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Status Report

Crew Manifest	
Total Assigned:	12
Officers:	4
Enlisted:	5
Cadets:	1
Citizens:	2

Welcome to February! The Three big things this month:

1. Recruit!

We need to grow to be successful. If you know someone who loves trek, ask them to join!

2. Renew!

This one is easy and it's completely in your control. The easiest way to undo all our hard work is to fail to renew and our chapter membership to drop below 10.

3. Promotions & Awards!

Saturday Feb 8th, don't miss it!

ACHIEVEMENTS



Academic Achievement

This month a single individual 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.

- Dustin Freeman - Honors: 2	- Elijah Freeman – Distinction: 2 Honors: 1	- Bryan Fitch - Honors: 1
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Challenge Takers

– None –

Awards

Promotions

None

Crew Promotion Points

Rank	Name	Temporary Points	Permanent Points	Total Points
CAPT	Freeman , Dustin Gene	51	137	188
CMDR	Fitch , Bryan	10	70	80
LTJG	Freeman , Elijah Gabriel	68	60	128
LTJG	Sturgeon , William Arthur	54	95	149
CDT 3C	Freeman , Lucas Alexander	26	0	26
CRA	Gage , Floyd	15	0	15
CZN	PEAVLER OSBORN , RILEY KAYLA-ANNE CORINNE	17	0	17
CZN	OSBORN , IAN WILLIAM	3	0	3
CRMN	Mock , Christopher	3	10	13
CRA	Mock , Rachel	9	0	9
CRR	McQuitty , Hannah	15	0	15
CRA	Quinn , Richard Michael	15	0	15

CAPTAINS LOG

Hello crew, we've made it through the first month of 2025, and so far, so good.



Membership for over half the crew is due for renewal in the next 30 days! STARFLEET International requires that we had a minimum of 10 registered members to remain a commissioned chapter. Please don't make us start all over again! Another thing you can do to help with this is recruit! We need more crewmembers. The larger we are, the more we can do.

As we move into the convention season, the opportunities for awards and promotions abound. Everything from sitting at the recruiting table, holding convention panels, to even just showing up as a group. All worth promotion points. We are working to update the website to make reporting activities and events easier, but until that is done, filling out a shuttle request or even a text message to me is sufficient. But I am no Betazoid, if you don't let me know, I can't award you the points you deserve.

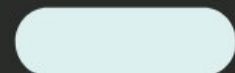
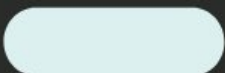
This last month the command staff held a meeting to flesh out some of our plans for the next few months. I am excited at the vision going forward, but ultimately, we need your help to get it done. We want to be a chapter you're excited to share with others about. Find an area of the chapter and get involved!



Lastly, don't forget! We have our awards and promotions ceremony scheduled for Saturday February 8th at 1pm. Uniform is encouraged but not mandatory and we will celebrate with each other over our accomplishments over the last quarter. I will be reminding you over the next month and again next newsletter but make your plans to be there now.

We have a lot in store in a short time. Get your uniforms ready, power cells for your phasers fully charged, and gather your away team. I hope to see most of you soon.

-CAPT Freeman, Dustin
co.ussveritas@sfi.org
CO, USS Veritas



FIRST OFFICERS LOG

Greetings Y'all,

I hope everyone and everything is going well! I personally have been doing great! I trust that everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday.

I want to touch on a few things this month. One being that same dead horse, recruiting! The other is uniforms. And lastly is events.

The first thing I want to hit on is recruiting. I know I know! I keep repeating this but we can't grow and survive without recruiting. Like I've said before, if you have any friends or family members who may be interested in participating in our crew please try and get them to join us! Also, if you happen to come across someone that is talking about Star Trek let them know about the group. We can't grow if we don't recruit. I'm going to keep bringing this up because it's very important and it's everyone's responsibility to help the crew grow.

The next thing is uniforms! Please don't think that you have to get a uniform to be a member. You don't! We all have our real-life priorities and they take should be your priority. If you want to get a uniform and choose to purchase one. The command staff have chosen to use the uniform from the later seasons of DS9. Like this photo.

I'm here to only give you some advice when buy one. What I've found in buying one is, if you buy it off the shelf, they run 1 to 2 sizes smaller than what you use regularly. Unless you buy a custom-made uniform using your measurements, I recommend getting one size bigger than you think you need. Most of the uniforms you will be able to buy are made in China. So, keep that in mind when you get one. It may take a few weeks to get it.

Finally, there are several events, within a few hours' drive, are coming up this year. They will be posting on discord and in the newsletter as we have dates! If anyone hears of an event that we could possibly attend and have the dates please contact the CO or myself so we can add it to the list.

I have said before, I'm looking forward to meeting you all at some point. So, if you have any questions, concerns, requests, or comments. Please feel free to contact me at texasavtrooper@gmail.com

Or text me at (254)258-5066

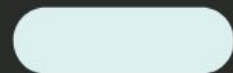
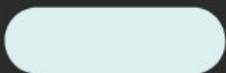
I will do my best to help you in any way I can.

Ok keep on trekking.

Fair Wind and Following Seas

CMDR Bryan Fitch

XO, Out



Tiny Neutrino Detectors and Their Galactic Potential

In an exciting breakthrough in particle physics, researchers on 21st-century Earth have successfully deployed tiny neutrino detectors near nuclear reactors. These small yet powerful instruments offer a revolutionary new method for detecting elusive neutrinos, the nearly massless particles that permeate the universe. This achievement represents a significant step forward in humankind's understanding of fundamental physics and could have far-reaching applications for the future of space exploration and interstellar research.

Neutrinos: The Ghost Particles of the Universe

Neutrinos are among the most mysterious particles in the universe, interacting only weakly with matter. They pass through planets, stars, and even starships unnoticed, making their detection a formidable challenge. Traditional neutrino detectors have required massive underground facilities, but these new compact detectors offer a promising alternative, enabling detection at nuclear reactors and potentially in more accessible environments.

The research, detailed in Science News, describes how these small detectors have been placed near nuclear reactors to monitor neutrino emissions with unprecedented precision. By observing neutrinos produced during nuclear fission, scientists can gain deeper insights into nuclear processes and even use them for monitoring reactor activity, which could aid in nuclear security and nonproliferation efforts.

Implications for Starfleet and Beyond

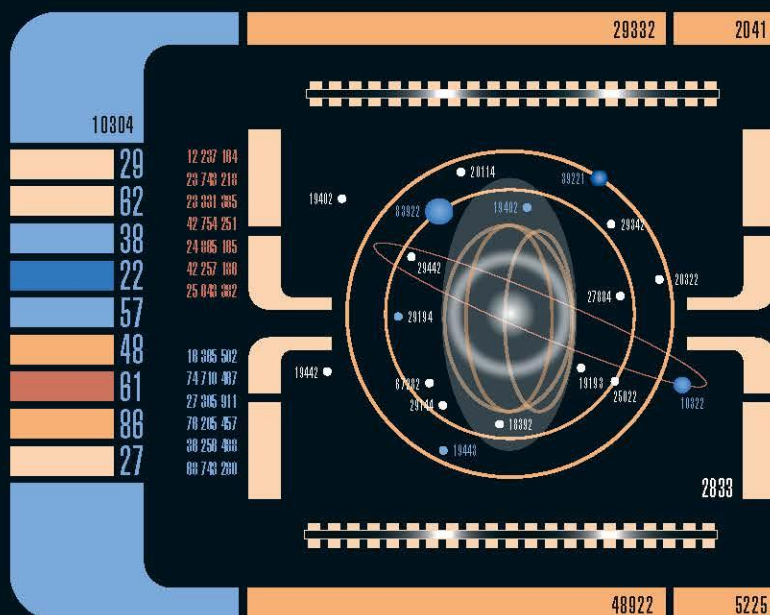
For Starfleet science officers, this advancement suggests exciting possibilities for the future of deep-space exploration and sensor technology. Current neutrino detection methods rely on sophisticated long-range sensors, but the ability to construct highly sensitive, portable neutrino detectors could improve shipboard and planetary survey capabilities. This technology would allow Starfleet to:

- **Enhance Deep-Space Navigation:** By mapping natural neutrino emissions from celestial bodies, ships could refine their stellar cartography and improve interstellar positioning systems.
- **Monitor Stellar Activity:** Compact neutrino detectors could be placed on Starfleet outposts to study neutrino emissions from stars, offering early warnings of supernovae or unusual stellar phenomena.
- **Improve Energy Research:** Understanding neutrino behavior could lead to advancements in matter-antimatter reactions and more efficient warp core energy utilization.

Future Prospects

As Earth's scientists continue refining these neutrino detectors, the Federation will one day integrate similar devices into Starfleet vessels and research stations. The ability to detect and analyze neutrinos with compact instruments will open new frontiers in physics, energy research, and deep-space exploration. Perhaps, in the not-too-distant future, neutrino-based communication and navigation could become standard in Earth's toolkit, further expanding our understanding of the universe.

For now, the scientific community on Earth continues to push the boundaries of what is possible, demonstrating once again that even the smallest technological advancements can have a profound impact on our journey among the stars.



12

09

02

02



MEDICAL ANALYSIS

Tartrazine: A Starfleet Medical Analysis on Its Risks

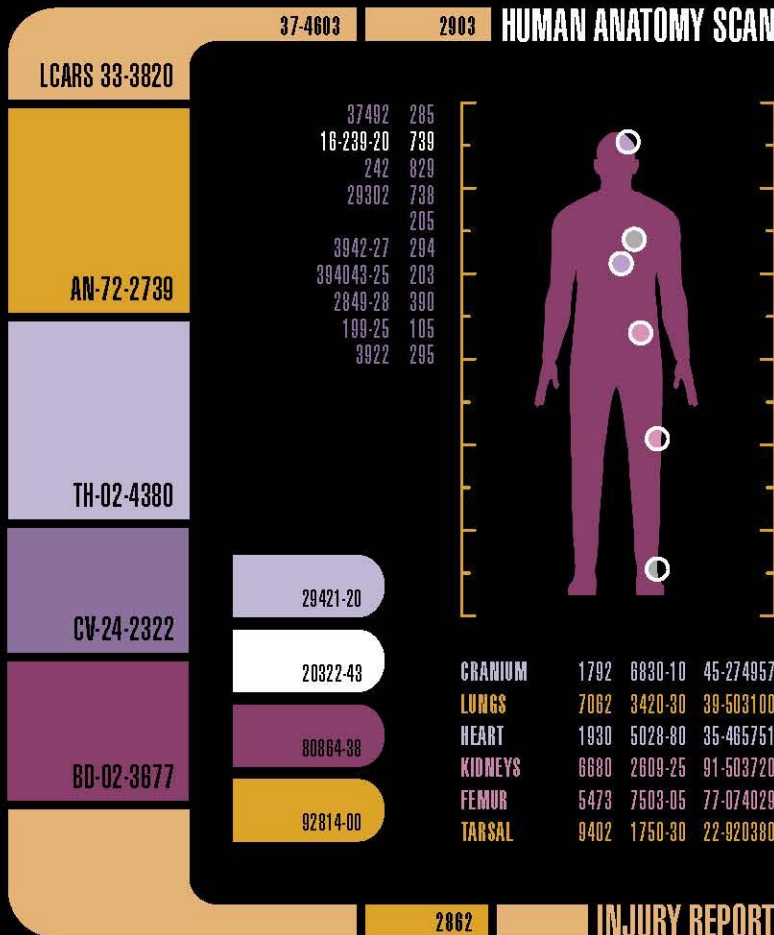
As a Starfleet Medical Officer, it is my duty to assess the safety of substances encountered by personnel both on and off duty. One such substance, tartrazine, also known as E102 or FD&C Yellow No. 5, is a synthetic yellow dye commonly found in consumables and personal care products. While its use is widespread across various Federation and non-Federation worlds, it is not without controversy. Research indicates that tartrazine may pose significant risks to health and well-being, warranting caution among our crews and civilians alike.

Sources and Production of Tartrazine

Tartrazine is prevalent in many consumables, including:

- **Processed foods:** Replicated snacks, baked goods, and energy bars.
- **Beverages:** Synthetic drink formulations and rehydration solutions.
- **Medications:** Frequently used in color-coded medicinal capsules and liquid formulations.
- **Cosmetics:** Found in grooming products such as lip balms, shampoos, and body washes.

The production of tartrazine involves a synthetic process derived from petroleum. Through a series of chemical reactions, including sulfonation and coupling with diazonium salts, the bright yellow pigment is created. Its low cost and vibrant coloration make it appealing for mass production, though its artificial nature has raised concerns about safety.

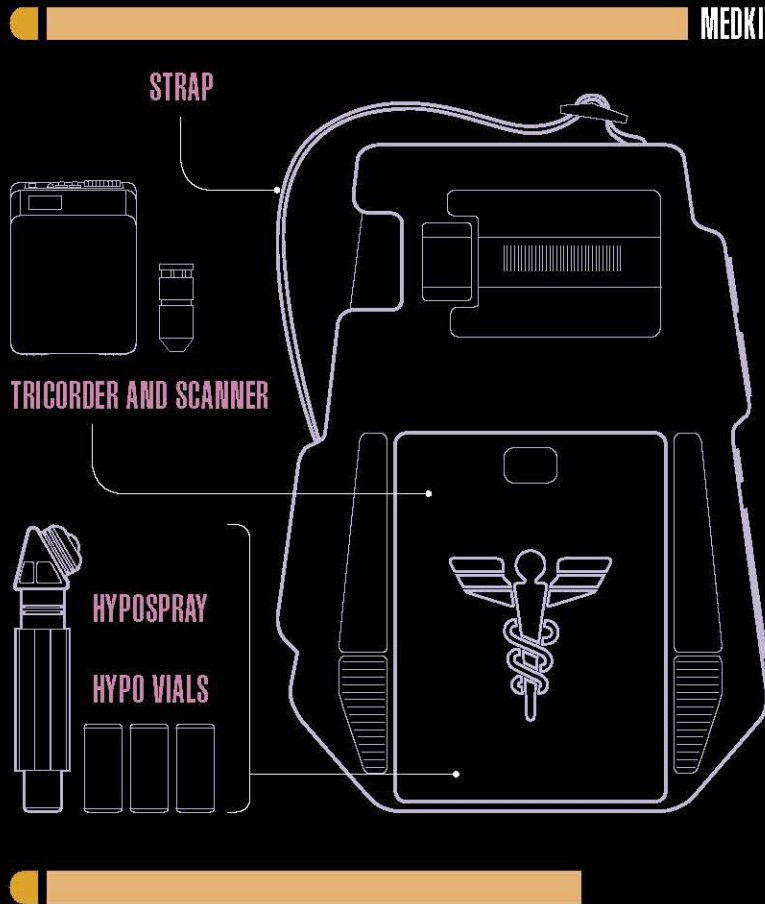


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Potential Health Risks of Tartrazine

1. **Allergic Reactions** Tartrazine has been documented to provoke allergic responses in sensitive individuals, including hives, itching, and skin irritation. These reactions, though rare, may escalate into anaphylaxis in severe cases, requiring immediate intervention with antihistamines or epinephrine.
2. **Behavioral and Cognitive Effects** Research conducted on various planetary populations has linked synthetic dyes like tartrazine to hyperactivity and attention deficits, particularly in younger crew members and dependents. The "Southampton Study," conducted on Earth prior to first contact, highlighted these concerns, leading to stricter monitoring protocols in Federation food production.
3. **Respiratory Distress** In individuals with pre-existing conditions such as asthma, exposure to tartrazine can exacerbate symptoms, potentially leading to episodes of dyspnea or wheezing. Starfleet Medical has noted similar cases in both planetary and starship environments.
4. **Gastrointestinal Discomfort** Some personnel report nausea, abdominal cramps, or diarrhea following consumption of products containing tartrazine. These symptoms are consistent with hypersensitivity or intolerance to the dye.
5. **Long-Term Health Risks** Preliminary studies suggest potential links between tartrazine and cellular anomalies, including DNA damage. Although conclusive evidence remains elusive, these findings underscore the need for ongoing vigilance and research.

Safer Alternatives

Starfleet replicators and supply chains prioritize safer, natural alternatives to tartrazine:

- **Turmeric:** A plant-based yellow pigment with anti-inflammatory properties.
- **Annatto:** Derived from the seeds of the achiote tree, suitable for dairy and synthetic equivalents.
- **Beta-Carotene and Saffron:** Offering vibrant colors with added nutritional benefits.

Recommendations for Starfleet Personnel

1. **Monitor Intake:** Check replicator configurations and read labels for "Yellow No. 5," "E102," or "tartrazine."
2. **Choose Safer Options:** Request dye-free alternatives or natural colorings through the replicator system.
3. **Report Symptoms:** If adverse reactions occur, promptly report them to Starfleet Medical for evaluation and treatment.
4. **Promote Awareness:** Educate crew members and dependents on the potential risks of synthetic dyes and encourage healthier choices.

Conclusion

While tartrazine serves as a convenient additive in many consumables, its potential health risks cannot be overlooked. By understanding the dangers and advocating for safer alternatives, we can ensure the continued health and performance of Starfleet personnel. As always, staying informed is the first step toward proactive health management in the vastness of space.

Star Trek Online's Event Campaign VII

LCARS 2-1025

Star Trek Online (STO) continues to captivate its player base with dynamic content and engaging events. The latest installment, Event Campaign VII, launched on January 21, 2025, introducing a series of challenges and rewards that promise to enrich the gaming experience. We will delve into the structure, featured events, rewards, and strategic considerations of this campaign.

112-38920

Structure of Event Campaign VII

Event Campaign VII is designed as a multi-event system spanning several months. Players participate in a sequence of events, each contributing to cumulative progress toward grand prizes. The campaign's structure encourages consistent engagement, rewarding players for their dedication over time.

104-28499

The campaign comprises six distinct events, each running for a limited duration. Participation in these events allows players to earn progress points, which accumulate toward the campaign's grand prizes. This structure not only offers variety in gameplay but also ensures that players have multiple opportunities to contribute to their overall progress.



98-39920

Featured Event: No Win Scenarios

Kicking off Event Campaign VII is the No Win Scenarios event. This event challenges players to engage in scenarios where success seems improbable, testing their strategic skills and teamwork. The No Win Scenarios event is the first in the series contributing to the overall campaign progress.

Participating in this event not only provides immediate rewards but also contributes significantly to the cumulative progress required for the campaign's grand prizes. This dual incentive structure motivates players to engage deeply with each event, knowing that their efforts have both short-term and long-term benefits.

12-1029

18-4690

19-4595

23-2204

2012

1117

2385

1040

2278

3116

1040

100-27789

117-37822

122-37893



956

3788



Grand Prizes and Rewards

Upon completing the required progress across the events, players All three of the following grand prizes:

- **Tier 6 Infinity Promotional Ship of Choice:** This coveted reward allows players to select a high-end starship from the Infinity Promotion, offering both aesthetic appeal and strategic advantages in gameplay.
- **Two Free T6 Zen Store Coupons:** These coupons enable players to acquire Tier 6 ships from the Zen Store, providing flexibility in expanding their fleet without additional cost.
- **1,500 Lobi Crystals:** A valuable in-game currency, Lobi Crystals can be used to purchase a variety of exclusive items, including unique ships, costumes, and equipment.

The 2025 Event Campaign requires 4,200 Event Campaign Progress (84 Event participations). Completing an eligible event gives 50 Event Campaign Progress every 20 hours. The reward is all 3 of the following prizes: [Event Campaign VII Prize: Premium T6 Starship Choice], 2x [100% Discount Coupon: Tier 6 Ship], and 1,500 [Lobi Crystal].

This Event Campaign is active from January 2025 and will conclude in late 2025 or February 2026.

Strategic Considerations for Players

To maximize the benefits of Event Campaign VII, players should consider the following strategies:

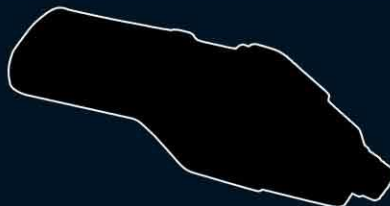
- **Consistent Participation:** Engaging in each event as it becomes available ensures steady progress toward the grand prizes. Missing events may require additional effort in subsequent events to catch up.
- **Resource Management:** Balancing time and in-game resources across events can prevent burnout and ensure sustained participation throughout the campaign's duration.
- **Community Engagement:** Collaborating with other players can enhance the experience, as many events are designed to encourage teamwork and collective strategy. Joining fleets or player groups can provide support and shared knowledge.

Event Campaign VII in Star Trek Online exemplifies the game's commitment to providing engaging, rewarding, and strategically rich content for its players. By participating in the diverse events and aiming for the grand prizes, players can enhance their gameplay experience and achieve significant in-game milestones. As the campaign progresses, staying informed through official announcements and community channels will be crucial for making the most of this expansive event series.

For more detailed information and updates, players are encouraged to visit the official Star Trek Online news page.



3441A



Exploring "Blink of an Eye": Star Trek: Voyager's Thought-Provoking Masterpiece



Season 6 of *Star Trek: Voyager* delivered many memorable episodes, but few stand out quite like "Blink of an Eye" (Episode 12). Originally airing on January 19, 2000, this episode masterfully blends classic *Star Trek* themes of temporal distortion, cultural evolution, and the unintended consequences of exploration. With a unique premise and compelling storytelling, "Blink of an Eye" remains one of *Voyager's* most fascinating and thought-provoking episodes.

Plot Summary

The episode begins with the *USS Voyager* encountering a mysterious planet that exists in a state of temporal acceleration. Due to a unique space-time anomaly, time on the planet passes much faster than in normal space—centuries go by in the blink of an eye. When *Voyager* becomes trapped in the planet's gravitational field, the ship unwittingly becomes a fixed point in the sky, inspiring myths, legends, and ultimately scientific curiosity among the planet's rapidly evolving civilizations.

As the inhabitants progress from a primitive society to an advanced technological civilization, they become aware of *Voyager* and attempt to make contact. The crew, realizing the ethical dilemma of their unintended interference, must decide how to respond without further disrupting the planet's natural development. Meanwhile, *Voyager's* presence has already influenced cultural narratives, leading to worship, fear, and even attempts to reach the 'Sky Ship' in space. Eventually, an astronaut from the planet successfully boards *Voyager* and experiences the disorienting effects of the time difference firsthand.

In the end, the *Voyager* crew manages to escape the planet's gravitational pull, but not before leaving a lasting impression on the world below. A touching final moment shows an advanced spacecraft from the planet sending a farewell transmission to *Voyager*, a testament to the species' incredible progress.

Themes and Analysis

***The Power of Perception:** One of the episode's strongest themes is how perception shapes reality. To the planet's early civilizations, Voyager is a celestial entity, akin to a god. As scientific understanding grows, the 'Sky Ship' becomes an object of study rather than superstition. This mirrors real-world progress, where myths often give way to knowledge through discovery and exploration.*

***The Prime Directive and Ethical Dilemmas:** Voyager's predicament raises an important question—what responsibility does a starship have when its mere presence alters a civilization's development? While the Prime Directive typically prohibits interference, Voyager's accidental entrapment makes non-intervention impossible. The crew must navigate ethical challenges, demonstrating Starfleet's commitment to responsible exploration.*

***The Advancement of Civilization:** The episode provides a fascinating portrayal of societal evolution at an accelerated pace. From tribal communities to industrial advancements and space travel, the planet's development is a compressed version of humanity's own progress, offering a thought-provoking reflection on technological and cultural growth.*

Legacy and Impact

"Blink of an Eye" is often praised as one of Voyager's standout episodes. Fans and critics appreciate its unique take on time dilation, a concept rarely explored with such depth in Star Trek. The episode is also notable for its emotional resonance, as it highlights the unintended consequences of space exploration while celebrating the power of curiosity and scientific progress.

Additionally, "Blink of an Eye" exemplifies what Star Trek does best—using science fiction as a lens to explore complex philosophical and ethical questions. The way the episode captures an entire civilization's evolution in a single hour is a testament to the brilliance of its storytelling.

Final Thoughts

With its compelling premise, rich themes, and emotional depth, "Blink of an Eye" stands as a quintessential Star Trek episode. It encapsulates the franchise's enduring themes of discovery, ethics, and the unintended consequences of exploration. Whether you're a longtime Voyager fan or new to the series, this episode is a must-watch for anyone who appreciates thought-provoking science fiction.

Upcoming Events

- **USS Veritas Awards & Promotions Ceremony**

February 8, 2025 @ 1:00pm
Galaxy Burger, Killeen, TX

We will hold our Quarterly Awards and Promotions Ceremony and enjoy some great food and company!

- **CTC Cozmic Con!**

Sat, Apr 12 2025, 10:00am - 7:00pm
Central Texas College, 6200 W Central Texas Expwy, Killeen, TX 76549.
Anderson Campus Center building 224

Formerly Epically Geeky Expo, and CTC Geekfest before that, It is the long running geek convention that supports the Central Texas College continuing education program. We as a ship plan on setting up a table there this year so get your uniforms ready for inspection.

- **STARFLEET IC 2025**

Fri, Aug 1st – Sun Aug 3rd
Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake hotel

Mission Control for STARFLEET IC 2025 is in Houston, TX! We'll be right up the street from NASA's Johnson Space Center and Space Center Houston. A tour is on the schedule! Registration and all the details will be coming soon to the SFI website. I can tell you now though that registration will be \$50.00 and the two banquet meals will be \$60.00 each The Hilton guest room special price for us is \$139.00 plus taxes. Space center tour tickets are \$22.00 (half the regular admission price with this advance group purchase). The countdown to launch has begun! Save the dates and watch for an announcement when registration opens.