

Inside The Rock

Ark Angel Station Newsletter

Vol III - Edition 5 - May 2013



**What would be your favorite sci-fi show if
Star Trek did not exist?**

Happy V-E and Armed Forces Day Ark Angel!

National Hamburger Month

<http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/may.htm>



Inside this edition:

- CO's Ramblings
- From the Comm Station
- Ops Thoughts
- Cadet Services Report
- Science Corner
- Q Conundrum
- Favorite Sci-Fi show in a no Star Trek reality
- Ark Angel Station's Schedule of Events

From the CO's Desk,

Well this last month we got to have some fun! A showing of the TNG Season 3 Cliffhanger and Season 4 conclusion of "Best of Both Worlds" at the Tinsel town in Pflugerville was awesome; several of us were there including several of the Texas' crew. It was good to have them there. It included outtakes and bloopers as well as the interviews of the cast it was great!

The 3rd brigade muster weekend was also very fun though you CO had to bow out due to an untimely gout attack (totally sux). Although, before I left we did have a good party Friday night, and the crew meeting on Saturday as planned. I understand it was a good time for all even after I left...

All in all it was a nice month of activities for the Crew to enjoy.

I want to take a second and speak to something I have discussed in the meetings recently. Namely our chapter's charity works (or lack thereof), I want us to be more involved with the community, I mean more physically involved – Like volunteering to cleanup or man phones anything to help in some way in the local area. I have asked for ideas to be brought forth and still haven't heard from anyone. What I'm looking for is volunteering opportunities that don't involve fundraising or donating monies to charity but something that involves giving of ourselves instead. Please everyone, think about this seriously and bring any ideas or thoughts to the Staff's attention.

Commanding Officer Ark Angel Station,

FCAPT Lloyd Bates

[Ark Angel Web](#)

From the Comm Station,

Greetings and Salutations,

Theme for next month's newsletter is "What did you like or dislike about the latest Star Trek Movie".

Coming to you live from an undisclosed location in southwest Asia, so it will be a bit before I can see the new Trek movie. Hope y'all enjoyed it and had a great time camping, recruiting, and such.

Communication Officer Ark Angel Station,

LTJG Mike Brown

commo@arkangelstation.com

Operational Thoughts,

Register for STARFLEET's International Conference 2013:

Don't forget to sign up for IC 2013 and make your hotel reservations, and you now have the opportunity to pre-order IC 2013 Challenge Coins for only \$10. The Conference will be in Dallas, Texas, at the MCM Eleganté Hotel off of Northwest Highway and I-35. Our latest spawning chapter the USS Texas is hoping to commission at IC. We have invited a guest to assist with the commissioning ceremony or at the very least, some partying to celebrate. There are many things planned and more details can be found on the website at: www.ic2013.com.

All Ark Angel Station Days—Meeting:

The Ark Angel Station Members will meet most every 4th Saturday of the Month. Don't forget to check your email for details (because that's more private) and check the many calendars we have:

[Station Calendar](#)

[Operations Portal—Upcoming Events](#)

[Facebook Events](#)

[Yahoo Group Calendar](#)

As well as a listing in our monthly newsletter, [Inside the Rock](#), which you are reading right now.

Chief of Operations Ark Angel Station,

Commodore Reed Bates

ops@arkangelstation.com

Cadet Services Report,

Another month has come and gone, and the cadets are all counting down for school to let out! Summer brings beautiful weather, hanging out with friends, swimming, cookouts, and baseball. The cadet corps went out to Dell Diamond on May 5th to see the Round Rock Express play the Nashville Sound, and the Express won 5-1. We're planning to take the cadets back out to Dell Diamond on Saturday, July 6, to see the Express play the Omaha Storm Chasers. The game starts at 7:05pm, but we'll be meeting in the parking lot at 4:00pm for tailgating and catch before the game starts.

The Ark Angel Cadet Corps has also registered for this year's Extra-Life event for their second annual fall Special Ops Mission, which will take place the first weekend of November. It's still half a year off, but our goal is to pass \$500 as a team this year so we'll start our fundraising and planning by the end of summer vacation. In the meantime, enjoy your summer!

Here's a quick rundown of what the Cadet Corp has planned for the year so far:

June 8-Training Mission-The Adams Family

July 6-Away Mission-Round Rock Express/Dell Diamond

November 2-3-Special Ops Mission-Extra Life

You can get more information on the Ark Angel Cadet Corps at our website

(<http://arkangelcadetcorps.com>), on Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/arkangelcadetcorps>), or by emailing Cadet Services Officer.

Cadet Services Officer Ark Angel Station,

LTJG Deanna

cadetsvcs@arkangelstation.com

Science Corner,

Title: Private Spaceflight and the Realization of Exploration of the Far Reaches of Space

As we dream of someday exploring the far reaches of space, seeking out new life and new civilizations, we continue to privately explore near space. A number of commercial companies have been, for the last few years, developing launch to orbit capabilities that will reduce the cost of getting payloads into space, provide high paying private jobs and may perhaps even offer average citizens the opportunity to reach space within their lifetime.

It is a well-known fact that in order to achieve the longer terms goals of space exploration that the first step is to reduce the cost of getting ships into orbit and do so safely. With the Space Shuttle (now retired) it cost about \$10,000.00 per pound to get a capsule into orbit around the earth (at about the elevation of the International Space station). Newer privately built spacecraft like the Space-X Falcon/Dragon launch system are able to do the job for far less - currently about \$2,000.00/lb. Over the next few years it is expected that Space-X will achieve about a \$1,000.00/lb. cost as they launch more craft. so far, they have successfully launched three Dragon capsules into orbit, two of which docked with the International Space station in recent months. This article could focus entirely on Space-X and the amazing things they are accomplishing but they are just a part of the overall effort to bring down the cost of space travel.

Orbital Sciences is a space launch company that has been operating since 1982. In the last few years they have been working on an orbital system to resupply the International Space station, just like the Falcon/Dragon offering from Space-X. Last month they successfully launched their first orbital test craft using their Antares booster rocket and a dummy payload simulating their Cygnus capsule. This first flight has been described as "flawless" and bodes well for this Space-X competitor.

Another company, though not immediately focused on orbital insertion of payloads, is nearing completion of testing of their sub-orbital craft, the White Knight 2 and Spaceship 2 combination. This system is designed to provide \$200,000.00 seats to (6) passengers who will take a 15 minute trip to space and officially become astronauts. Scaled Composites is the company (founded by Burt Rutan) that has been working on this launch system since their Space Ship 1 won the Ansari X-Prize back in 2003. Soon afterward the company merged with British entrepreneur Richard Branson to become a part of a new company that Mr. Branson set up called Virgin Galactic. It is expected that the new commercial system will launch its' first 'to space' test shot in the next few months.

These examples show a larger trend toward the privatization of commercial spaceflight and are only the first steps toward making access to space for the average person a reality. Once we have established cities on the moon and Mars, we'll start working on ways to get to the nearest stars.

It will happen.

Science Officer Ark Angel Station,

Commander Sorak

Q Conundrum

Oh, what are you gonna do?



PLUNGE me to death?

RULES:

- 1) This is a fun trivia game on all things Star Trek so have fun or Worf will have a talk with you.
- 2) Use of the internet, printed material, or any references to find the answer is not allowed! In other words either you know it or you don't **No cheating**. We're on the Honor System.
- 3) One point for each question answered correctly.
- 4) No points lost or gained for incorrectly answered questions.
- 5) Questions for the current quiz can be answered until next month's newsletter is published but only one answer per person per question.
- 6) One point awarded each month for an article turned in on that month's newsletter theme.
- 7) Ten to twenty questions each month for twelve months.
- 8) Judge's decisions are final (Com officer is the judge)!
- 9) Send your answers to Comm Officer. commo@arkangelstation.com
- 10) Open to all Ark Angel Station Crew and Staff.
- 11) Prize is bragging rights for the next year.
- 12) Failure to follow these rules will result in Assimilation.

Questions:

All questions refer to the First season TOS

- 1) Our first officer is Lieutenant JG Joe Tormolen. At the end of his life, he became convinced that man was not meant to be in space. How did this depressed young man die?
 - a) He drank poisoned milk.
 - b) He shot himself with a phaser.
 - c) He slit his wrists in front of a bunch of off-duty personnel.
 - d) He succumbed to an infection due to touching diseased liquid.

- 2) Crewman Green's death was not noticed immediately. Why did it take the Enterprise crew some time to realize he was dead?
 - a) The salt vampire was impersonating him.
 - b) He wasn't due to check in for another three hours.
 - c) He was alone when he fell off a cliff.
 - d) They thought he'd just disappeared with the rest of Charlie's victims.

- 3) Lt. Robert Tomlinson was overcome by the fumes of a phaser coolant leak in the middle of a Romulan attack. What was especially tragic about this officer's death?
 - a) He was due to retire in one more week.
 - b) He was to be married that very day.
 - c) He was leaving to see his child for the first time.
 - d) His promotion had just come through.

- 4) Ensign O'Herlihy and two other tactical officers were assigned to scout out the area. O'Herlihy stands up to obey his orders and is immediately shot and killed. Who or what kills him?
 - a) The Gorn
 - b) Neural parasites
 - c) The Klingons
 - d) Lenore Karidian

- 5) This officer was strangled by a cable. Even worse, the murderer was this man's friend. Who was this poor officer?
 - a) Lt. Lee Kelso
 - b) Dr. Mark Piper
 - c) Lt. Commander Gary Mitchell
 - d) Lt. Alden

- 6) In "The Galileo Seven," the shuttle is forced to make an emergency landing on Taurus II. While the occupants attempt to repair the shuttle, two of the shuttle passengers are killed by the inhabitants of this planet. Who were these two unfortunates?
- a) Latimer and Gaetano
 - b) Boma and Gaetano
 - c) Latimer and Mears
 - d) Boma and Mears
- 7) In "What Are Little Girls Made Of?", Captain Kirk, Nurse Chapel, Crewman Mathews, and Crewman Rayburn beam down to Exo-III to reunite Nurse Chapel with her fiance. Who kills the two crewmen?
- a) Ruk
 - b) Dr. Brown
 - c) Dr. Roger Korby
 - d) Andrea
- 8) Lt. Commander Ben Finney was another friend of Captain Kirk's. How did he die?
- a) His pod was jettisoned into an ion storm.
 - b) He didn't actually die.
 - c) He'd received an overdose of cordrazine.
 - d) He was killed by Lenore Karidian.
- 9) Dr. Elizabeth Dehner died heroically in the line of duty. What was her specialty?
- a) Neurology
 - b) Surgeon
 - c) Xenobiology
 - d) Psychiatry
- 10) One of the security guards killed this season was never named. Who or what killed him?
- a) Dr. Adams
 - b) The Squire of Gothos
 - c) The Horta
 - d) Balok

Quiz Leader Board

Lloyd Bates 16

Kathy Hiten Hench 6

Deanna Rose 1

Matthew Hill 1

Reed Bates 1

Current points possible 33

Answers for last month quiz:

- 1) A
- 2) A
- 3) B
- 4) D
- 5) C
- 6) A
- 7) B
- 8) D
- 9) A
- 10) D

And the Favorites are:

Deanna Rose,

Wow, this is so loaded it's not even funny. My earliest memories as a child are watching Star Trek reruns on Saturday afternoons when my mom's westerns were over. My next sci-fi memories are of watching Doctor Who on the Canadian PBS channel (I grew up in Detroit) weekday mornings, so if there were no Star Trek, then Doctor Who would most likely be #1 in my book. I still love Doctor Who, and my kids love David Tennant and Matt Smith, but when I was a kid I watched the Tom Baker episodes. I loved watching the silly man with the long scarf travel around the universe, and it always put a smile on my face.

Lloyd Bates,

So folks want to know the CO's favorite Sci-fi show huh? Well, I'll tell you I think it would have to be broken down to eras because like most "favorites" I have more than one...

When I was in grade school it was "Batman" with Adam West and Bruce Ward those guys always had a great way to get the bad guys in their unique tongue-in-cheek way, it was an excellent show for a young guy as it showed that if you took time to think you could solve most problems (especially when your tool belt holds everything). It also had a strong underlying moral imperative that most don't comment on.

Later as I became more jaded (high school) it was Trek reruns but if trek didn't exist I would say it was "Wild Wild West", "Lost in Space", "Quantum leap", "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century" and "the Hulk". I liked all these for differing reasons but mainly in all of them I found most of these had the moral imperative hidden in the scripts (sometimes not so hidden), but for their day they were great. Also at this time I watched the original BattleStar Galactica, which I thought was great though sometimes a bit hoaky.

Once green screening got to be good enough for primetime then there were several series that caught my eye. Stargate, Farscape, Firefly, Babylon 5, X Files, seaQuest DSV, and more recently the new Battlestar Galactica, Lost, Heroes, Fringe, Warehouse 13, Eureka, and Sanctuary all of which were/are excellent shows and I'm sure I'm forgetting others that also had my attention for a while as well.

But through it all I would say that if Trek never existed this is how it breaks down for me.

1. A tie-- BattleStar Galactica and Babylon 5 Series (incl. movies); in both there were great characters that were not so perfect and had to fight thru their inadequacies, and both had a great overall story arcs.
2. Stargate Series (all of them) for its unwavering ability to keep the characters and story involved during its evolution. (and Amanda tapping is a babe, hehe)
3. Firefly Excellent story and characters (Can anyone say...A man called Jane?) too bad it got killed by Fox's stupidity.
4. Currently I'm intrigued by Warehouse 13 and Fringe both of these has good characters developed and the stories seem not to be jumping the shark so far. Let's hope they don't get too carried away with themselves =).

So all in all, that's my favorite, glad that I could clear it up for you all. Lol.

Mike Brown,

My favorite sci-fi show in a world without Star Trek would be a tie between Doctor Who and Babylon 5. Doctor Who has great stories, characters and who can not like the TARDIS. The fourth Doctor played by Tom Baker will always be my favorite Doctor. Long scarf, fedora hat thing and oh yes jelly babies. B5 had awesome characters and character development along with a great over all story. The characters are real and have real flaws just like all of us .

Ark Angel Station's Schedule of Events:

We're working on some bowling nights, especially a game against the Dr. Who Group. Have suggestions for events, let us know.

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

- May 25, 2013 @ Noon to whenever – **Ark Angel Station Day:** In 2013, will try to meet consistently on the 4th Saturday of the month. Sound good to you? If you have suggestions on where to meet and how to have fun before, during, or after the meeting, please email to the Operations Officer Ops@arkangelstation.com.
- June 8 @ 3:00 p.m. **Cadet Training Mission.** Cadets will be watching The Addams Family, so be sure to request the exam from STARFLEET Academy! Email the Cadet Services for info: cadetsvcs@arkangelstation.com
- June 22, 2013 @ Noon to whenever – **Ark Angel Station Day:** In 2013, will try to meet consistently on the 4th Saturday of the month. Sound good to you? If you have suggestions on where to meet and how to have fun before, during, or after the meeting, please email to the Operations Officer Ops@arkangelstation.com.
- July 5 @ 7:05 p.m. **Cadet Away Mission-Round Rock Express.** The Express will be playing the Omaha Storm Chasers. Game starts at 7:05 p.m., but we will be meeting in the parking lot at 5:00 p.m. to tailgate! Email the Cadet Services for info: cadetsvcs@arkangelstation.com
- July 27, 2013 @ Noon to whenever – **Ark Angel Station Day:** At this meeting the Ark Angel Station crew will be gearing up and making last minute preparations for the International Conference, where we are hosting the Game Room and many many other activities. Please email to the Operations Officer Ops@arkangelstation.com.
- August 1-4, 2013 – **Starfleet International's Conference**, Dallas, Texas, brought to you by Region 3 with Special Guest-Vaughn Armstrong. **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, Kathy Hench if you wish to donate or help with the Auction for charity, and Operations Reed Bates for anything else, as she is the Chief of Staff of the IC 2013 Committee.

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.