

STARFLEET, SOL SECTOR SUN

<http://solsector.org>

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Greetings from the Office of Communications

CDRE Feldman, Director of Communications

Hello Sol Sector and welcome to the second issue of the Sol Sector Sun. Happy Holidays! As we approach the end of 2018 Sol Sector is growing and evolving. There is a great deal of work in progress including changes in Engineering and new ships coming online. As always, there is much to do and new faces are always welcome. Going forward specific openings will be announced but if you have a thought, idea, or specific place you want to get involved reach out to a department head or command staff member and you will get an answer as we want everyone to feel comfortable. Sol Sector is about all of our members and each of you has a voice. Please help us make Sol Sector an even more amazing organization.

Coming Attractions

CDRE Feldman, Director of Communications

I asked the Chief of Staff what's ahead and in answering he indicated 2018 brought growth and new faces to Sol Sector but more growth is expected in 2019 with a large recruiting drive in the works. The academy should come online within a few months and a full fleet summit is being planned. We will also be searching for events we can attend to promote Sol Sector.

The fresh faces that took on new roles in 2018 are working hard to grow Sol Sector and stay true to its founding vision and continuing mission but we remain grateful to those whose service helped us reach this point as well. As always it is about our members and the evolution of Sol Sector is possible because of each and every member. If there is something you want to see speak up as we will always answer and try to find ways to implement ideas where it is feasible.

Sol Sector Sun Staff

RADM Anazaldi
USS Narragansett
Publisher

CDRE Feldman
USS Firestar
Editor in Chief

CDRE Taylor
USS Narragansett
Managing Editor

FCPT McClendon
USS Kepler
Chief Designer

LT Hael
Jupiter Station
Staff Writer

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comms@solsector.org

Around the Fleet

CDRE Taylor, Director of Technology

The USS Ascension NCC-2018-A (Z1 1st) has been busy. Captain Ochsenhirt worked with a member of the Chief of Staff's Office to create a new website. The Ascension also successfully recruited 2 new members last month. We wish them further success in the new year.

The USS Narragansett NCC-75017 (Z1 4th) was damaged beyond repair during a battle at DS9 against a new foe from the Gamma Quadrant. Sol Sector Command has seen fit to allocate a brand new Sovereign Class Refit 2 to serve as the USS Narragansett NCC-75017A. After completing trials under Captain Taylor, she is now under the command of Captain Griffin. We wish the crew well on her next voyage. Outside of Role-play, the Narragansett had several successful away missions including Northeast Trek Con in Albany, NY, RI Comic Con in Providence, RI and GID in Boston, MA.

Getting to Know You: Commodore Jim Knotts

CDRE Feldman, Director of Communications

This interview marks the first in a series that will give everyone a chance to get acquainted. Each newsletter will feature a different Sol Sector member and hopefully reach as many members as possible. Commodore Knotts currently serves as the Sol Sector Command Vice Chief of Staff, Co-Deputy Commander of Zone 1, as Commander of the 2nd and 4th Fleets in Zone 1, and is the Commanding Officer of Record for the USS Narragansett.

I started my discussion with CDRE Knotts by asking about his earliest Star Trek memory and he told me that he watched reruns of The Original Series (TOS) with his dad and sometimes a friend of his dad's. Star Trek played a key role in shaping the Commodore's character and he stated "I believe it taught me at a young age to always stand for what is right, to never back down in the face of the unknown. To always seek answers and that there is no such thing as a no-win situation. Things that I have carried throughout my adult life." Stardate 92033 (June, 2014) marked the beginning of CDRE Knotts' Starfleet career when he was assigned as a Command Division Ensign aboard the USS Darwin (NCC-1166) under the command of FCPT Dave Forrand. He served aboard the Darwin for a year prior to launching the USS Narragansett. His vision in launching the Narragansett was "to provide a place for Trek fans to get together locally." As the chapter has grown the vision has as well, as the Narragansett is now the flagship for the 4th Fleet in Zone 1. "We set the standard for many chapters throughout S3C. As far as the future, it is my hope and dream for the Narragansett to establish a legacy for itself and provide a good Star Trek based organization for many generations to follow"

I asked the Commodore which Captains (or prior Captains) he would most want to share the bridge with and why and James T. Kirk is his Captain of choice as "It is Kirk's command style that I have most tried to emulate. I find his demeanor as a Starship Captain became the standard that I judged other captains on." When asked what IDIC means to him, Commodore Knotts answered, "The term IDIC means that there is a universal acceptance to ALL beings." That definition is the very heart of what Sol Sector is about. The Commodore's advice to new recruits/members is "Above all else, HAVE FUN!! Figure out what level of participation you are most comfortable with and approach it with dedication and determination. Always take pride in yourself, your fellow crewmembers and your ship/starbase. Remember YOU are a member of an organization that was based on the vision of Gene Rodenberry to perpetuate the highest standard of human compassion and behavior and it is imperative that you practice those values always."

The Federation is vast but the Commodore would most like to visit "The Mutara Nebula near the Ceti Alpha System to see and study the remnants of the Genesis Alpha planet. However, do not ask Commodore Knotts to be your travelling partner if you are headed to Ferenginar as it is not on his list of preferred destinations.

Finally, I asked the Commodore how he defines leadership and what characteristics he looks for in successful leaders: "Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage. I look for those attributes in every leader through their actions and how they interact with subordinates. In order to be an effective leader, one must emulate every trait on that list to some extent."

