

LOTUS STARBASE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LOTUS FLEET

ISSUE 18, JANUARY 2016

"If you want to know the past, to know what has caused you, look at yourself in the PRESENT, for that is the past's effect. If you want to know your future, then look at yourself in the PRESENT, for that is the cause of the future."

-- Majjhima Nikaya

LIVE
LONG
AND
PROSPER
2016

LOTUS FLEET:: AN AUTHENTICALLY DEDICATED STAR TREK COMMUNITY

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Message from the Fleet Admiral's Office

Greetings fleet members and friends of Lotus Fleet!

Welcome to 2016!

We celebrate the start to another exciting year among the living here on Earth. In contrast, we saw the passing of many beloved Star Trek alumni in 2015 and added a memoriam page in this first issue of the year in tribute to those men and women.

As you can see, we also started with a newly modified website design for our starbase. Hopefully by now you have managed to find your way around its new design and have customized your homepage tiles according to your interests. If you have ideas and suggestions to enhance our website, please share them with us.

In mid-December we completed a lengthy RP story and will be kicking off this next round on or about January 15, 2016. Read Admiral Kheren's column to get all of the details about what is upcoming this season; including new options for veteran and novice RPer.

2016 is a monumental year for Star Trek itself. Come this September, it will officially mark the 50th anniversary of the airing of the first episode back in 1966. Some of us were actually around way back then, but to the majority of the fleet, this is but a footnote in history.

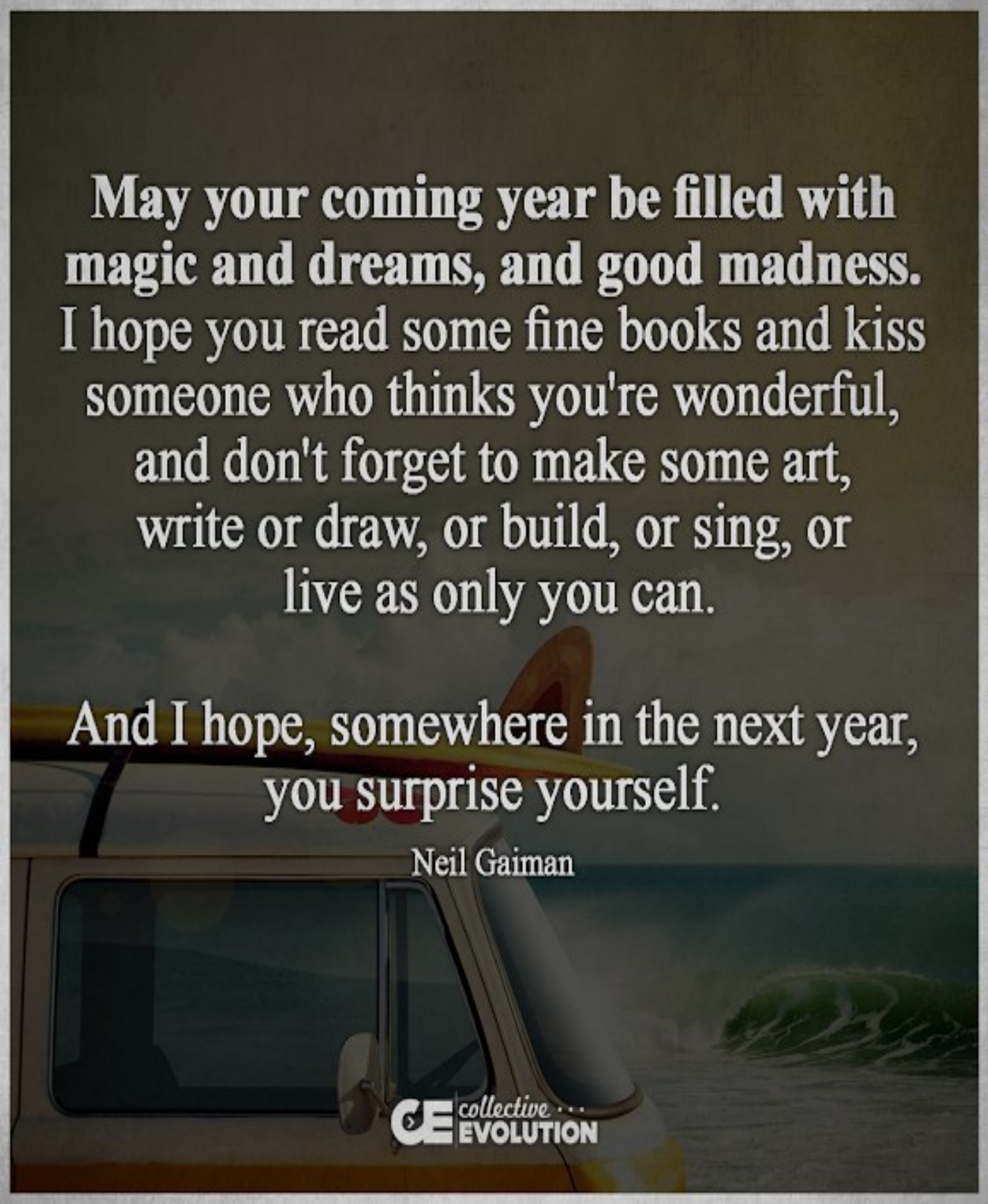
It is quite amazing to truly reflect on the impact that this three-season series has had on the world and how engrained it has become in various cultures. Fortunately through the decades following TOS's cancellation, we have had motion pictures, television series, books, games, etc... to expand the universe of Star Trek even further. Here we are as a fleet as well still carrying on the traditions and philosophies that this series instilled in varying degrees within each of us. Fascinating!

So... what will you contribute to the legacy of Star Trek during this monumental year? Will you take on or continue with an active role within our fleet? Will you participate in new RP adventures? Will you attend or even present at local conventions? Will you engage in missions and such in STO? Will you enter in Star Trek related contests? How will you make your mark this year? Something to consider at the start of this auspicious period in time.

Live Long and Prosper,



Admiral Jeff T
Fleet Commanding Officer



**May your coming year be filled with
magic and dreams, and good madness.
I hope you read some fine books and kiss
someone who thinks you're wonderful,
and don't forget to make some art,
write or draw, or build, or sing, or
live as only you can.**

**And I hope, somewhere in the next year,
you surprise yourself.**

Neil Gaiman

CE collective ...
EVOLUTION

2016 Tier 6 Officer Election

Greetings Lotus Fleet.

As we approach 2016, we also come upon that time of year whereby we hold our Tier 6 elections. After discussion with the Tier 6 and other Flag Officers, I will be your election official. Our Code of Conduct, Amendment 1, lays out the election requirement and general process. In simpler terms, here is the election process:

29 December - 9 January:

Anyone who is currently holding, or has held, a Tier 5 or Tier 6 position may self-nominate. If you wish to be considered for the Fleet Admiral and/or Fleet Executive Officer position, send a PM to me (Athos) stating that you wish to be a candidate for the Fleet Admiral, Fleet Executive Officer, or both positions.

Please carefully consider your candidacy; holding a Tier 6 position requires you to dedicate time and energy into the Fleet, the goal of which is to improve and strengthen the our group.

After deciding to run for either position, you may choose to promote yourself to the voting members by sending a PM to the Tier 5 and 6 officers. You should describe your desire to hold a Tier 6 position and why you would be the best candidate, perhaps describing your experience within Lotus Fleet. DO NOT make a forum post. Note that you do not have to do this, but it may improve your chances to win votes. If you are going to send a PM, you must do so prior to 10 January.

10 January - 17 January:

Voting -- Per the CoC, only the current Fleet Officers will hold a vote. Each Fleet Officer will have 1 vote for the Fleet Admiral position and 1 vote for the Fleet Executive position. Because we have had a Fleet Organizational change since the CoC was written, I want to clarify what positions hold a vote:

- Fleet Admiral
- Fleet Executive Officer
- Director Of Staff
- Operations Division CO
- Operations Division XO
- Academy Division CO
- Academy Division XO

After having a chance to collate the voting results, I will announce our 2016 Fleet Admiral and Fleet Executive Officer. The 2016 Tier 6 officers will take office on 1 February; this will give just under 2 weeks for any transition that needs to occur.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

~Admiral Athos
Acting Fleet Advocate

STAR TREK - IN MEMORIAM



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Remembering Those We Lost in 2015

The Grim Reaper struck Star Trek often and hard in 2015. StarTrek.com and Trek fans across the globe spent far too much time this past year mourning the losses of beloved actors and behind-the-scenes figures who contributed mightily to the franchise over the past 50 years, including one of its most-legendary, iconic pillars, Leonard Nimoy. Today, we take an additional moment to remember those we've lost.

Leonard Nimoy, Star Trek's Spock, died on February 27. Nimoy -- an actor, writer, producer, director, poet, host, voiceover artist, photographer, patron of the arts, philanthropist, husband, father and grandfather -- succumbed to the end stages of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), an illness that resulted from years of smoking and which afflicted him despite having quit smoking more than three decades ago. In 2014, he announced via Twitter that he was battling COPD and frequently implored fans to stop smoking before it was too late. Nimoy, of course, played the half-human/half-Vulcan Spock in The Original Series, The Animated Series, The Next Generation, the six TOS feature films, Star Trek (2009) and Star Trek Into Darkness. He also directed The Search for Spock and The Voyage Home and produced and developed the story for The Undiscovered Country.

Beyond Trek, Nimoy's many film, TV and stage credits included Mission: Impossible, A Woman Called Golda, In Search Of..., Equus, Never Forget, Vincent, Standby: Lights! Camera! Action!, The Simpsons, Transformers: Dark of the Moon and a juicy, late-career recurring role on the J.J. Abrams-produced series Fringe. He also directed such features as Three Men and a Baby, which was a huge hit, and The Good Mother, a drama that he always spoke of with tremendous pride. With his friend and TNG's Q, John de Lancie, he created Alien Voices, which staged and recorded radio play-style productions of classic and original sci-fi/fantasy stories. And yes, who could forget Nimoy's music pursuits, which included several albums and such tunes as "Proud Mary" and "The Legend of Bilbo Baggins"? Nimoy joined Twitter in 2010 and gave William Shatner a run for his money, tweeting more than 1,700 times and amassing more than one million followers.

Back in May 2012, StarTrek.com teased Nimoy about being the busiest retired man in history. Asked if he truly considered himself retired, Nimoy replied, "Yeah, I do. I am. Look, I liken myself to a steamship that's been going full-blast and the captain pulls that handle back and then says, 'Full stop,' but the ship doesn't stop. It keeps moving from inertia. It keeps moving. It keeps moving. It'll start slowing down, but it doesn't stop. It doesn't come to a dead stop. That's the way I am. I still have a few odds and ends things that I enjoy doing. I don't want to get up in the morning and have nothing to do that day. That would be boring." Perfectly logical, right? And in a touching final tweet, which he posted on Feb. 23 and with which he was likely bidding farewell, Nimoy wrote, "A life is like a garden. Perfect moments can be had, but not preserved, except in memory. LLAP."

Harve Bennett, a veteran Star Trek writer and producer, passed away on February 25 at the age of 84, two days before the death of Leonard Nimoy, with whom his career intersected -- to the

everlasting benefit of both men and fans everywhere. He'd retired to Oregon years ago and died there following a long illness. Bennett produced and co-wrote the story for *The Wrath of Khan*, which was a success financially, critically and with Trek fans and is widely credited with saving the franchise, as Paramount Pictures had serious doubts about Trek's future following the costly *The Motion Picture*. Bennett subsequently produced and co-wrote the stories for *The Search for Spock*, *The Voyage Home* and *The Final Frontier*. Bennett also made a memorable cameo appearance in *The Final Frontier*, playing Starfleet Chief of Staff Admiral Robert Bennett.

The Chicago-born Bennett was already a successful writer-producer by the time he beamed into the Trek universe. Among his credits were *Mod Squad*, *The Invisible Man* (1975 version), *Rich Man, Poor Man*, *The Gemini Man*, *The Six Million Dollar Man*, *The Bionic Woman* and *Salvage 1*. During and after his run with Trek, Bennett wrote and/or produced *A Woman Called Golda* (with Leonard Nimoy co-starring opposite Ingrid Berman), *The Jesse Owens Story*, *Time Trax* and *Invasion America*.

StarTrek.com, in a 2010 interview, asked Bennett what he thought his most significant contributions to Trek were. He replied candidly, saying, "I resurrected the franchise (at the time). That would be my contribution. There might not have been another Star Trek and certainly there would not have been spinoffs had not Star Trek II been such a very viable hit."

Grace Lee Whitney, the actress and singer who played Yeoman Janice Rand on TOS, several of the TOS features and also on *Voyager*, died on May 1 at the age of 85, passing away peacefully in her home in Coarsegold, California. Whitney, a blue-eyed blond beauty, represented one of Trek's greatest cautionary tales and also one of the franchise's most satisfying renaissance stories. She played the deeply professional Rand in eight first-season TOS episodes before being dropped from the series and slipping into an abyss of drugs and alcohol that left her, quite literally, on Hollywood's Skid Row. She finally got help, found God, and reclaimed her life and career, with an assist from Leonard Nimoy, and spent decades helping others overcome their own addictions.

During an interview with StarTrek.com in 2011, Whitney spoke excitedly of living on a 30-acre property near Yosemite National Park, with a running creek, and helping to care for her grandchildren. "(My son) Jonathan built a home down at the end of my property, where he lives with his family, including my grandchildren," she enthused. "They're going to take care of me as I move through life to my home in heaven. But right now I take my grandchildren to school and cart them around, and I'm of maximum service to them... I also line dance one night a week and I go to the gym three days a week. So, my life is happy, joyous, free, sober and saved, and a lot of fun, too. I have a lot of fun."

George Coe, a veteran actor, Screen Actors Guild activist and TNG guest star, passed away on July 18 at the age of 86. Coe, who died after a long illness, played Chancellor Avel Durken -- the Malcorian diplomat who shared a glass of Chateau Picard with Captain Picard -- in TNG episode "First Contact." Coe, who was born in Queens, New York, counted among his other film, TV and stage credits *Saturday Night Live* (he was an original Not Ready for Primetime Player), *Mame*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Kramer vs. Kramer*, *Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins*,

Head Office, Max Headroom, L.A. Law, Smallville, The West Wing, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Star Wars: The Clone Wars, Supernatural, Two and a Half Men, and Archer.

Penny Juday, longtime Star Trek art department coordinator who served the franchise as an archivist, passed away on December 19 at the age of 60. During her Trek days, which spanned from The Undiscovered Country to Nemesis and included all seven seasons of Deep Space Nine, Juday wore many hats. She worked directly for Herman Zimmerman on Generations, First Contact, Insurrection and Nemesis. As Trek archivist (on the Paramount Pictures backlot), she kept track of everything and anything Trek-related: sets, props, photos, blueprints, miniatures/models and more, and was the go-to person for production staffers when they required information or the actual items.

Olaf Pooley, who died in July at the age of 101, was a British stage, film and television actor -- not to mention a writer, director and painter -- who guest starred as the Cleric in the Voyager episode "Blink of an Eye," which was directed by his then-wife, Gabrielle Beaumont. At the time of his death, Pooley was both Trek and Doctor Who's oldest-living actor. StarTrek.com had conducted and run an extensive interview with Pooley just a few weeks before he passed away.

Karen Montgomery, an actress, producer and TNG guest star, passed away on December 4. Montgomery, who was 66 years old, succumbed to breast cancer in Los Angeles following a decade-long fight with the illness. Montgomery, in the TNG episode "Angel One," portrayed Beata, the Elected One mistress of Angel 1. Her other film and television acting credits included Kojak, Going in Style, Nero Wolfe, Amazon Women on the Moon and L.A. Law. As a producer, she helped bring Diary of Hitman, Til There Was You and the documentary Special Thanks to Roy London to the screen.

Howard A. Anderson Jr., the Oscar-nominated visual effects artist whose company -- The Howard Anderson Company -- worked on TOS, succumbed to cardiac dysrhythmia on September 27 in Ventura, California. Anderson teamed with Gene Roddenberry in 1964 to create the transporter beam effect and other VFX for the first Trek pilot, "The Cage" and also "Where No Man Has Gone Before." The company's additional contributions included shots of phasers firing and exterior shots of the Enterprise warping through the stars.

Ellen Albertini Dow, veteran actress and TNG guest star, died on May 4 at the age of 101. Albertini Dow -- who was most famous for playing the rapping granny who sang "Rapper's Delight" in the Adam Sandler comedy The Wedding Singer -- guest starred as Felisa Howard, Dr. Crusher's grandmother, in the TNG episode "Sub Rosa." The role was just one in a long career that didn't even start until Albertini Dow was in her 70s; she taught acting for many years before actually stepping in front of a camera herself. Albertini Dow counted among her other television and film credits The Twilight Zone reboot, Munchies, Newhart, Sister Act, Quantum Leap, Seinfeld, Carnival of Souls, Six Feet Under, Wedding Crashers, Hannah Montana and Family Guy.

Her final two appearances, both from 2013, were an episode of *New Girl* and the film *East of Arcadia*.

Maurice Hurley, a TNG writer and producer, died on February 24 at the age of 75. Former Trek executive producer Rick Berman tweeted that day, "We lost one of Star Trek's most talented minds yesterday. Maurice Hurley produced seasons 1 and 2 of TNG. He was one of a kind. So very sad." During his time with TNG, Hurley wrote (or co-wrote) such early episodes as "Hide and Q," "Datalore," "11001001," "Heart of Glory," "The Arsenal of Freedom," "The Neutral Zone," "The Child," "Time Squared," "Q Who" and "Shades of Gray." He rose to co-executive producer status by the conclusion of season one. Hurley – who played a major role in the Borg's creation -- left the show after season two, but returned to write "Galaxy's Child" in year four and "Power Play" in year five. Beyond Trek, Hurley's film and television credits included *Firebird 2015 AD*, *The Equalizer*, *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues*, *La Femme Nikita*, *Baywatch*, *Baywatch Nights*, *Groom Lake* (directed by William Shatner, whose story Hurley adapted into a script) and 24.

Tom Towles, a character actor who specialized in portraying burly, creepy bad guys and was a favorite to horror-film fans worldwide, passed away on April 5. He'd ventured into the Trek universe with guest appearances as the Klingon warrior Hon-Tihl in the DS9 episode "Dramatis Personae" and as Doctor Vatm, a Nezu astrophysicist, in the Voyager hour "Rise." In addition to his Trek work, Towles' credits included *Dog Day Afternoon*, *Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer*, the 1990 version of *Night of the Living Dead*, *Seinfeld*, *NYPD Blue*, *Profiler*, *Firefly*, *Groom Lake*, *House of 1000 Corpses* and the 2007 remake of *Halloween*.

Yvonne Craig, who died on August 19 at the age of 78, was a ballerina-turned-actress best remembered by Trek fans for her performance in the TOS episode *Whom Gods Destroy*, in which she played Marta, the Orion Slave Girl determined to kill Captain Kirk. Craig, however, was far more known for role as Barbara Gordon/Batgirl during the third and final season of *Batman*. Her other credits included the Elvis Presley films *It Happened at the World's Fair* and *Kissin' Cousins*, and episodes of such television series as *Kojak*, *The Six Million Dollar Man* and *Fantasy Island*.

Barrie Ingham, a British actor whose credits included a TNG guest role, passed away on January 23. His turn in the Trek universe came with the episode "Up the Long Ladder," which cast him as Danilo Odell, leader of the Bringloldi, who didn't care for the sythenol whiskey aboard the *Enterprise*, but was quite pleased to mate with three women to create a new genetic pool. Well before "Up the Long Ladder," Ingham was among those considered for the role of Jean-Luc Picard. Ingham spent decades working on the stage, on television and in films, with his credits spanning from the 1950s to 2014. He acted alongside Dame Judi Dench in 16 plays, taught acting, and as recently as last year starred in a one-man show, *Keep Calm and Sing On*. Other film and television projects included *The Victorians*, *Doctor Who*, *The Avengers*, *The Day of the Jackal*, *The Great Mouse Detective* (for which he voiced Basil of Baker Street/Bartholomew) and *The Triangle*.

Eddie Hice, a stuntman and stunt coordinator whose credits included two TOS episodes and *The Voyage Home*, died on March 12 at the age of 85. Hice appeared in the TOS hours "Day of the Dove" and "Wink of an Eye," playing security officers in both. He portrayed one of the patients at Mercy Hospital in *The Voyage Home*. Freddie Hice, his son, performed stunts in *The Final Frontier*. Over the course of his career, which spanned six decades, Hice worked on such films and television shows as *Bonanza*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Get Smart*, *Battle for the Planet of the Apes*, *S.W.A.T.*, *Escape from New York*, *The Beastmaster*, *Repo Man*, *A View to a Kill*, *They Live*, *Glory*, *Out to Sea*, *Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous* and *Georgia Rule*.

Bruce Hyde, who played Lt. Kevin Riley in the TOS hours "The Naked Time" and "The Conscience of the King," died on October 13 at the age of 74, succumbing to throat cancer. Hyde earned the enduring adoration of Trek fans for his portrayal of Riley, especially his memorable crooning of the song "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen." Beyond his Trek appearances, he acted in the television shows *Dr. Kildare* and *The Beverly Hillbillies*, as well as in several plays, including *Canterbury Tales* (on Broadway) and *Hair*. Hyde later spent 25-plus years as a tenured professor at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota. He taught communication studies, small-group communication and interpersonal communication until earlier this year, when he retired due to the return of the throat cancer he'd been diagnosed with and beaten in 2010.

Catherine E. Coulson, who died of cancer on September 28 at the age of 71, was a camera assistant and actress whose credits (as a camera assistant) included *The Wrath of Khan*. Her other credits as a camera assistant included *The Killing of a Chinese Bookie* and *Modern Romance*, and she acted in such projects as *Femme Fatale*, *Twin Peaks* (as the quirky Log Lady), *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me*, *Psych*, *Redwood Highway* and *Portlandia*, as well as the plays *August*, *Osage County*, *Hamlet* and *The Threepenny Opera*.

William Newman, a character actor who played the diplomat Kalin Trose in the TNG episode "The Host," died on May 27 at the age of 80. Back in the 80s and 90s, Newman seemed to turn up in every other movie and show. His numerous credits included *Brubaker*, *The Mosquito Coast*, *Leprechaun* and *Mrs. Doubtfire*, as well as *The Craft*, *For Love of the Game*, *Angel* and *The Tick*. His last confirmed credit was a 2006 episode of *My Name Is Earl*.

Don Mankiewicz, an Oscar-nominated screenwriter, passed away on April 25 at the age of 93. Mankiewicz wrote the story for the TOS episode "Court Martial" and was credited as co-writer of the episode with Steven W. Carabatsos. Mankiewicz earned his Oscar nomination for *I Want to Live!*, which starred Susan Hayward, who won an Oscar for her performance in the drama, and he also counted among his many credits the pilots for *Marcus Welby, M.D.* and *Ironside*.

Theodore Bikel, a stage and screen actor, folk singer and guitarist, longtime union activist and TNG guest star, died of natural causes on July 21 at the age of 91. Bikel was best known for playing Tevye in thousands of performances of *Fiddler on the Roof*, on Broadway and on the

road, and for his Oscar-nominated turn as Sheriff Muller in *The Defiant Ones*. Trek fans will remember that he played Sergey Rozhenko, the Russian adoptive father of Worf, in the TNG episode "Family." Bikel was still making public appearances as recently as a month before his death.

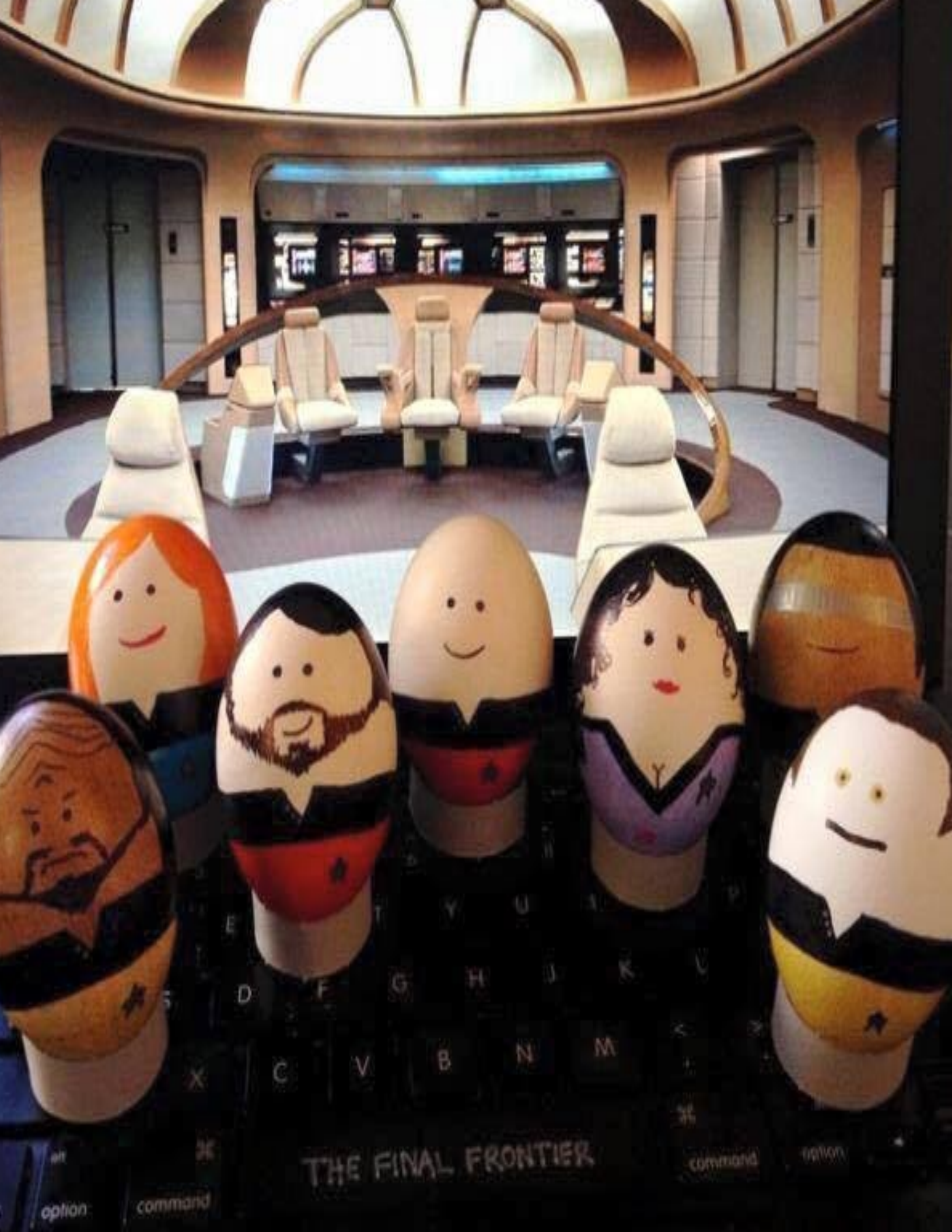
James Horner, the Oscar-winning composer, conductor and orchestrator whose credits included *The Wrath of Khan* and *The Search for Spock*, perished in a plane crash on June 22 at the age of 61. Horner counted among his many other projects *Avatar*, *Titanic*, *48 Hours*, *Cocoon*, *Aliens*, *The Rocketeer*, *Braveheart*, *Field of Dreams*, *Apollo 13*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *Southpaw*, *Wolf Totem* and *The 33*.

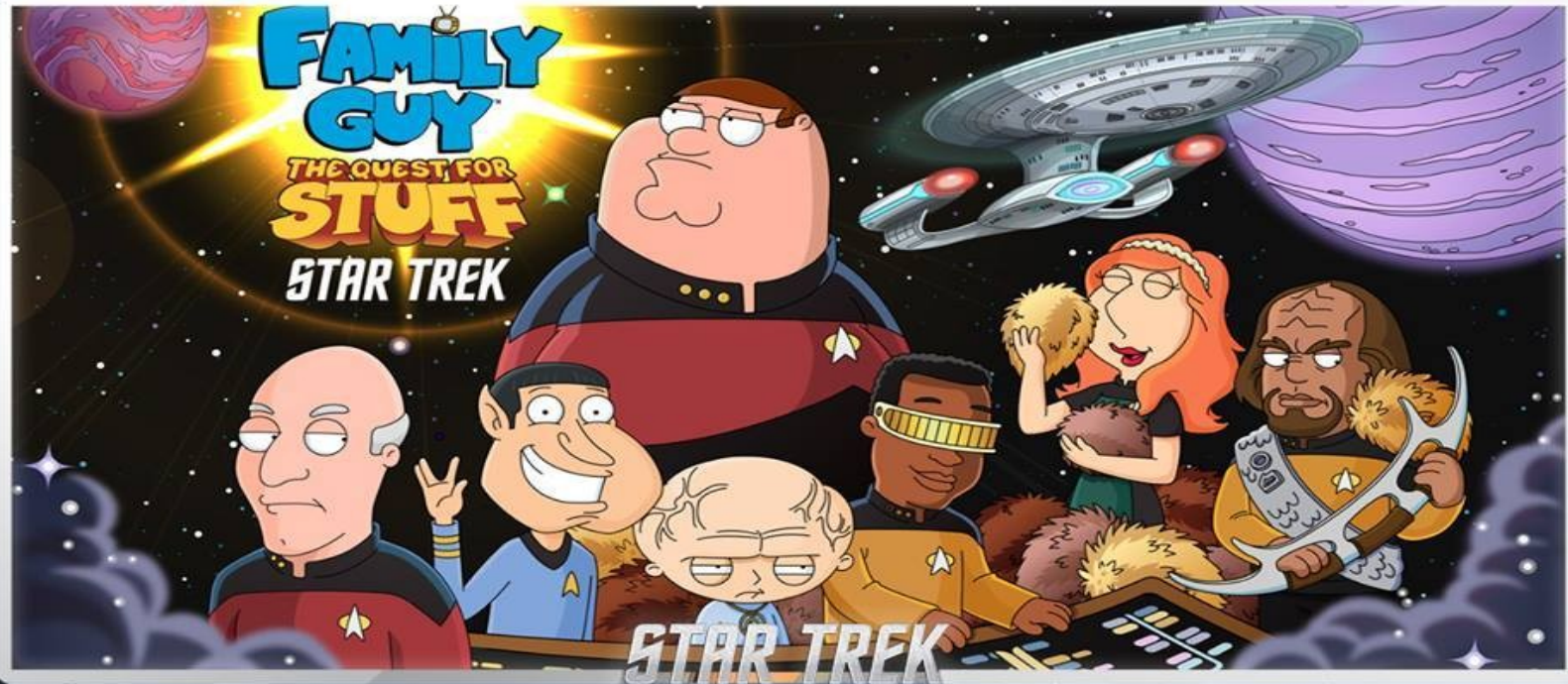
Terrence Evans, a three-time Star Trek guest star, died on August 7 in Los Angeles at the age of 81. Among his film and television credits were *The Incredible Hulk*, *The Greatest American Hero*, *Hill Street Blues*, *Quantum Leap*, *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*, *ER* and *Las Vegas*. On the stage, he'd performed in such shows as *Bus Stop* and *South Pacific*. Evans ventured to the Trek universe to play Baltrim, the mute Bajoran farmer, in the DS9 episode "Progress," and Proka Migdal, the Bajoran who adopted a Cardassian war orphan, in "Cardassians." He also appeared as the Kradin ambassador, Treen, in the Voyager hour "Nemesis."

Alan Marcus, a stuntman and actor who appeared in *The Undiscovered Country*, died on January 9. Marcus played Yeoman Samno, who was part of the conspiracy to sabotage the Federation-Klingon peace talks. Samno and fellow conspirator Burke killed several Klingons, among them Chancellor Gorkon, before the duplicitous Lt. Valeris murdered both of them to keep the conspiracy under wraps. Marcus' other credits as an actor and/or stuntman included *The Octagon*, *CHiPs*, *Lone Wolf McQuade*, *Rambo III* and *Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday*. He was reportedly working on several projects at the time of his death, including *Precious Cargo*, a film he'd written and was set to produce.

George Clayton Johnson, respected author and writer of the TOS episode "The Man Trap," died on December 25 at the age of 86. Johnson also wrote stories or scripts for dozens of movies and television shows, including the original *Ocean's 11*, *The Twilight Zone* (several seminal episodes, including "Kick the Can"), *Kung Fu* and *Logan's Run* (with both the movie and ensuing series based on the novel of the same name he'd co-written with William F. Nolan). Additionally, he wrote many essays, poems, short stories and more, was a welcome presence for decades at conventions, and was proud to be a hippie.

Source: <http://www.startrek.com/article/remembering-those-we-lost-in-2015>





This is Admiral Kheren transmitting from Starbase Lotus. Operation Brave New World has completed after no less than fourteen months of adventure into the pocket universe beyond the Azimuth Horizon anomaly. We met an old enemy in a new universe, and much more than we expected, as we went boldly to seek out new life and new civilizations... and the entire journey is now available to all our fleetmates!

Brave New World, the third major Fleet Action of Lotus Fleet, is finally available as a four hundred pages novel. You may download it in PDF format directly from our fleet site, under the Roleplay Section - Starship RP - Ship RP Archives - Starship Novelizations under Fleet Actions:

viewtopic.php?f=22&t=101&start=10

Right on time for you all to enjoy good Star Trek reading during the Holidays!

And of course, to reward all those dedicated fleetmates that gave life and substance to this original saga, it is customary to give them proper recognition, both to the player and the characters he gave life to. Please congratulate them for a job well done!

Subspace transmission from Starfleet Command
San Francisco, Sol III, sector 001
to Lotus Fleet Division
Starbase Lotus, Hromi sector

The following decisions have been reviewed and approved by Starfleet Command's Joint Chiefs of Staff, following the assigned first effort of colonization and exploration of the Azimuth universe.

PROMOTIONS:

Considering their service record and latest performance during Operation Brave New World, the following officers are to receive new ranking and/or eligibility from Starfleet:

Lieutenant Junior Grade Aron'Son, position Chief of Security and Tactical, assignment USS Horizon, is promoted to the rank of *Lieutenant*.

Lieutenant Junior Grade Jonathan Livingstone, position Chief Science Officer, assignment USS Phoenix, is promoted to the rank of *Lieutenant*. Details will be sent to the X'Ell embassy on Starbase Lotus for acceptance and review as per regulations regarding exchange officers.

Lieutenant S'Tan Solius, position Chief Engineer, assignment USS Horizon, is promoted to the rank of *Lieutenant Commander*.

Lieutenant Elisha Leone, position Chief Operations Officer, assignment USS Phoenix, is promoted to the rank of *Lieutenant Commander*. It is strongly recommended that this officer be re-assigned to help other vessels and installations in adapting to the new nanite enhancement technology successfully implemented and tested on the USS Phoenix.

Commander Jureth Oseno, position Tactical Operations Officer, assignment USS Horizon, is to be put on the list of eligibility for a *starship command* position. Until such command opportunity arise and is accepted by this officer, he is hereby confirmed as *Captain* of the USS Polaris escort vessel assigned to the Lotus Fleet flagship. He may be called to specific duties apart from said flagship by both Starfleet and Lotus Fleet.

Commander Neil. S. Redding, position Executive Officer, assignment USS Horizon, is to be put on the list of eligibility for a *starship command* position as next in line for starship command duties, up to and including Lotus Fleet's flagship.

Commander Joshua T. Riker, position Executive Officer, assignment USS Phoenix, is to be put on the list of eligibility for a *starship command* position.

Commander David Rogers, position Executive Officer, assignment USS Phoenix is to be put on the list of eligibility for a *starship command* position. This officer is also requested to serve on the technical investigation committee assigned to the case of the USS Diamond Star's unexplained disappearance and return to Utopia Plenitia Shipyards (*see file in appendix A if of the proper security clearance level*).

Captain Syntron, position starship Commanding Officer, assignment USS Phoenix, is to be confirmed as *starship commander* of the USS Phoenix.

Captain Kheren, position starship Commanding Officer, assignment USS Horizon, is hereby notified to standby for immediate reassignment at an unspecified stardate. Details classified under the authority of the Federation Science Council, Starfleet Security and the Bureau of Temporal Investigations. In the meantime, this officer will remain at his current position and assignment.

REINSTATEMENT

Considering current status and conduct, the following individual's dossier has been revised by Starfleet Command's Judge Advocate General and the United Federation of Planets Judiciary: Former Lieutenant Commander Sorripto is offered summary discharge on parole from Starfleet Penitentiary Colony Australia for exemplary conduct and notable service during his confinement.

If that be his wish, and because of his remarkable record prior to his condemnation, he may choose to resign honorably or resume his Starfleet Commission with the rank of Lieutenant, to serve as up to and including the position of assistant to any department of his choosing relevant to his competence, either on a starship or Starfleet facility.

Said officer will be allowed this opportunity under the following condition; if and when an officer of Command rank and assigned as commanding officer on a starship or facility is willing to

take on the responsibility of reintegrating said officer within the proper protocols of Starfleet. Until this opportunity present itself, said officer may offer his services to Starfleet Academy, Lotus Fleet Branch, where he will also attend, as student and teaching assistant, all classes regarding Federation policies and Starfleet protocols, with emphasis on General Orders and Starfleet Regulations. Kobayashi Maru simulations are also recommended for training, testing, study and evaluation.

Any possible future promotion and responsibilities will be contingent with same good conduct and service for no less than one term. Starfleet Command will be sole judge in this matter. Any further misconduct, then or later, will be grounds for immediate and permanent dismissal of Starfleet with a dishonorable discharge, along with any other sanction to be determined, if any, up to and including penitentiary time with no possibility of reprieve or parole.

Let it be clear that the pertaining commanding officer who will vouch for this officer's reinstatement will also be held responsible for said officer Sorripto's actions and conduct during and after such probation period. If the officer is found wanting during this probationary period and for any term thereafter, the commanding officer may also be served proper sanction, up to and including removal from command, demotion, court martial and dismissal from Starfleet.

AWARDS

Considering the logs and reports from the latest and first colonization operation beyond the Azimuth Horizon, the following officers shall receive commendation for their outstanding service:

Lieutenant Aron'Son is awarded the Starfleet Tactical Decoration for meritorious conduct as chief of security and tactical of the USS Horizon during confrontation with the Romulan Empire task force, and before and during an attempted civilian mutiny.

Lieutenant Jonathan Livingstone is awarded the Starfleet Science Decoration for distinguished science contributions regarding first contact with the Draxx, facing the Zetarian problem and first contact with the Draxx, notably regarding communication challenges.

Lieutenant Commander S'tan Solius is awarded the Starfleet Engineering Decoration for meritorious conduct as chief engineer of the USS Horizon during confrontation with the Romulan Empire task force, the colonization effort beyond the Azimuth Horizon and first contact situations with the Draxx.

Lieutenant Commander Elisha Leone is awarded the Starfleet Engineering Decoration for devising and implementing a safe and efficient communication system between starships in time of crisis and under difficult conditions.

Commander David Rogers is awarded the Lotus Fleet Medal of Distinction for distinguished actions in facing the Zetarian problem, notably how to imprison them and handle them effectively and safely.

Commander Jureth Oseno is awarded the Starfleet Medal of Commendation for risking his life to ensure capture of the Zetarians, rescue marooned officers and civilians and showing remarkable decisiveness and restraint under fire while in command of the USS Polaris.

Commander Neil S. Redding is awarded the Grankite Order of Tactics for devising an effective method against invasive energy beings using transporter and holographic technologies.

Commander Joshua W. Riker is awarded the Prentares Ribbon of Commendation for excellence in leadership and bravery in difficult situations facing the threat of the Zetarians, including putting his own person at risk to ensure communication and resolving situations with commendable restraint.

Captain Syntron is awarded the Jean-Luc Picard Medal of Honor for his exemplary conduct and

achievement in diplomatic efforts in first contact with the Draxx and the Zetarians.

Captain Kheren is awarded the Kathryn Janeway Medal of Valor for consistently staying within the bounds of Starfleet Rules of Engagement during the confrontation's with the Draxx, while maintaining full contact with foreign and friendly forces, thus serving the ideals of Federation values and maintaining mission survivability.

Signed on Stardate 88661.8

At Starfleet Headquarters, San-Francisco, Earth, Sector 001

Fleet Captain Allen Samji, Starbase Lotus Commanding Officer

Rear Admiral Kotari, Hromi Sector Chief Flag Officer. Lotus Fleet

Admiral Neil S. Redding, Chief of Security, Starfleet Command

OOO AWARDS

The Brave New World Award is presented to the following players for significant and long term quality contribution to the story:

Niomo (aka Niomo Lire II & S'Tan Solius) who will also receive the RP Master Award for participating in 5 episodes.

BLZBUB (aka David Rogers) who will also receive the RP Master Award for participating in 5 episodes.

Jeff T. (aka Syntron & Elisha Leone) who will also receive the RP Veteran Award for participating in 10 episodes.

Sorripto (aka Sorripto & Joshua Riker) who will also receive the RP Veteran Award for participating in 10 episodes.

Jureth (aka Jureth Oseno and Aron'Son) who will also receive the RP Veteran award for participating in 10 episodes.

Redding (aka Neil Redding, V'Rell Gould & Felez Connora'tu) who will also receive the RP Professional Award for participating in 15 episodes.

Kheren (aka Kheren, Elliago Nasaro-Myth & Jonathan Livingstone) who will also receive the RP Specialist Award for participating in 20 episodes. This story would not have been possible and certainly not as epic without you.

Thank you gentlemen.

The Fifth LF RP Season will start with 2016. A new adventuring format will be introduced for this new season in order to allow more stories, more creativity and more involvement from returning players. New players will therefore also have ample opportunities to live long and prosper in our very own Star Trek universe and join the creative thrills and the fun of text-based RP in our very own unique style.

Read our information on our Roleplay section, make up a character for approval and join the adventure!

In the meantime, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!



**United Federation of Planets
Starfleet – USS Aleutian
Q's Winter Wonderland**

Happy Holidays Lotus Fleet! 2015 has been quite the productive year for our Fleet in STO. Aside from completing the Spire Holding, we also completely finished our Research Lab holding, providing additional benefits to Fleet members. We saw the completion of the years-long Iconian War and a reinvigorated effort to return to the Starfleet basics of exploration. It's hard to tell what 2016 will bring us, but I'm looking forward to new stories and strange new worlds.

Our Fleet is doing well; we are at level 52. All of our Fleet holdings, except for our Starbase, are completed; all projects and special projects are done. We only need to complete projects in order to provide provisions as that becomes necessary. Our Starbase is at tier 4 and it will take a while to get it fully complete. The greatest need for our Starbase projects is common duty officers; we don't even require dilithium unless we are completing provision projects. Make certain to check out the link below on ways to acquire common duty officers.

Please reference this thread and work to help to fill the need: <http://www.lotusfleet.org/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=309>

With that, Happy Holidays and Live Long and Prosper.

See you in 2016!
Athos out.





STO Tips and Tricks by Rear Admiral Battle Lion

This post will be about science consoles.

First up is the Countermeasure system console.

This console buffs your countermeasures stat, meaning it increases your confuse and placate powers and abilities like jam sensors. Fairly useful in PvP, or at least it used to be before science got nerfed to all heck. Generally not a useful console, sell to a vendor.

Stealth module

Garbage. You don't need to increase your stealth unless you PvP. even then, don't use a console to do it. Sell to a vendor. As always, check your exchange prices first.

Sensor Probes

Buffs your starships sensors stat. Again, highly specialized to only a few science builds, and even then they wouldn't use this console. There are better things to buff. Garbage. Sell this console to a vendor.

Power Insulator

Increases your resistance to power and shield drains. Not bad if you fight lots of Borg I guess, but there are better choices. I sell these to vendors.

Particle Generator

Not bad. This buffs the damage your exotic powers do, basically. Pretty good for an exotic damage build, or if you have GW3. Check the exchange for the rarer versions, just in case.

Interial Dampeners

Buffs your resistance to slow, disable and other movement debuffs. Skill points in this category should be enough. Junk this console to a vendor.

Graviton Generator

Actually useful. This increases the pull of your grav wells. Useful for PvP and PvE alike. On my science build I actually have 2 of these.

Flow Capacitor

Another actually useful console. This buffs your TRADITIONAL tetryon/polaron proc and any

other drains you have. Like Maco shield or PLASMONIC LEECH. Flow caps is king. Sell some on exchange if they are good enough to.

Emitter ARRAY

The good emitter console. Improves your shield healing abilities. An excellent tanking console choice. Can be fairly valuable on Exchange. I have 2 of these on my dreadnought for better heals.

Biofunction Monitor

Absolute trash. Sell these on the exchange to people who don't know any better. Crew is not worth recovering in this game. I'm surprised it's still a thing, actually.

Field generator

A good console to have. Increases your max shield capacity. For those of you that like to tank, this is great. Or if you just don't know what else to put in your science slot, this is good too. I tend to only use 1, because most things in this game don't stack well and I like to buff lots of stuff instead of just 1 thing. Very pricey on the exchange. Sell these there and make some space bucks.

Shield Emitter AMPLIFIER

The not as good emitter console. Only buffs your regen rate. Not worth waiting for shields to come back on their own. Use a power to regen your shields like EPTS or ST or RSP... Sell these consoles on the exchange to people who think they need them, and vendor the whites and greens.

As you can see, science consoles are only a little bit better than engineering consoles.

Mostly the best ones are for tanking, or for space magic. But these are just the basic consoles, so you shouldn't expect them to be awesome.

Next Issue; tactical consoles.



Fleetwide Meetings:

(check the site Calendar for your local time)

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

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

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



Awards, Promotions and Organ Donations

Promotions:

Lieutenant(j.g.) Arina promoted to Lieutenant-Commander

Longevity:

Ambassador [UFP]Michael Bond: 3 months

Ambassador [FC]Bailo : 1 year

Ambassador [GF]Aussie: 3 years

Commodore Sainthill: 5 years

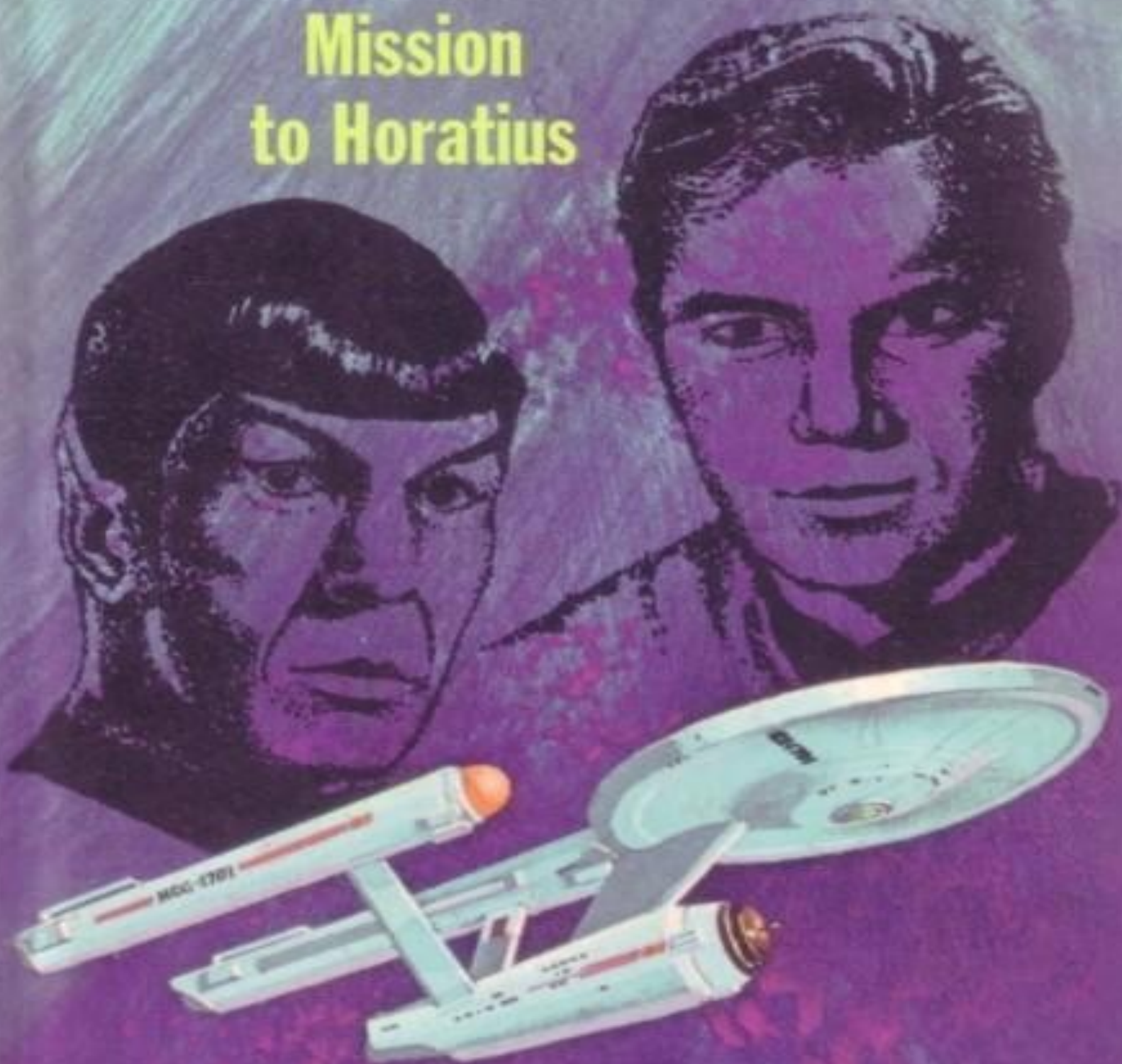
Retired Fleet Officer Devem: 6 years

Captain Julian Carter: 7 years



STAR TREK

Mission to Horatius



AUTHORIZED EDITION

7. NUMMER EIN

"LIEUTENANT UHURA, are we close enough to throw this on the viewing screen?" Kirk asked.

"Yes, sir."

"Please do so. I would like to confront, ah, Nummer Ein face-to-face."

Uhura touched controls, and the viewing screen was filled with the figure of a uniformed, stern-faced, military type who was staring directly ahead so defiantly as to seem almost ludicrous. His eyes quickly took in the bridge and a new respect came into them. The bridge of the starship *Enterprise* was obviously the control center of a very sizable craft, by Bavaryan or any other standards.

Captain Kirk said courteously, "I assume by the manner in which the *Oberst* addressed you that you are the Bavaryan Chief of State."

"You are correct, Captain Kirk. And I warn you that we are not so long gone from Earth but that we are familiar with Federation usage. You have no jurisdiction here, Captain, and by Bavaryan law are forbidden to enter orbit about us. Almost a century ago we Bavaryans left Earth and its institutions behind us to find a new way of life. You are not welcome."

Captain Kirk looked at the uniformed strong man for a long, thoughtful moment. He said finally, "Nummer Ein, we have come a long way in response to a distress signal from this star system. Thus far we have been unable to locate its source."

"It did not emanate from here."

"Most interesting," Spock murmured.

The captain said evenly, "That remains to be seen. The other planets of this star system do not have a technology advanced enough to send such a call. When we checked with them, however, we found that both have been suffering raids upon their property and people. Your planet is obviously advanced enough to cross space and, ah, visit your neighbors."

"Such raiders, if, indeed, they exist, do not originate on Bavarya, Captain Kirk. So now I warn you, if you attempt to orbit this planet, we will defend ourselves."

"I suggest to you, Your All Highest, that by interplanetary usage a vessel with peaceful intent is not forbidden to orbit a world at a perigee of twenty thousand miles or more. Jurisdiction of a planet does not extend beyond twenty thousand miles."

Captain James Kirk deliberately turned to his chief helmsman. "Mr. Sum, if you please, standard orbit, twenty-thousand-mile perigee. Lieutenant Uhura, if you please, a fix on the communication center Nummer Ein is utilizing. Undoubtedly it is located at his capital. We will station ourselves above it."

On the screen the Bavaryan's face grew furious. "I warned you!" he snapped, and suddenly the screen went blank.

"Mr. Sulu, maintain full shields. We shall see what our Bavaryan bullyboys have to offer."

"Aye, aye, sir."

Spock said, "It will be interesting to discover if these colonists have advanced to the point of developing phasers of enough power to affect our defense shield."

Kirk twisted his mouth. "It is to be assumed, Mr. Spock, that the thousand Bavaryan colonists left Earth a century ago with the technology of that period. However, there were but a thousand of them, and I doubt that all were scientists and technicians. Since that time the Federation has had lit-

erally millions of scientists at work perfecting such items as the defense shields of starships. Mr. Spock, I suspect we have little to fear."

The ship shuddered very slightly.

"We are under Bavaryan attack, Captain," Sulu said.

"Thank you, Mr. Sulu."

"Shall I lock the ship's phasers on target?" Sulu said.

"Don't bother, Mr. Sulu. Lieutenant Uhura, please open hailing frequencies again and let me know when our Nummer Ein is willing to talk."

"Aye aye, sir."

It took a bit longer than James Kirk had expected. For a full fifteen minutes the *Enterprise* was subjected to the phaser fire of the weapons of a century past. The lighting system did not even dim. The captain nonchalantly touched a switch on his control chair, and the bridge viewing screen changed views so that the officers and crewmen could see the exterior of the *Enterprise*. The ship was bathed in an impressively colorful display of pyrotechnics. Beams launched up from the planet below and seemingly splattered themselves against the graceful Federation starship — completely ineffectively.

"Very pretty," Kirk said coolly.

Finally the bridge viewing screen switched back again and a furious Nummer Ein was there.

Captain Kirk said, "I now point out that you, as Chief of State of Bavarya, have taken it upon yourself to make an unprovoked attack upon a Federation starship." He allowed his face to go cold.

Behind the captain, Spock's eyebrows went up, and even Uhura looked surprised at the bluff.

The uniformed Bavaryan blanched. "Capitulation!" he blurted. "Your terms, if you please?"

Kirk held up a hand, as though in surprise. "But it is not a matter of capitulation or terms, Your All Highest. I simply urgently request to be received in a manner befitting an ambassador of the Federation. I sincerely hope that you can give me assurances that the distress call did not emanate from this planet and that Bavarya is not the base of the space raiders. Upon securing such assurance, my ship will leave the vicinity."

"Very well," the other said, evidently regarding the situation as beyond his control. "You and your senior officers are invited to a reception at my palace tonight. We can discuss at that time what proofs you will require."

"Accepted," Kirk said. "Captain Kirk, over and out"

The screen faded, but the captain stared at it for a long, thoughtful moment

Spock asked, "What sort of proof can we expect, Captain?"

"That's what I was wondering about," Kirk mused. He looked at his chief helmsman. "Mr. Sulu, where is your charge?"

"Grang, sir? Mr. Chekov has him while I'm on watch."

"Lieutenant Uhura, if you please, put a call on the intercom for Mr. Chekov and young Grang to repair here at once."

"Aye, aye, sir."

The captain looked back at Sulu. "How is our young savage doing?"

The helmsman was enthusiastic. "Wonderfully, sir. He's picked up ship life as though born to space."

"Has he picked up such niceties as how to use a knife and fork, Mr. Sulu?"

Sulu looked at him curiously. "Why, yes, sir."

Ensign Chekov entered the bridge, closely followed by Grang. It was the first time the Neolithian had been in the nerve center of the *Enterprise*, and he looked around in obviously intelligent interest.

The captain hadn't seen the youngster since he had bathed, and Kirk was suitably impressed. He said, "Grang, have you ever seen any of the raiders who have been attacking your planet?"

"Yes, Captain of the Kirks. Three different times. We of the clan Wolf fought them bravely, but they had weapons we didn't know, and they killed and captured many of us."

"You know what they look like? What kind of uniforms they wear, that sort of thing?"

"Why, yes, sir," the boy said questioningly.

The captain turned to Sulu and measured him with his eyes. "He's about your size. Get him a haircut, similar to those of the rest of us. Then get him into one of your uniforms and instruct him to the extent you can in the time available on how to conduct himself as a ship's officer of the *Enterprise*. Ensign Grang, you will accompany our landing party tonight to the palace of His All Highest Nummer Ein."

The group materialized on the parade ground which was the center of the complex of buildings composing the palace of Nummer Ein. A full regiment of armed men, uniformed in gray, was there to meet them, rank upon rank, their faces militarily blank, their bodies straight and motionless.

An officer barked a command, and, moving like robots, the assembly came to the salute.

"Very impressive," Spock said.

Captain Kirk said softly, "Yeoman, I want you to record all developments, both visual and auditory, on your tricorder. Whether or not I will have explanations to make on my handling of this mission when we return to Starfleet Command remains to be seen."

"Aye, aye, sir," Yeoman Janice Rand said. She flicked a switch on the small over-the-shoulder case she carried, activating the electronic recorder-camera-sensor combination.

They remained where they stood for the time. Toward them, marching stiffly, approached a group of what were obviously high-ranking officers.

Kirk asked softly, "Well, Grang, are these the raiders?"

"Yes, Captain of the Kirks."

"Just Captain Kirk," Dr. McCoy said. "It's his rank and his family name, not a first name and clan designation."

"Yes, Doctor of the McCoys," Grang said agreeably.

"You're sure that the raiders of Neolithia wore this type uniform, carried this type weapon, and looked like these soldiers?" Kirk insisted.

"Yes," Grang said.

Kirk pulled forth his communicator and activated it "Kirk to the *Enterprise*."

"Lieutenant Uhura here, Captain."

"Keep a close fix on us. Things are already heating up. Have the transporter room stand by."

"Aye, aye, sir."

The group of officers was approaching. Captain Kirk, Spock, Dr. McCoy, Scott, Yeoman Rand, and Grang—now done up in the uniform of an ensign of the Federation spacefleet—turned and faced them.

The Bavaryans halted, clicked heels in unison, bent slightly from the waist, and snapped a brisk salute.

Those of the *Enterprise* were not particularly familiar with this military gesture of yesteryear, but they courteously returned the salute. Grang, from the corner of his eye, watched Scott and duplicated his movements.

One of the Bavaryans stepped forward, saluted again, and introduced himself stiffly. "*Feldherr* Jodl, of His All Highest's personal staff." He half turned and introduced each of the other officers who accompanied him.

Captain Kirk, following protocol, introduced his own party. All saluted again.

Jodl said, still stiffly, "Nummer Ein awaits you in the palace ballroom." He turned and began to march back to the largest of the gloomy buildings which comprised the palace proper.

"Lot of nonsense," Scott said from the corner of his mouth to Dr. McCoy, who was marching beside him. The yeoman and Grang brought up the rear, with Grang appearing somewhat wide-eyed at all the magnificence.

But the doctor was scowling. "You know," he said, "I've seen a lot of troops in my time, but I've never seen such perfect drill in my life. And, do you notice? These Bavaryans have obviously interbred too much. There hasn't been enough mingling of the genes. They all *look* the same."

Scott nodded and scowled, too. "Aye, they do, at that, mon. There seem to be only a dozen or so different types in all. But it doesn't seem to have affected their health. Impressive-looking lads."

They marched the full length of the parade ground and to the massive main entrance to the palace. Here their guard of honor deserted them, save for *Feldherr* Jodl. They entered and came face-to-face with Nummer Ein.

The All Highest of Bavarya stood in more elaborate uniform now, and beside him was a tall, formally gowned young woman. *Feldherr* Jodl spoke introductions, then stepped back and made himself inconspicuous.

Nummer Ein, his face expressionless, said, "We all know the circumstances under which we meet, Captain Kirk, so I will not dwell upon them. We have a reception of the *Herr-Elite* tonight and I shall introduce you to my leading people. And now may I present my daughter, Anna?"

Anna, womanlike, had been inspecting Janice Rand's neat uniform. Now she responded to the bows of the men from the *Enterprise*. She was perhaps in her mid-twenties, blond, and, save for a slight plumpness, attractive.

"Anna," Nummer Ein said, "if you will take the captain's arm and accompany him into the ballroom, I will follow with Commander Spock and the other officers. That way, Captain."

Captain James Kirk offered his arm in the best cavalier tradition and led the way, murmuring, "May I congratulate you on the stunning gown, Miss .. ah, I can hardly address you as Miss Nummer Ein."

"Anna Shickle, Captain," she answered as they strode toward the sounds of revelry in the adjoining long hall. "And we do not use the term 'Miss' on Bavarya, but '*Fräulein*.'"

"I see. Then your ancestors on Earth were Teutonic in origin, *Fräulein* Shickle?"

"The elite of the Teutonic peoples, Captain," she replied.

Behind them, Nummer Ein and *Feldherr* Jodl were accompanying the remainder of the Federation representatives, and the murmur of their voices in polite conversation could be heard.

Suddenly a whisper from Anna Shickle almost caused Captain Kirk to stop stock still in his tracks.

"At last you have come," she said under her breath, so the others could not hear.

"I beg your pardon?" he said, keeping his own voice low.

"The message. You of the Federation received my message. And you have come."

Kirk closed his eyes for a quick moment of appeal to higher powers. For the moment he could hardly think of what to reply. Finally he said in a low voice, "It was *you*...."

"Yes," she whispered urgently. "Later, somehow, I must talk to you."

"That you shall, *Fraulein*; that you shall," Kirk assured her.

They had entered the large ballroom. All present came to attention and faced the door through which their ultimate leader came, accompanied by the strangers from afar.

Dr. McCoy whispered to Scott, an element of surprise in his voice, "Do you notice? These people don't have the look of sameness about them as did the soldiers."

The Scottish engineer looked about "Except for the servants. There's kind of a cow look about them, and they look as though they all came from the same mold."

The music had stopped at their entry, but now Nummer Ein made a motion for it to resume.

The Bavarian Chief of State said to his guests, "Later I shall introduce you to my notables, but now I suggest a glass of wine, and then we'll adjourn to a conference room for our immediate business."

Captain Kirk bowed acceptance to that and raised his eyebrows questioningly to Dr. McCoy as expressionless servants hurried toward them with thin-stemmed glasses upon trays. The slightly effervescent wine was evidently similar to champagne.

Anna selected a glass, presented it to Captain Kirk, and then helped herself to another. The rest were served.

Dr. McCoy had unobtrusively activated his medical tricorder. Now he was the first to hold up his glass and say, "To ultimate understanding between all worlds."

But Nummer Ein overrode him. "To the ultimate destiny of Bavaria!"

Spock's eyebrows went up slightly, but he said, "Whatever that may be," before he sipped.

Dr. McCoy said to the Bavarian chief by way of polite conversation as they sampled their wine, "I notice a strange difference in facial and physical types between your people present here and the troops and servants. The period you have spent on this planet wouldn't seem long enough for such a wide difference in strains."

For the briefest of moments, it looked as though Nummer Ein was going to snap back an irritated answer, but he controlled himself and said, "These present are the *Herr-Elite*. The servants and the troops, save for some of the higher officers, are but *Doppelgänger*s."

"By which I assume you mean second-class citizens," Kirk said conversationally. "By the little we have seen of your, ah, civilization, I would have thought you beyond the point where there were second-class citizens, a throwback to the days of feudalism and slavery."

"Indeed?" Nummer Ein said coldly. "And now if you have finished your drinks, shall we adjourn to our conference?" He turned to Anna. "My dear, if you will excuse us...." He then led the way to a small room off the hall. The eyes of most of those present followed them.

Nummer Ein took his place at the head of the heavy conference table, with his staff officer, *Feldherr* Jodl, standing slightly behind and to his left. He motioned the Federation representatives to seats, but Kirk shook his head.

"The time for amenities has passed," Kirk said grimly. "The fact is, we have proof that Bavarya is the base of the attacks upon her sister planets. We also know it was from here that the subspace distress call came."

"That is a lie!"

Kirk turned and indicated Grang. "Let me introduce you to Grang of the Wolf clan of Neolithia, who informs us that it is your soldiers that the Neolithians have been trying to protect themselves against"

The Bavaryan dictator reacted as might have been predicted. It took him long moments to compose himself. Finally he said, "Very well, Captain Kirk. I see I shall have to utilize other tactics. Understand this: You are not in Federation territory. Nothing that occurs among the Horatian planets is any affair of yours. The planets Neolithia and Mythra are backward and need the guidance of an advanced culture such as our own. We are willing to supply this guidance."

Spock said with deceptive mildness, "By killing, kidnapping, and robbing them?"

Nummer Ein flared. "Our expeditions have thus far been but scout affairs, preliminary to landing in force. We are the *Herr-Elite* of the Horatian system, and it is our destiny to help these backward worlds."

"Suppose they don't want help?" McCoy said.

"They don't know what they want. They are too backward!"

"A claim of dictators down through the centuries," Kirk said. "I am afraid it won't wash, Nummer Ein."

"And I am afraid you are in no position to do anything about it," the other snapped.

"We shall see about that," Kirk told him. He brought forth his communicator and lifted the antenna grill. "Captain Kirk to the *Enterprise*"

"Lieutenant Uhura here, Captain."

"Notify the transporter room to beam us back to the *Enterprise*, Lieutenant"

"But that is impossible, sir."

Captain Kirk stared in disbelief at the small instrument in his hand. "Just what do you mean by that, Lieutenant?"

"The *Enterprise* is under fire intermittently, Captain. The deflector shields are up, and consequently the transporter cannot be used."

"I see," Kirk said hollowly. "I will communicate with you later, Lieutenant Kirk, over and out"

He turned and looked at Nummer Ein who sat watching him narrowly but with obvious satisfaction. The Bavaryan said, "I am afraid we must reach some compromise, Captain. It is true that your starship has my capital city under its phasers. But I have you— you and your group. What you failed to realize is that we are acquainted with Federation affairs, in spite of the distance. We monitor the subspace waves. We know about your transporters, superphasers, deflectors, and sensors, though until the present we haven't been able to construct such ourselves. Now that will be different. We of the *Herr-Elite* will take over the technology of the *Enterprise*."

Kirk shook his head. "That is exactly what you won't do."

The Bavarian dictator said simply, "*Feldherr*"

The officer standing behind him snapped an order, and a score of uniformed *Doppelgänger*s, weapons in hand, burst into the room through several doors.

"Search them," *Feldherr* Jodl snapped.

"No immediate resistance," Kirk said to his group.

Each of the *Enterprise* contingent was held by the arms by two of the Bavarian guards while a third searched him. Phasers, communicators, and tricorders were all taken.

"Take them to cells," Nummer Ein barked. "For the moment we are at a stalemate. I will consider the situation."

"A fine kettle of fish," Dr. McCoy grumbled. "Stalemate is correct. We can't even communicate with the ship. Sulu and the other officers can't bring us back because they've got to keep up the deflector shields and hence can't use the transporter. Nummer Ein is just as frustrated. His phasers aren't powerful enough to harm the ship as long as the screens are up. Ha! What a mess. Above all, we can't afford to stay here for any length of time, since the *Enterprise* is already on the verge of *cafard*."

The four ship's officers and Grang were in one large cell. Yeoman Janice Rand occupied a smaller one by herself across the prison corridor.

Scott said, "Well, it's up to Nummer Ein to make the next move. There's naught we can do. He'll have to come up with something."

"That's the trouble," Kirk grated. "I'm not sure that he does. So long as he holds us hostages, the hands of those on the ship are tied. And sooner or later they would have to leave, if only for supplies."

At that moment a gray-uniformed Bavarian officer approached, clicked his heels, and bowed formally. He said, "You will choose three of your number to represent the Federation in the arena."

They stared at him.

"We'll do *what*?" Captain Kirk demanded.

"By orders of the All Highest, three of your number have been challenged under the Code Duello of Bavaria to meet an equal number of Bavarian champions."

"Code Duello?" Spock murmured. "Most interesting. Imagine a planet as advanced as this having dueling."

McCoy demanded, "What's the meaning of this outrage?"

The officer seemed perfectly willing to discuss it "You must understand, *Herren* from the Federation, that there has been some discussion in regard to your arrival. Some of the *Herr-Elite* are inclined to take issue with His All Highest about your reception, with the admitted strength of your starship in mind. However, Nummer Ein stands strong. His plan to take over our two sister planets is but the first step in our glorious destiny. He declares that, given access to the weapons of the *Enterprise*, Bavaria can look still farther afield. Ultimately—who knows?—perhaps the Federation will feel our strength."

Scotty snorted, "This half-baked dictator of yours has delusions of grandeur, laddy."

The Bavarian officer turned to him coolly. "That we will see. Meanwhile His All Highest wishes to emphasize to all Bavaria that you from the Federation are incapable of standing up to Bavarian manhood— that even the *Doppelgänger*s of this world are superior to the elite of the Federation."

"There is no elite class in the Federation," McCoy snapped.

The other bowed mockingly. "That is what Nummer Ein intends to prove in the arena, *Herr Doctor*. And now I shall leave you *Herren* to choose from among your number the three representatives and the weapons you wish to use."

"Weapons!" Kirk exclaimed. "What weapons?"

The Bavarian smiled his mocking smite again. "*Herr Kapitan* Kirk, it has been found fitting on Bavaria to reestablish some of the old traditions that once applied on Earth. We are a warrior race and enjoy the fray and the spectacle of the fray. Nummer Ein is fully aware of the bread-and-circuses needs of a subjected class such as the *Doppelgänger*s. Thus the circus has been revived— somewhat modernized, of course— and is televised on a Bavariawide basis."

"Get to the point," Kirk said.

"The point is, *Herr Kapitan*, that to make the gladiator meets more interesting, we utilize only the weapons of the days of Caesar. You are given your choice."

"Days of Caesar!" Janice Rand blurted out from across the hall.

The Bavarian bowed in her direction. "Spears and short swords, *Fräulein*— or any other weapons used in the Roman arena of old." He turned and clicked heels once again. "And now, *Herren*, I will leave you to your selection."

When he was gone, McCoy exclaimed, "These people are mad!"

Spock looked at him. "That is your diagnosis, Doctor?"

"Yes! Dueling in an arena, in this day and age!"

"There have been ambitious dictators before," Spock said thoughtfully. "But it is most interesting that our Nummer Ein even dreams in terms of eventual conquest of the *Federation*. Either he has resources thus far unknown to us, or he is insane indeed. Even if he were to succeed in taking over the *Enterprise*, that is but one starship of the Federation's many."

"If you two will stop discussing Nummer Ein's sanity for the moment," Kirk said, "we'll get around to choosing a team and weapons."

"Well," Scott began, "our lassie Janice is obviously out, and Grang...."

Grang shook his head violently. "No, I am not out I am Grang of the Wolves, and for years these of Bavaria have raided us with weapons we could not fight against. I demand the right to meet them along with my new friends."

Kirk began to retort in amusement, and then stopped suddenly. "Mr. Spock," he said, "as you recall, did they have wrestling and boxing in the Roman arena?"

"A favorite pair of sports of the Romans, Captain."

Kirk looked at Dr. McCoy. "Bones, what were you laughing about the other day— something about Grang, here, and Lieutenant Peterson?"

Dr. McCoy frowned at him for a moment, but then it came back. "Grang had no trouble proving that wrestling is a highly developed sport on Neolithia, Jim."

"Now, wait a minute," Scott said. "You're not leaving me out of this team."

Kirk shook his head. "Yes," he said. "We can't risk losing you. We'll need the doctor in his capacity. And we need you on the off chance that there might be some manner in which we can use your technical skill to get us out of here. Besides, you two are the oldest"

He looked about at all of them. "The team will consist of Spock, Grang, and myself. The weapons chosen are the hands. Catch-as-catch-can. No holds barred. Gentlemen, the honor of the Federation" — he looked at Grang — "and the planet Neolithia is at stake."

ONCE A TREKKIE...



ALWAYS A TREKKIE



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