

The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.



This issue

Achievements

P.2



Captains Log

P.3



First Officers Log

P.4



Engineering Report

P.5



Coming Events

P.6



Status Report

Crew Manifest	
Total Assigned:	13
Officers:	4
Enlisted:	6
Cadets:	1
Citizens:	2

Welcome to our fourth month of operations as part of our shakedown cruise. This month a few of us were able to make it to the Epically Geeky Expo at Central Texas College on the 1st and a great time was had. This is their first year back since it stopped in 2020, like so many other things, due to the Corona Virus Scare. They are getting things back off the ground and it was a great start. Some of the crew even entered the costume contest and while they did not place, one of our crewmembers had a daughter that placed. We celebrate with them in their victory!

I look forward to seeing more of the crew together doing activities and events together.

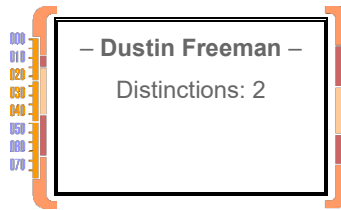




ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic Achievement

This month three individuals completed classes in the academy. When a member of the crew achieves a score of 90 or better (Honors) or a perfect score of 100 (Distinction) in a course, they will be acknowledged here. As an example, here are the results from June.



Challenge Takers

- Dustin Freeman -
- Lucas Freeman -
Reading Challenge

Awards

- Dustin Freeman -
Boothby 0400 - Zirconium - SFA

Promotions

No Promotions This Month

CAPTAINS LOG

It's July! I have officially been on leave from the Army for over a month now. These summer months have been quite busy for most of the crew. The XO was out off state but still managed to complete Officer Command Course taking us one step closer to being out of shakedown and being a fully commissioned ship in our own right.

I hope all of you had a fantastic Fourth of July. The celebration of the founding of the United States is something I care about deeply. My family and I marched in the City of Belton Independence Day Parade with the local Trail Life and American Heritage Girls troops and then after resting, cooked out hotdogs and hamburgers then enjoyed the fireworks.

Some things I am working on for this month are setting up a night this month where we come together and play a round or two of Artemis Starship Bridge Simulator. For those of you who are unfamiliar, it is a cooperative game where you have multiple stations (Helm, Tactical, Engineering, Science, Comms, and Captain) pilot a starship, and wouldn't you know, I have the Star Trek Mod for it enabling us to actually pilot the Veritas herself.

We are also in discussion with some crew members to start a new Star Trek Adventures game for those of you who are not currently in the game run by CRMN 3C Chris Mock.

Overall I am excited to see this chapter coming along, but I look forward to time when we meet regularly and celebrate our love of Star Trek on a more regular basis. I have an open-door policy, so if you have a great idea for something we can do as a crew together, or a skill or project you would like to undertake that can benefit the ship, please reach out to me.

-CMDR Freeman
co.ussveritas@sfi.org
CO USS Veritas

FIRST OFFICERS LOG

XO was on shore leave
and could not issue a
report in time for this
newsletter due to
subspace interference

-LCDR Bryan Fitch
xo.ussveritas@sfi.org
XO USS Veritas

Recent Breakthroughs in Nuclear Fusion Energy

As an engineer, I have had the privilege of witnessing some of the most advanced technologies in the galaxy. Recently, remarkable breakthroughs in nuclear fusion energy have caught my attention, drawing intriguing parallels to the energy systems we've long utilized aboard our starships.

On Earth, achieving nuclear fusion requires replicating conditions similar to the cores of stars—extremely high temperatures, pressure, and effective confinement. Scientists are focusing on two main approaches: magnetic confinement fusion (MCF) and inertial confinement fusion (ICF).

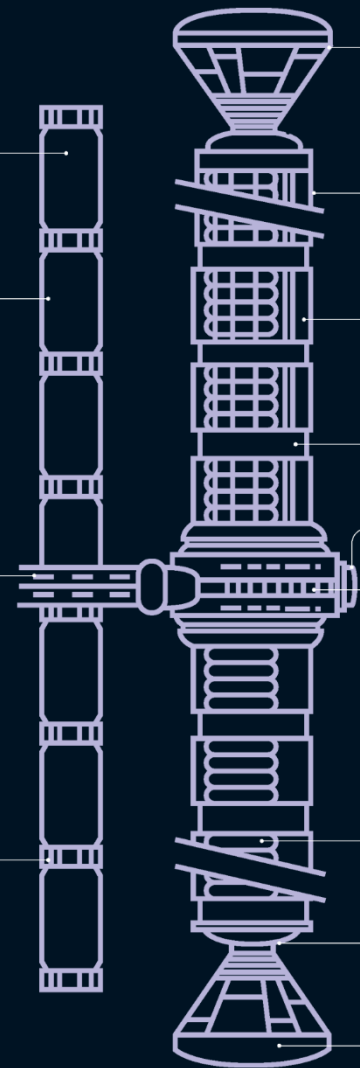
In 2024, the ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) project reached a significant milestone. Researchers managed to achieve a record-breaking plasma confinement time, a crucial step toward sustainable fusion. Dr. Elena Rodríguez, a leading researcher at ITER, reported, "We can confine plasma for longer periods at higher temperatures than ever before. This is crucial for making fusion power a reality." Such advancements remind me of our own plasma confinement techniques used in warp core reactors, essential for the efficient generation of matter-antimatter reactions.

The National Ignition Facility (NIF) in the United States achieved another breakthrough in 2024 by reaching fusion ignition with a higher energy output. Using powerful lasers to compress hydrogen fuel, they produced more energy than the input, validating ICF technology. Dr. Mark Williams, a senior physicist at NIF, stated, "This achievement confirms our previous success and demonstrates greater efficiency. It's a monumental step forward."

The progress in fusion research extends to materials science. Researchers developed high-temperature superconductors that produce stronger magnetic fields, improving plasma confinement in tokamaks. Additionally, innovations in 3D printing are enabling the creation of complex reactor components with unprecedented precision, enhancing reactor design and efficiency. These advancements parallel the materials and manufacturing technologies our industrial replicators in Starfleet to maintain and upgrade starship systems.

Star Trek has always inspired technological progress on Earth, especially in the realm of energy. While Earth scientists aren't yet capable of creating a warp drive, the recent breakthroughs in fusion energy bring humanity closer to a future where clean, limitless power is a reality. Dr. Sarah Thompson, a theoretical physicist and *Star Trek* enthusiast, remarked, "The advancements in fusion research are reminiscent of *Star Trek*. We're paving the way for technologies that could fundamentally change how we live and explore our universe."

-CMDR Dustin Freeman



Upcoming Events

- **Greater Austin Comic Convention**

July 20th – 21st 2024

The Greater Austin Comic Convention is a celebration that brings all things pop culture together with the Austin Vibe. It packs in two fun-filled days of entertainment that the whole family can enjoy at the beautiful H-E-B Center in Cedar Park!

<https://www.greateraustincomiccon.com/>

- **Bell County Comicon**

August 3rd -4th 2024

Not much explanation needed. We will meet up and have a good time at the local Comicon.

- **Giganticon**

October 5th-6th 2024

Giganticon is a celebration of HEROES, from ones that jump off the page of your favorite comic book to those everyday heroes that serve our Country and protect our Freedoms! Come Celebrate with us during the best weekend of the year and throw on your favorite costume, you won't want to miss out!

<https://www.giganticon.com/>

- **Trek Tour**

November 15th-17th 2024

A major Star Trek Convention in our backyard!

