

Inside The Rock

Volume II, Edition 7
October 2012

This Month's Theme

This month, in honor of Star Trek's 46th anniversary, we asked the Ark Angel Station crew to share some of their favorite memories inspired by the show and its culture.

Next Month's Theme

On October 26, 27, and 28, the cast of Star Trek: The Next Generation will be landing at Austin Comic Con. I'm calling on all Ark Angel crew to let me know who your favorite ST: TNG character or cast member is and why. Which of the cast members are you most looking forward to meeting at Comic Con- Patrick Stewart, Jonathon Frakes, Brent Spiner, Michael Dorn, LeVar Burton, Marina Sirtis, Gates McFadden, or Wil Wheaton?

STAR TREK'S 46th Anniversary!



On September 8, 1966, *Star Trek* was first beamed into our living rooms. Every week William Shatner (Captain James T. Kirk), Leonard Nimoy (Spock), DeForest Kelley (Doctor "Bones" McCoy), James Doohan (Chief Engineer Montgomery "Scotty" Scott), Nichelle Nichols (Lieutenant Nyota Uhura), George Takei (Lieutenant Hikaru Sulu), and Walter Koenig (Ensign Pavel Chekov) boldly went on new adventures in space and teleported into our hearts. At the time, none of these actors knew what an impact they would have on pop culture, science, or even on individual lives. They took us to new planets, introduced us to new life forms, battled countless threats, and taught us what it means to boldly go where no man has gone before.

From the CO's Desk

I first want to welcome Deanna Bressie as our commo officer, and hope everyone will work with her to create some fine newsletters. We just concluded our meeting (Sept. 29) at my house, and it has been decided we will be dropping the yahoo groups list and I'll be bringing the web hosted list online to replace it, the new address once it's created will have the arkangelstation.com suffix. I'm pretty sure it'll be crew@ prefix but I'll make sure that the crew are all in the list or invited to post to the list once it's been setup. We discussed the upcoming Gameday, IC 2013 Game room, and Austin Comic Con (see the events list for more info).

Sorry folks that I am way behind on updating the website. I'll be working on catching it up soon I have been working on a second site design and it's still under construction, I have a long way to go before it's unveiled to everyone. But it will have more to it and hopefully will allow the crew to be more interactive with it as well.

Until next time, your CO...

CAPT Lloyd Bates
CO Ark Angel Station
SFR-308

Operational Thoughts...

Everyone, don't forget to review the Ark Angel Station's calendar from time to time. It changes at least once per week, and maybe more if there's an update. The meeting/event dates have been scheduled all the way through the end of the year, plus a few things for 2013. And the calendars include information on the cadet corps, the 323rd MSG, or any other offshoots of our chapter.

The full link to our main website calendar is: <http://www.arkangelstation.com/Bridge/StationCalendar>

However, you can just go to the Station's home page, click on Communications, then click on the Calendar. There are also other ways for the calendar, as one is also placed in the Yahoo Groups calendar, and it will send an email to all those in the Yahoo Group. And, there is a Facebook calendar, where you can RSVPs by clicking whether you are attending, a maybe, or declining.

With all of the ways for us to communicate these days, however, Ms. Manners would cringe that no one replies properly or in a timely manner, allowing the event planners to prepare the party/meeting better. For you young'uns, RSVP is short for, "Répondez s'il vous plait" which is French for, "Please respond." In the olden days, it was necessary that you sent in a reply, otherwise, you were considered rude. The only time you weren't supposed to reply, was if it was assumed most all were going and then the invitation would state, "Regrets only," and then you only had to reply if you weren't attending. These days, I wonder just how many people know how to use their Facebook correctly. Apparently, not many do.

FCAPT Reed Bates
Operations Officer

Cadet's Corner

The Ark Angel Cadet Corps has a lot going on! On September 9, we had a recruiting party, and on Sunday, October 6 we will be having a Star Wars Reads Day party. We'll have Star Wars-themed activities, snacks, and I'll have a selection of Star Wars books to read out loud to the kiddos. It's gonna be fun!

On October 20-21, the AACC will be participating in a 24-hour video game marathon for donations to support Extra-Life, the Children's Miracle Network, and Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. While the AACC has reached their team fundraising goal (\$261 to date), we are all still working towards our individual goals of raising \$100 each. You can go to <http://www.extra-life.org/team/arkangelcadetcorps> to donate to any of the cadets on the team.

We are also proud to announce that over the past month the cadets have completed a total of 30 STARFLEET Academy exams and 2 SFMC Academy exams!

LT JG Deanna Rose Bressie
Cadet Services Officer
Communications Officer

What is your favorite Star Trek memory?

Lloyd Bates

For the theme of this edition, I have been trying to think of one of my happy memories from Star Trek that's not part of a show, and I would say there are too many to pick just one, I have been to so many Trek events now I can't see one only as the best... So at this time I'm not going to choose. Cop-out I know but hey that's the way it is...

Reed Bates

I really have so many good memories about Star Trek. I've already told you all about how I met Lloyd, through Starfleet and the Ark Angel, and that could be considered a Star Trek memory. I do remember watching NextGen with my mother in the 80's. She liked it very much, which for some reason surprised me. During my early adulthood, when trying to find myself, but still rebelling against my mother; having a child to take care of; and becoming a grownup mom, it seemed very comforting that we could sit down together once a week and watch some good stories being told of space travels and other worlds. My mother was in love with Jean Luc Picard, the character, not the actor. So, she would talk about him in a way that made me feel closer to her...to get to know her better. We bought her a talking Jean Luc Picard doll, the kind you pull the string and the doll had three or four phrases to say, including "Engage." She kept it on her desk at work. She said it broke the ice several times in tough meetings. That's always one good thing about Star Trek, it seems universal that we can all take something from it with us and find some common ground with others.

Deanna Bressie

I have lots of awesome Star Trek memories, but one that stands out in my mind is from high school involving a very good friend. Tony was as much of a geek as I was, and we both loved Star Trek. Star Trek: The Next Generation was still on in primetime, and we would sit and talk for hours about all of the episodes. Since my first name is Deanna, he always called me Troi, and since Tony had very pale skin and black hair, I always called him Data. Twenty years later, we still brag about who we met at Comic Con (I got to meet Q, he got to meet Uhura), and we still call each other Troi and Data.

Kathy Hench

My best star trek memory is all the friends I have met through being in Fleet. We had not been in Austin too long and my friend Mary, I had met her through gaming. She was in a group called STAR (Star Trek Austin Regulars) and they were doing a mini con at the Westgate Mall. Gigi had a table talking about STARFLEET, and so I joined Fleet and the rest is history. My best friends since I have been in Austin are my friends I have meet through being in Starfleet.

David Messer

My favorite Star Trek memory is when I was in middle school. My friend Zack and I would collect and play the card game hours on end. We never found another person who wanted to play with us, but that didn't matter. Watching TNG and playing cards based on that episode had us laughing.

Ark Angel Station's Schedule of Events

The Schedule is always a changing...but here's a glimpse into the future:

- ◆ **September 29, 2012 – Chapter Meeting Date.** Judge Dredd viewing, then meeting at CO's house afterwards. Time table still undetermined.
- ◆ **October 20, 2012 – Chapter Meeting Date & Cadet Corps Special Ops Mission.** At the August meeting, the members voted to combine our meeting day with the Ark Angel Cadet Corps' Extra Life charity event. It begins at 8:00 a.m. central time and will run for 24 hours. Deanna has invited everyone to her house in Georgetown, along with some members of the USS Gygax who are local. Can you say pancake breakfast!!! We'll encourage our young folks on their endeavor to play video games for 24 hours and raise money for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.
- ◆ **October 26-28, 2012 – Austin Comic Con.** The Station has applied for a Fan Table to recruit more members and just plain ole fun talking to members about our club. If you're interested in manning the table to help out, please see the CO. We may have some free passes for those who assist. 7 of the NextGen cast members are expected to be present.
- ◆ **November 10, 2012 – Chapter Away Mission:** The Ark Angel is assisting with Region 3 Game Day in San Antonio, TX. The crew of the USS Crockett will be commissioning that evening as well and would like to make it a very special day. The Crockett is the Ark Angel's shuttle chapter, so it's our celebration too. If you wish to help out, email the CO.
- ◆ **November 17, 2012 @ 2:00 pm – Cadet Corps Training Mission:** Cadets will be watching Underdog, so be sure to request the exam from STARFLEET Academy!
- ◆ **December 15, 2012 @ 2:00 pm – Cadet Corps Training Mission:** Cadets will be watching Wallace and Grommit in the Curse of the Were-Rabbit, so be sure to request the exam from STARFLEET Academy!
- ◆ **December 21, 2012 – Ark Angel Station Holiday & End of the World Party.** TBD
- ◆ **January 12, 2013 – Cadet Corps Away Mission:** The Cadets and the Ark Angel Station members will be visiting the Austin Children's Museum.
- ◆ **August 1-4, 2013 – Starfleet International's Conference, Dallas, Texas, brought to you by Region 3.** Members of the Ark Angel Station are on the committee to help with game room, website, planning, and other items. Go to www.ic2013.com for details. See your CO if you wish to assist with the Game Room.

Hope to see you all at one of these events!

REMINDERS

Inside the Rock Deadlines: All members of the Ark Angel should and the AA Staff must turn in articles by the 21st each month. There is a suggested topic; however, you don't have to submit it just for that. Send you articles, photos, poems, stories, etc. to commo@arkangelstation.com.