

Lead by example. Never expect anyone under your command to perform any task that you yourself are not ready, willing, and capable of performing.

27. Are there any other thoughts or information that you'd like to add?

For those STO-only players we have, or may come to have. We have a rich cadre of experienced STO vets; if you are seeking advice, I can think of no cadre of players better equipped to help you make an informed decision.



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LOTUS FLEET



Just one more cup
and you can...



Work really late



Beat your high score



Plant 100 trees



Run for president



Grow the world's
biggest banana



Talk to fish



Catch a Leprechaun



Spontaneously combust



Animorph



Develop your own
orbit



Turn into a cup
of coffee



BRAVE NEW WORLD: THE THIRD RP FLEET ACTION OF LOTUS FLEET IS UNDERWAY!

Being the guardian of the Azimuth Horizon anomaly they have tamed several months ago in their own sector of Federation Space, Lotus Fleet is now tasked by the Federation Council and Starfleet Command to lead the first exploration and colonization attempt in the pocket universe it opens to.

For this momentous foray beyond the final frontier, veteran Captain Kheren of the Lotus Fleet flagship USS Horizon is called to safely transport three thousand colonists and help them establish a brave new world beyond this universe. With him come his elite crew of XO Commander Neil S. Redding, Strategic Chief Commander Oseno Jureth, Science chief Commander Snowfire K'Leysha, Doctor Elliago Nasaro-Myth, Chief Engineer Lieutenant S'Tan Solius and Lieutenant J.G. Aron'Son, along with the exceptional crew of the state-of-the-art deep space explorer USS Phoenix; commanding officer Captain Syntron, XO Commander Joshua Riker, Chief Engineer Commander David Rogers, Chief of Ops Lieutenant Elisha Leône, Chief of Science Lieutenant J.G. Jonathan X. Livingstone and Tactical-Security Chief Lieutenant J.G. Mrriin M'ata.

While the Horizon will work to build this new colony, the Phoenix will be responsible in charting the entire sector around it. But this will not be the routine Federation enterprise anyone could expect.

On the Horizon, the colonists are all faithful followers of the same religious cult that almost caused the anomaly to destroy both universes. Captain Kheren had lost crew members to these extremists and is barely recovering from the ordeal of having been transformed into an Undine merely weeks before. His shift Andorian mood is stimulating their Romulan Chief Engineer back to his former state of mind... and not to the liking of his chief of science. His own first officer is wondering if he can stand the strain... while their strategic ops officer, a Bajoran, has to cope with the presence of their new Tactical-Security chief Aron'son; a Jem'Hadar.

On the Phoenix, Captain Syntron has reservations about such an early and precipitated expansion of the Federation into totally unknown territory; especially while his Exec has to manage an almost brand new bridge crew, including a Caitian and the first X'Ell to ever come out of his isolated world to work with them... and observe if Starfleet is up to its lofty standards. Even their veteran chief engineer is of some concern, rescued from some unknown ordeal just as they were launching for this bold endeavour.

And while they are en route to the trans-universe portal, Fleet captain Allen Samji and his own staff back on Starbase Lotus are about to confront the secret of the Sarabande asteroid and its strange alien ruins; the research vessel appointed by Starfleet to pursue the investigations initiated weeks earlier by the Phoenix is slowly approaching the starbase... but does not answer hails.



What will happen next? Find out in our RP site and read on!

Or better yet; join in on the fun! Anyone rolling a new character can join the crew of Starbase Lotus and confront the mystery of Sarabande; or possibly be rushed to one of the ships still in Federation Space through shuttle rendezvous and plunge into the unknown beyond the Horizon!

The Adventure is just beginning!



Question me now about all other matters, but do not ask who I am, for fear you may increase in my heart its burden of sorrow as I think back; I am very full of grief, and I should not sit in the house of somebody else with my lamentation and wailing. It is not good to go on mourning forever.

—Homer's The Odyssey, Book 19, 115-120

Intercepted Intelligence File



Lotus Fleet Command File # 345-DR-R36KDF64-88289.2

From: Commander Mena, Romulan Republic Intelligence

To: Republic Ship Commanders - **Eyes Only**

File # R36-kdf64

Intercepted Intelligence file from Gelera, Klingon Intelligence, to Klingon Defence Force ship Captains.

Subject: Federation Commander David Rogers

D.o.B.: 63126.3 (approx.)

P.o.B.: Romulus Orbital Detention Facility

Physical:

- Hgt.: 1.854m;
- Wgt.: 99.7 kg;
- Black, shoulder length hair;
- Hazel eye color.(See attachment 2 for Federation Star Fleet file photo) (*Attachments removed as per security protocols demand. Retrieve as per usual procedures.*)

Known History:

Nothing was known about Cmdr. Rogers until his appearance in Star Fleet files at registration with Star Fleet academy. The following parameters then became apparent.

Engineering crew, Utopia Planatia, (federation year) 2402-2406

Star Fleet Academy, 2406-2409

Lotus Fleet, 2409-

Last known Assignment, USS Spectre - Akira Class

Unsubstantiated reports place Commander Rogers on the Ferengi marauder of DaiMon Mok



LOTUS FLEET

prior to the Utopia Planatia reports.

Current assessment:

Based on known history and Star Fleet Academy files, place a rating of 8.5 (of 10) on Commander Rogers. This rating based on engineering and warp field dynamics studies at San Francisco, Earth; as well on specific reported actions between the USS Spectre and KDF forces during the past two years.

Threat assessment: High

Turn assessment: None.

Commander Rogers' half Romulan ancestry precludes possible Klingon intelligence profiling for turning.

Recommendation: Kill on sight.

End Transmission



LOTUS FLEET

MEMO



TO

JOHN PIKE

DATE

APRIL 13, 1987

FROM

JOHN FERRARO

SUBJECT

STAR TREK/Casting

Per your request, following is a list of actors who are being considered for their respective roles in STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION.

Picard

Patrick Stewart
Mitch Ryan
Roy Thinnes
Yaphet Kotto
Patrick Bauchau

Tasha

Lianne Langland
Julia Nickson
Rosalind Chao
Leah Ayers
Bunty Bailey

Data

Mark Lindsay Chapman
Eric Menyuk
Kevin Peter Hall (also for Geordi)
Kelvin Han Yee

Ryker

Michael O'Gorman
Gregg Marx
Jonathan Frakes
Ben Murphy

Geordi

LeVar Burton
Reggie Jackson
Tim Russ
Wesley Snipes
Victor Love
Chip McCallister
Clarence Gilyard Jr.
Kevin Peter Hall

Beverly

Anne Twomey
Jenny Augutter
Cheryl McFadden

Troi

Denise Crosby

Wesley

J.D. Roth

The above actors will be brought in to read for Gene Roddenberry starting next week. However, Patrick Bauchau did come in to read for Gene today for the role of "Picard." His reading was well received; he and Patrick Stewart seem to be the favorites for the role of "Picard."

For the role of "Ryker," Michael O'Gorman seems to be a favorite. He's sort of an atypical choice for the role, however, a good one.

Denise Crosby seems to be the only possibility for the role of "Troi" at this point; the same for J.D. Roth for the role of "Wesley."

There are several contenders for "Tasha," "Geordi," and "Data." However, Rosalind Chao seems to be a favorite for "Tasha"; Reggie Jackson for "Geordi"; and Mark Lindsay Chapman for "Data."

For the role of "Beverly," Cheryl McFadden is the favorite. However, her schedule may pose a problem. She's currently performing in a play in San Diego.

General reading sessions are continuing; our next one is on April 14.

cc: Jeff Hayes

Fleetwide Meetings:

(check the site Calendar for your local time)

Occurs every: 3rd Sunday of the month - every month UTC - 5 hours [DST]

This is our Fleet meeting to discuss Lotus Fleet business, events, and other important information.

The meeting will commence at 5 PM EST and be recorded.

Afterward, the meeting goes "unofficial" and unrecorded into a round table, where anyone may have a chance to speak; i.e. ask questions, present ideas, etc... This is the social aspect of our meeting and provides an opportunity to get to know everyone involved in the Fleet even better.

Think of it as our Fleet's Ten Forward

Each meeting will be held on TeamSpeak 3. Please download and install TS3 following this guide:
<http://www.lotusfleet.org/viewtopic.php?f=34&t=55>

Also, please RSVP so that we know who is planning to attend, and indicate if you will be bringing a guest.

Invited: Everyone



LOTUS FLEET

STO UPDATE BY ADMIRAL ATHOS



This is Admiral Athos of the USS Aleutian coming to you fireside in our Fleet's Embassy. We continue to make steady progress on building up our Fleet holdings. As all of you should know by now, our Fleet Starbase is at Tier 4. The road to building a Tier 5 Starbase is a long one, requiring many resources. While we can certainly continue to complete these Starbase projects as able, this is a great opportunity to change our focus and finish out our Embassy and Spire. These facilities will offer many great resources to Fleet members.

Since last month, we've upgraded our Hall of Diplomacy to Tier 3. Other than offering ultra-rare threat-scaling consoles, this upgrade really enhances the elegance of our Diplomatic facility. In fact, our Hall of Diplomacy is being readied for a Thanksgiving banquet. If you are nearby and are able to travel to New Romulus, I invite you to join us.

As we are concentrating on our Embassy projects, it should be noted that our Recruitment Processing Center is ready for upgrading to Tier 3. Once this facility is upgraded, our Embassy itself can be completed to Tier 3. During this past month, some Spire projects have also been completed. Both research and operations facilities at the Spire are about equal in their progress to Tier 3. My thoughts are that both will be ready to upgrade at the same time, and we will simply have to choose.



With the progress that has been made, I'd like to recognize a few of our Fleet members:

- Rear Admiral Jureth: Fed Fleet Builder IX - Commodore
- Rear Admiral Battle Lion: Fed Fleet Builder VI - Commander
- Lieutenant JG Infernalpotato: Fed Fleet Builder V - Lieutenant Commander
- Admiral Kheren: KDF Fleet Builder III - Lieutenant JG

If you have enough resources donated to receive an award, please notify me via PM.

With that, please have a safe and enjoyable Christmas if you celebrate this particular holiday.

Admiral Athos

~Admiral Athos



LOTUS FLEET

Fleet Statistics, Awards, Promotions and Organ Donations

New members:

- Cadet 4th class SixofTen

Longevity Awards: November/December 2014:

- Lieutenant (j.g.) AlexSomers: Long Tour (9 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Veela: 21 months (1 year, 9 months)
- Commander BlueKnightOne: 39 months (3 years, 3 months)
- Commodore Josh Vincent: 45 months (3 years, 9 months)
- Admiral JeffT: 45 months (3 years, 9 months)
- Lieutenant Snowfire: 51 months (4 years, 3 months)
- Rear Admiral Brigham: 54 months (4 years, 6 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Father Hensley: 57 months (4 years, 9 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) mindblade: 57 months (4 years, 9 months)
- Fleet Captain Vladan: 57 months (4 years, 9 months)
- Admiral Evshell: 57 months (4 years, 9 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Anders 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Fleet Captain Teancum: 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) binhawkins: 66 months (5 years, 6 months)
- Admiral Kheren 66 months: (5 years, 6 months)
- Provisional Rear Admiral Crist: 69 months (5 years, 9 months)
- Rear Admiral Joester: 69 months (5 years, 9 months)
- Provisional Rear Admiral SACKeen: 69 months (5 years, 9 months)
- Provisional Admiral Dominik Kale: 72 months (6 years)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) XuDan: Short Tour (3 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Adam Wilcox: 18 months (1 year, 6 months)
- Ambassador [GF]Aussie: 21 months (1 year, 9 months)
- Lieutenant Maurs: 51 months (4 years, 3 months)
- Retired Fleet Officer Jae Onasi: 54 months (4 years, 6 months)
- Commodore Sainthill: 54 months (4 years, 6 months)
- Retired Fleet Officer Devem: 54 months (4 years, 6 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Montgomery: 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Captain Kalten: 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Fleet Captain Storm Windfall: 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Provisional Commodore Tom Wallace: 63 months (5 years, 3 months)
- Lieutenant (j.g.) Scotlandyard: 66 months (5 years, 6 months)
- Commodore BLZBUB: 66 months (5 years, 6 months)
- Commodore Redding: 66 months (5 years, 6 months)
- Captain Julian Carter: 69 months (5 years, 9 months)
- Provisional Vice Admiral Niomo: 72 months (6 years)



Editor's Corner: Behind the Scenes with Adm Jeff

(Part 2: Behind the scenes: Continued interview with Storm Windfall on her Star Trek RL project)

Jeff T: So at what stage is this Star Trek gaming facility at as of this moment?

Storm: We can't start building a replica unless we have permission from the copyright holders. Like I mentioned before, talks only start early in the next year, due to the holiday season.

Jeff T: So until those things are in place, how are you proceeding?

Storm: We already have the land set aside and the excavations have started for the dams, as well as the power generators.

We broke ground last week, as a matter of fact. I haven't been there, because at this stage my input isn't needed. It's just now for damming the waterfall at three places (the third one where the building are going to be, so that will take a bit more precision) the set-up of the two 10-million liter tanks that will provide a part of the power, and a dedicated satellite station and tower for the Internet.

The excavation of the mountain and the foundation will go ahead anyway, but we can't start with the building itself yet.

Jeff T: Are local residents and businesses in the area involved with this project? If so, in what capacity?

Storm: No, we don't use local businesses, but we will utilize an external workforce when the real building starts. At the moment we have an engineer and a landscape conservationist working together with the excavation and building crew to preserve as much as possible of the land and even to let all the buildings be...adapted? integrated? so as not to spoil or destroy the local plant life, which most are a protected species anyways. Proteas, etc. Fynbos. In the end we don't want people to be able to outright 'see' the building.

What exactly do you mean by 'local businesses? South African, or locally, around here?

Jeff T: Whatever applies.... around town or the region.

Storm: Oh yeah, then we are using the locals.

Jeff T: Will there be an Arboretum featured in this facility to include local or endangered plants, like exists on starship?

Storm: That's the plan. But for plants outside of South Africa, we have to get special dispensation to use it. The land we are building on is already declared a nature reserve because of our Fynbos, but other plants will be inside and we have to ensure that it doesn't seed outside of their site.

It's another legal matter to get this done.

Jeff T: What is your estimated time of completion for this project, and what do you see as you major obstacles for completing this in a timely manner and within budget?



Storm: Depends on the [discussions and outcomes that occur] with the legal teams of the copyright holders.

[Nevertheless,] we are going to build anyway, just the façade won't be that of the Voyager until the legal [aspects] are cleared. Which is part of the building plans anyway. Otherwise, the groundwork is the phase that takes the longest. We have to make sure that the tunnels we excavate into the mountain, the dams, the foundations of the buildings, are up to standard. The groundwork and the rounding off of the building are the things that will take time because it has to be perfect.

The building itself, like the floors, the rooms and the bridge, observation stations, all of these are being pre-manufactured and will be fitted together on-site, to minimize the impact on the land.

Jeff T: How is a project like the Jordanian theme park, currently being constructed, which includes major Star Trek-themed attractions, able to work through these "legal" issues?

Storm: Having a major stake in Paramount helps a lot. (lol) Not really, but I haven't spoken to them about how they got to that point, or how they handled the legal matters.

Jeff T: This could include CBS too... since they hold the television rights to Star Trek.

Storm: That stuff I leave to the legal eagles. But I do know that in most cases, as long as we make sure that we credit the copyright holders in what we do, there won't be any problems. The problems will arise because we will make money and that is when [and where] the problem starts.

Jeff T: Note: here is an article that I just found:

http://www.blooloop.com/features/blooloop-interview-with-mike-bartok-evp-licensin/28976#.VHyx2jHF_zF

Storm: WOW that looks awesome! It's about a thousand stories above my small little endeavor! If getting a license is all it takes, then...I don't think there will be any problems. But we still have to make sure that we don't step on any toes. The biggest endeavor will be getting STO adapted for interactive play, like we plan on doing on the bridge.

Jeff T: This leads to my next question: Do you have any sponsors?

Storm: Nope. No sponsors. That project [Jordanian theme park] budgets into billions. Ours is not even a fraction of that!

Jeff T: STO would be Perfect World... perhaps they could become sponsors in some capacity if you are able to host gaming tournaments or exhibitions there.

Storm: That is the plan. About sponsoring us, I will have to bring that point up with the bosses. In South Africa there is no venue specifically targeted towards gaming tournaments, etc. That is where we come in.

We already decided to branch out into other games, but Star Trek will be our main attraction. Oh, and they won't be able to use the bridge for their games. There will be a space for them, but the bridge is strictly Star Trek, and the living quarters of the VIP's.

Jeff T: You may want to consider an online game like StarCraft II for example... they have tournaments/contests held throughout the world all throughout the year. I know because I watch many of the broadcasts. Sponsors pay for everything... including prizes.

Storm: That is all in the future. There will be a Game Master appointed to look into these possibilities. Interviews will begin as soon as the legal stuffs are cleared up. This person will be the most



valuable employee, apart from the manager. Well, and the IT specialists, the programmers... etc... It's an enormous undertaking.

Jeff T: Indeed! Are there any ways that those living in different regions around the world can somehow assist or participate in this project remotely?

Storm: Assist/participate in what way?

Jeff T: In any way? Sending Star Trek items, making donations, offering ideas, etc... Will there be a Star Trek museum of collectable items somewhere in the facility?

Storm: Mmmmm... I haven't thought of that. Seems like giving up your ideas, and those of the other Fleeters, will just enhance the whole experience. A museum... I haven't thought of that! I did think of an electronic and paper-as in books- library.

But no donations. You all can save up to be our first guests in approximately 2 years!

(Continued on in Part 3 of the next fleet Newsletter issue)

Point of clarification: I am just the 'idea' person. I throw out ideas in meetings, and if Management thinks it has merit, a proposal has to be drawn up. If the presentation is successful (like this one was) a Project Manager is appointed who deals with the logistics and all the other heavy stuffs like choosing the site, legal stuffs, zoning and all the rest that is connecting to this type of project. By then my part of it is over, except as a consultant to the Project Manager who I pester daily by changing or adding new ideas.



Important Links

[Lotus Fleet Official Site](#)

[Lotus Fleet Academy](#)

[Star Trek Online Official Site](#)

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N.C.C. 1701

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NOW FILLING YEOMAN AND SECURITY POSITIONS

A MESSAGE FROM STARFLEET COMMAND
& STARFLEET ACADEMY