

# THE REPUBLICation

ISSUE TWO

MARCH- APRIL 1989

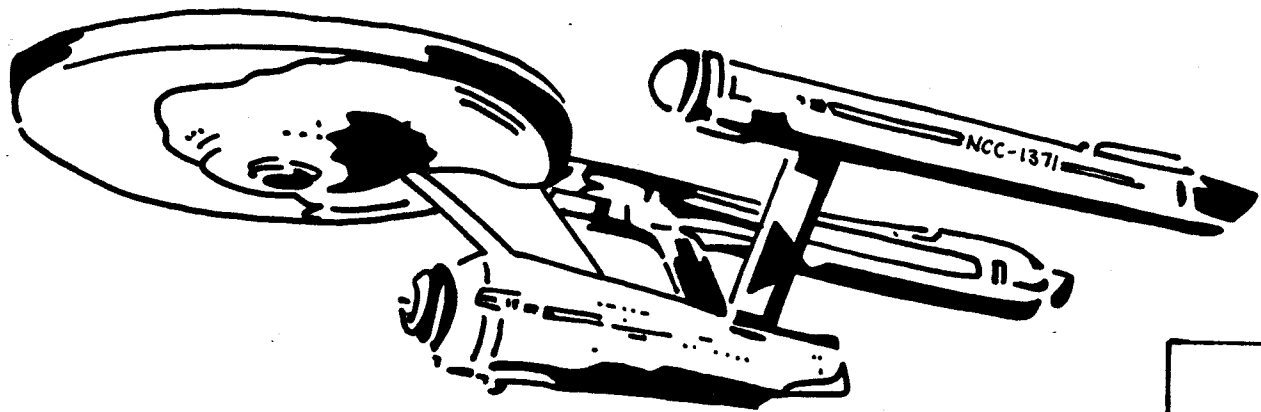
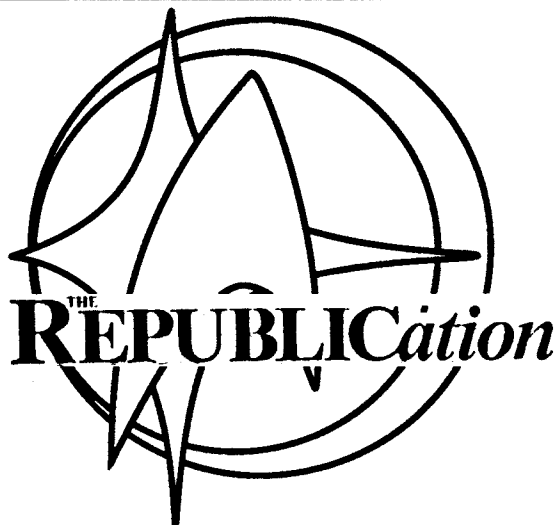


Illustration By Steven Thomas

Atlanta – The Adventure Begins... Here???



## FROM THE EDITOR

**Robert Ray**

Welcome to the second issue of the REPUBLICation. I recently accepted the Directorship of Special Services and Newsletter Editor. If you have any questions or comments about the way this could improve, then contact me at the USS Republic address (see below).

As you may notice your expiration date on the mailing label has a high-lighted color code over it. Briefly, the yellow line signifies that your membership has expired. The newsletter that is enclosed will be your last until you renew. The pink line signifies that your membership will expire within two (2) months. If you have this, then you should renew as soon as possible. The blue line signifies that your membership is in good standing at this time. For those who have expired or will be expiring, contact the CMO for resuscitation, or mail in your renewal. You should have a letter with your newsletter so that you can renew sooner.

If you want to submit an article, puzzle or whatever, please hand it to me at the ship meeting (see map on where we meet inside this newsletter) or mail it to the Starfleet address. The next deadline for submissions to the May/June REPUBLICation is May 20, 1989. Be seeing you.

## ABOUT THE COVER

As we are going to press with the Newsletter, there is a good possibility that Atlanta might be privileged to have the world premiere of Star Trek 5 in Atlanta, at the Fox Theater.

We of Starfleet have been asked to participate in a letter writing campaign to let Paramount know just how much we want this to happen. And, as of this time, Paramount is interested.

With Atlanta being the hometown of Dr. McCoy, and Georgia being the birthplace of DeForest Kelly, Atlanta is a perfect place for the premiere.

The addresses to write to are:

Harve Bennett  
Paramount Pictures  
555 Melrose Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
and  
Karen Hatchet  
c/o Michael Parvier, Inc.  
1800 Peachtree Rd., NW  
Atlanta, GA 30083

If you would like to have up to the minute information about this, come to the next ships meeting and learn all that has happened since we went to press.

Remember our meetings are held the first and third Saturdays of the month at DeVry Institute in room 101. See you there.

## REPUBLICation Staff

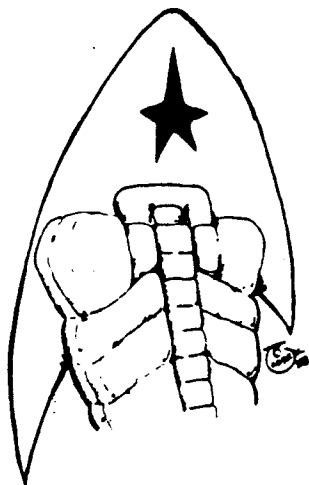
Editor-in-Chief	<b>Robert J. Ray</b>
Designer, Cover Illustration	<b>Steve Thomas</b>
Artist	<b>Roderick McWhorter</b>
Proofing	<b>Bruce Peret</b>

### Logo Credits

Name	<b>Bruce Peret</b>
Design Idea	<b>Paul Timm</b>
Construction	<b>Michael G. Hart</b>

The REPUBLICation is a bimonthly publication of USS Republic, the Atlanta Chapter of Starfleet, an International Star Trek fan association. All rights revert to original author/artist upon publication. This publication is a non profit enterprise and is not intended to infringe on any copyrights/trademarks of STAR TREK, as held by Paramount Pictures. © 1989 USS Republic - NCC-1371  
Please send all inquiries to The REPUBLICation, 6050 Peachtree Parkway, Suite 340-177, Norcross, Ga. 30092

**FROM THE CENTER SEAT**  
by **CAPT Bart Alcorn**



**Captians Log, StarDate: 36, 24, student  
body left, hut, hut, hike!!!**

First off, allow me to welcome the new staff members. As most of you know, several of the staff positions have recently be re-arranged. Some officers have resigned their positions aboard REPUBLIC to pursue interests in the International organization, while others have simply requested a "change of scenery". If Sulu can go from Botany to Helm and Geordi from Helm to Engineering, then we can too!!

Our new staff as of April 15th is:

- Commanding Officer: CAPT Bart Alcorn
- Executive Officer: LCDR Bruce Peret
- Chief Medical Officer: LT Ramona Birmingham
- Chief Science Officer: LT Dale Simpson
- Chief of Security: LTjg Bill Price
- Chief of Special Services: LTjg Robert Ray
- Chief Engineer: CPO Joey Forlini

MOC IV was a major success for the REPUBLIC. We managed to sell plenty of those fancy polo shirts of ours, thus raising the treasury a little.

FADM Jeanette Maddox and staff were on hand and we picked up all the latest gossip. There is a new International Handbook, which is being sent out to new and renewing members. Among

some of the changes: the lowest enlisted rank is now Petty Officer, Third Class (PO3). Congratulations to all those whom were just promoted to PO3!! The new basic OTS is now required for the rank of Ensign (ENS). All officers who have not as of yet completed OTS, you must do so now (ASAP).

The new International Bylaws will be out for ratification soon. All persons with the rank of Captain or above will be voting on them. I shall review them at the first available ship's meeting before I vote if at all possible.

The Recreation Department is working on several events for the near future, it is our hope to have at least one major extracurricular event each month. Please contact Lt. Birmingham if you have any ideas.

A sizable number of our crew will have their memberships expire in May, please check the mailing label on this newsletter for your expiration date. A renewal card WILL be mailed to you approximately two (2) to four (4) weeks prior to your expiration. The card will tell you all you need to know to renew.

As before, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact ANY staff member or myself.

"That is all..."



## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

**LTjg Robert J. Ray**

Since I just took the position, most of what Special Services has been doing is the publication of this newsletter. The magazine deadline which was March 31 will be moved to July 1, 1989 due to the lack of submissions. So finish up those stories or whatever you have so that you could have your name and story in print.

## **ENGINEERING**

**LCDR B. Peret**

A discussion was held at the ship meeting Earthdate 8904.01, on whether or not to finish off the helm-nav station which was started some months ago, but ran out of funding before completion. By popular consensus, the crew wants to go ahead and finish it, based on the movie version (ST-I thru ST-IV). An upgrade was considered to modify it to fit Star Trek V, but there are still too many unknowns until the movie is released.

Currently, about \$500 worth of materials will be needed to finish the station off (based on Star Trek II version). Fund raisers are being considered. The majority of the framework is completed, the panel layouts are in progress, and the methods to finish the exterior are being researched.

Other projects in the Engineering division are a convention table for the upcoming convention season, and a Mars Colony mockup for an exhibit at the conventions.

## **SECURITY**

**LTjg B. Price**

Security is still working on the Security Manual project. We are all looking forward to seeing the finalized manual. LTjg. Price is the new Security Officer.

## **CADET CORPS**

**CENS Chris Hamilton**

Cadets are organizing a special Star Trek video party, though the date and location are as yet undecided. For more information contact me at the ship's meeting.

Also we are compiling skits for the DixieTrek and getting the people together to do them. It should be fun.

Also, Cadet Brian Small is getting a Cadet Manual together. We are sure that when completed it will make the Cadet Division know that it is as important to the ship as the other divisions.

## **MEDICAL**

**Lt. Ramona Birmingham**

Medical Log On: Lt. Hart has officially resigned the position of CMO so that he can pursue his other research interests. He will still be heading up his current projects. I, Lt. Birmingham, have been appointed CMO by Captain Alcorn. Since I have no formal training in medical field, the first thing I will be doing is taking applications for a chief surgeon. I am hoping to find someone who has some practical experience for the job.

Since I will be taking on some extra tasks, Ms. Stephanie Pettys has become my assistant in the Recreation Department. There are several events in the planning stages for the next few months. On Saturday April 29th, there will be a picnic at Stone Mountain near the train station, on May 20th, there will be a gold mining trip, in June of course, the premiere of Star Trek 5 on the 10th, and July the annual trip to Six Flags. I am hoping that several other ships from the nearby area will be able to join us at Six Flags.

Since I have only taken over the medical division in the last two weeks, I do not have any other current plans for the division. I will be looking into some of the local charities to see what we might be able to help them with. Hopeful my department heads will be able to come up with some suggestions.

## **SCIENCE**

**LT Dale Simpson**

As one of my first duties, I have assigned the Martian Colony project to LT Michael Hart. We are currently formulating plans for several new science projects. Anyone with ideas should submit them to the Science Officer, or any of the Science department chiefs at the ship meeting.

I would like to recognize the hard work and long hours put in by Cadet Beth Nichols for her presentation on sign language. Well done.

## COMMAND

**LCDR Bruce Peret**

Attention all hands. A new command crew has come on board the REPUBLIC, and the majority of the division chiefs have changed.

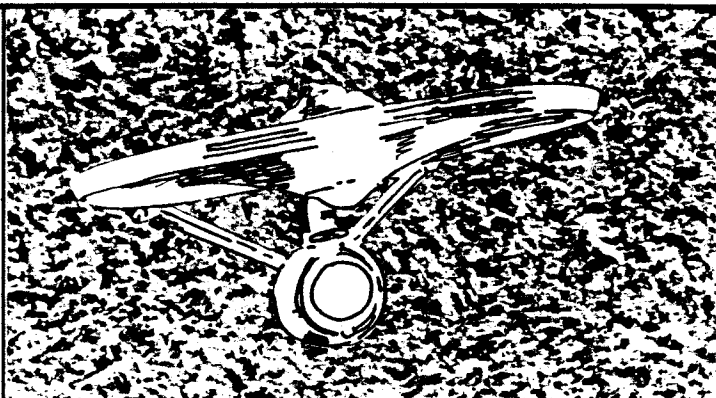
As first officer, it is my duty to assure the smooth operation of the ship. Please feel free to contact me for any new ideas, suggestions, or comments.

To the crew, spring is here at last. The REPUBLIC will endeavour to keep you informed of the many events we have planned for the upcoming months. The best way to get information is to attend a ship meeting, still the first and third Saturday of every month at DeVry in Dekalb. Remember, this is your ship. You plot the course to new worlds. Make it so.

## LIFE, THE UNIVERSE, & EVERYTHING

Through a series of random coincidences, it was discovered that a large percentage of the USS Republic crew have a lot of similar interests in areas outside of Star Trek. A study group has formed outside of Starfleet where people get together, just to talk about things like: UFO's (sightings and abductions), the paranormal, death, religion, nin-jutsu, the Force, ghosts, surviving doomsday, the Pyramids of Mars,... basically, Life, the Universe and Everything. Books like "Communion" and the "Urantia Book" have also become quite popular for discussions. If any of these topics interest you, contact the Republic's Executive Officer, who has volunteered to coordinate anyone interested. (Send to the Republic, ATTN: Study Group). These ARE study groups, researching the possibilities of such events, and are not debating sessions. An open mind is required, and things discussed are kept strictly confidential. This study group is not a Starfleet or USS Republic sponsored function.

***Cadets: If you wish to go on any field trips you must bring a permission slip from your parents to your Cadet sponsor, Dale, the Captain or First Officer, prior to the trip. Most trips leave from and return to DeVry Dekalb.***



## CREWBEINGS OF THE MONTH

This issue, the staff of the Republic would like to recognize the outstanding performance of several of its crew: ENS Bill Downs (Science), ENS Bertha Ray (Command), and LT Michael Hart (Medical).

ENS Downs has taken many of the Starfleet and Vulcan Academy courses, and continually passed with exceptional performance. Bill has also provided invaluable research for the Mars Colony project.

ENS Ray has been the staff yeoman for some months now, and has been continually on hand to record events at staff meetings located all over the Atlanta area, despite some personal hardships.

LTHart had been doing a great deal of work on the previous issues of The REPUBLICation and FNR<sup>2</sup>, and supplying the Republic with top quality forms for its members, and has gone without recognition for months. We just wanted to say thanks for all your assistance, Lieutenant.

Ensigns Downs and Ray were awarded hand-crafted stained glass Starfleet shields at the ship meeting on April 1st. A special thanks to LT Ramona Birmingham for her time in creating these stained glass masterpieces.

## **A NEW REPUBLIC**

**Lt. Dale Simpson, Chief Science Officer**

I felt compelled to do this article because it is of concern to all of the crew of the Republic. "It" is, of course, the upgrading of the Republic from an Enterprise class heavy cruiser to an Alaska class supercruiser. There are many who feel that this is a worthy endeavor for the chapter, but there are also those who feel that this is not the "right" thing to do. In truth, there is no right or wrong concerning this decision. There are, however, some good reasons to pursue the idea. I for one am a fan of the old "outdated" Constitution class starship. Nothing else can quite give me the same feeling or cause my chest to swell with pride, as the sight of the "old" Enterprise, or one of her sister ships as they majestically transverse the final frontier.

Even in death, the constitution class starships were proud and heroic: yet we knew that death did not spell the end to the legacy of those tall ships and what they stood for. No, all that they were, and could be, would live on in another ship with the same name to carry on the heritage, and add to the honor of that ship's name.

The Enterprise is an excellent example of this passing on of name and legacy. Through several reincarnations, the Enterprise has added to the legend and mystique of her proud heritage and so should it be with the Republic.

In her current incarnation, the Enterprise is a Galaxy class exploration ship, capable of journeying further than any starship before it, and safely returning to tell about it. Since the destruction of the Yamato, the task of deep space exploration has fallen back to the Enterprise, as well as the ships of the Alaska class, since they are the only ships with anything near the endurance and range of the Galaxy class ships.

Skip to Greenville, S.C., and MOC IV. While talking about the future of Starfleet in general, and the Republic in particular, it was conceded that most of us liked elements of both the movie Treks and the Next Generation Trek. Yet, we didn't want to be pinned down to one time frame or the other exclusively as far as our chapter and ship were concerned. Then, while walking through the dealers room, we spied a poster with diagrams and

histories of all the ships named Enterprise, and there was the answer to our dilemma staring us right in the face. A ship class that was in a time frame between the movies and the Next Generation.

The Alaska class – she is much sleeker than the Excelsior class – yet she retains the lines of the starships that we have all come to love. She holds the promise of things to come, yet is achingly familiar to us. She is big, and yet one can sense the power and grace that she exudes as she proudly sails through uncharted space. Yes, we agreed, this is the future, bright with the promise of exploration and contact of new worlds and new civilizations. Bold enough to be able to do so safely, while at the same time guaranteeing the freedom of the home worlds and colonies of the Federation. For you see, all new frontiers are fraught with dangers, and perhaps enemies and potential explorers had better be prepared to defend themselves, or pay the price for being unprepared. Hence, the reason for the existence of the supercruiser. To put it all into perspective, one should realize that at the time of their inception, the Constitution class starships were the most heavily armed ships in the Federation.

So we come almost full circle in a quest for a way to represent our chapter as a constantly growing entity, full of promise. But any decision that affects our future should be debated, for this is a sign of a healthy and dynamic organization. Though let us be clear in the reasons for our proposals both pro AND con, for these decisions should serve to bring us together, not divide us.

My final reflection is that as a ship and a chapter, where we are going is at least as important as where we have been. Therefore, I feel that the upgrade to an Alaska class starship says that we are committed to the best of both Trek generations, and that we are more interested in seeing "What's out there", than sitting on our laurels, comfortable in our past accomplishments. This change would give us the freedom to grow, experience, and to participate in the birth of the Grand Alliance! The spirit of the proud ship Republic lives on...

## THE GENETICS OF SPOCK

Fans have been speculating about the how's of Spock's conception and birth ever since it became known that he is, to use a word some novelists have used, a "fusion" of human-vulcan heritage. This article will attempt to extrapolate how a hybrid such as Spock might one day be possible using current breakthroughs in DNA technology as a starting point.

The word fusion is used in several Star Trek novels in referring to the hybrid offspring of two different species. This concept has been used to explain two things: The three very different looking types of Klingons we have seen, and Spock. The use of the word fusion in this case seems appropriate because it refers not only to the fusing of egg and sperm nuclei, but also the fusing of gametes of very diverse species.

In a recording that Gene Roddenberry and the original cast made called "Inside Trek", Mark Lenard as Sarek gave his opinion of Spock's conception. He stated that he and Amanda did indeed have sexual relations and concieved Spock normally. How could this be believed when right now we have women who have serious problems carrying a baby full term because the child's bloodtype is too different.

Considering that this happens within the same species, imagine what Amanda's problem of carrying a baby with blood so different as to be copper based and of a type known as T-negative.

In all probability Spock would have been the most planned of babies and Amanda probably would not have carried him inside of her body. One novel gives a good explanation of this: Sarek and Amanda had the best scientists anywhere to help them out, those at the Vulcan Academy of Science.

The first problem our genius Vulcan geneticists would have to overcome would be to complete a DNA map of the entire Vulcan and Human DNA. That is, the need to know the position of each nucleic acid in the DNA and correctly interpret what they code for. A big step in the sequencing of human DNA has recently been taken by the Japanese who have invented a DNA sequencing computer that works faster than any old model sequencer, perhaps one hundred times faster.

This leads to another problem: the universal-

ity of the DNA triplet codes. From 1960 to 1978 it was assumed that the genetic code would be universal, applying to all living things. But then studies of the DNA from yeasts and human mitochondria changed that. A codon is defined as 3 bases that encode for specific amino acids. In the human nucleus, the codon made up of the bases adenine-uracil-adenine (AUA) specifies the production of the amino acid called isoleucine, but the mitochondria AUA causes the production of methionine. (Note that mitochondria are thought to have once been part of a microscopic animal that became incorporated into our cell through evolution.) If this is so how can we be sure that the Vulcan DNA codons mean the same thing as ours? For now, though, the mitochondrial and yeast DNA differences are considered only as interesting exceptions to the rules, and we will assume that Vulcan codons are like our own in all ways.

The next problem involves what is called the complementation of chromosomes. Human beings have 46 chromosomes which nearly all exist as homologous pairs (two similar chromosomes). The gametes each contain 23. On each member of one homologous pair the gene locations are exactly the same, though the gene on one chromosome may code for blue eyes while its homologue may code for brown. If we want to fuse two gametes from different species, say human and vulcan, how can we be sure that even if their chromosome number is the same that the different genes will be able to divide properly because it has non-homologous chromosomes.

The vulcan geneticists at the academy would have to do a wonder of DNA splicing to make Spock. The DNA techniques we have now, though able to produce a mutant, cancer prone type of lab rat, is not nearly sophisticated enough to make a fusion. The easiest way might probably be to take each homologous pair of chromosomes together from either parent so that they wouldn't have to worry about whether or not they belong together. Since Spock seems to possess many vulcan traits we would guess that they took the preponderance of chromosome pairs from Sarek. By Spock's actions we see that he also has many human qualities which give testimony to Amanda's genes also. As Spock is such an exceptional individual, we can guess that if Vulcan geneticists possess the ability to activate

*The Genetics of Spock, (con't.)*

some genes and deactivate others, they would use only the best of each.

Our genetics technology has a long, long way to go to reach this point. Perhaps later in the next century we will be able to project a better way to create a being such as Spock. With the little we know now, though, even if Vulcans did exist, a mating between them and Humans will remain a favored fiction.

**ENS Karen Jordan**  
**Chief of Life Sciences**



## CONVENTION GUIDE

### **DEEPSOUTH CON 27, 9 - 11 June '89**

Memphis Marriot, Memphis Tennessee

**GUESTS:**

Orson Scott Card, Mary Hanson-Roberts, Bill Sutton and G. Patrick Malloy.

**WRITE (Everything but registration):**

DeepSouthCon 27, 1229 Pallwood Road, Memphis, Tennessee, 38122

**Con Address:**

DeepSouthCon, P.O. Box 22749, Memphis, TN 38122

### **MOC BATTLES, 15 - 17 June '89**

Hyatt Regency, Greenville, South Carolina

**Con Address:**

Joe N. Phillips, 622 Emily Lane, Piedmont, SC 29673

**Phone:**

803/277-8800

### **DIXIETREK, 16 - 18 June '89**

Radisson Inn and Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia

**GUESTS:**

James Doohan, Marina Sirtis, John Pertwee and Richard Arnold.

**REGISTRATION:**

\$25.00

**Con Address:**

DixieTrek, 5081 Stones Crossing Drive, Lilburn, GA 30247

### **LIBERTYCON 3, 7 - 9 July '89**

Sheraton City Center Hotel, Chattanooga, Tennessee

**GUESTS:**

Robert and Pamela Adams, Bob Maurus, David Cherry, Walt Baric, Tom Dietz, Bob Giadrosich, Debbie Hughes, Brad Linaweaver, Mark Maxwell, Janet and Chris Morris, John Maddox Roberts, "Infamous Tish", Brad Strickland, Kevin Ward, Timothy Zahn and Wilson "Bob" Tucker.

**REGISTRATION:**

Pre: \$20.00 until 1 June '89; \$25.00 there-after and at the door. Limited to the first 550 paid attendees.

**Phone:**

800/722-7666

**Con Address:**

LibertyCon 3, P.O. Box 695, Hixson, TN 37343

### **ATLANTA FANTASY FAIR, JULY 21-23**

Atlanta Hilton and Towers  
Courtland and Harris Streets, Atlanta, Ga.

**GUESTS:**

Michael Dorn (LT Worf), Bob Kane, Jerry Ordway, George Perez

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

Advance- 3 Day Membership \$27. until 7/7  
At the Door \$30./3 Days  
Hotel Info - tel. 1-800-HILTONS

**WRITE:**

AFF, 1105 Ashley Lakes Dr., Norcross, Ga., 30092



## WRITING TO THE USS REPUBLIC

The USS Republic has a suite in Norcross, which is checked weekly for incoming mail. When you write to the Republic, please include the position of the person you wish to contact as an attention line. This will allow us to get your letter to the right person without having to open it up to figure out who should get it. For example:

Herman Munster  
1313 Mockingbird Lane  
Smyrna, GA 30021

25¢

U.S.S. Republic  
6050 Peachtree Parkway  
Suite 340-177  
Norcross, GA 30092

ATTN: Executive Officer

Please use these attention lines where applicable (all Command division mail goes to the Executive Officer):

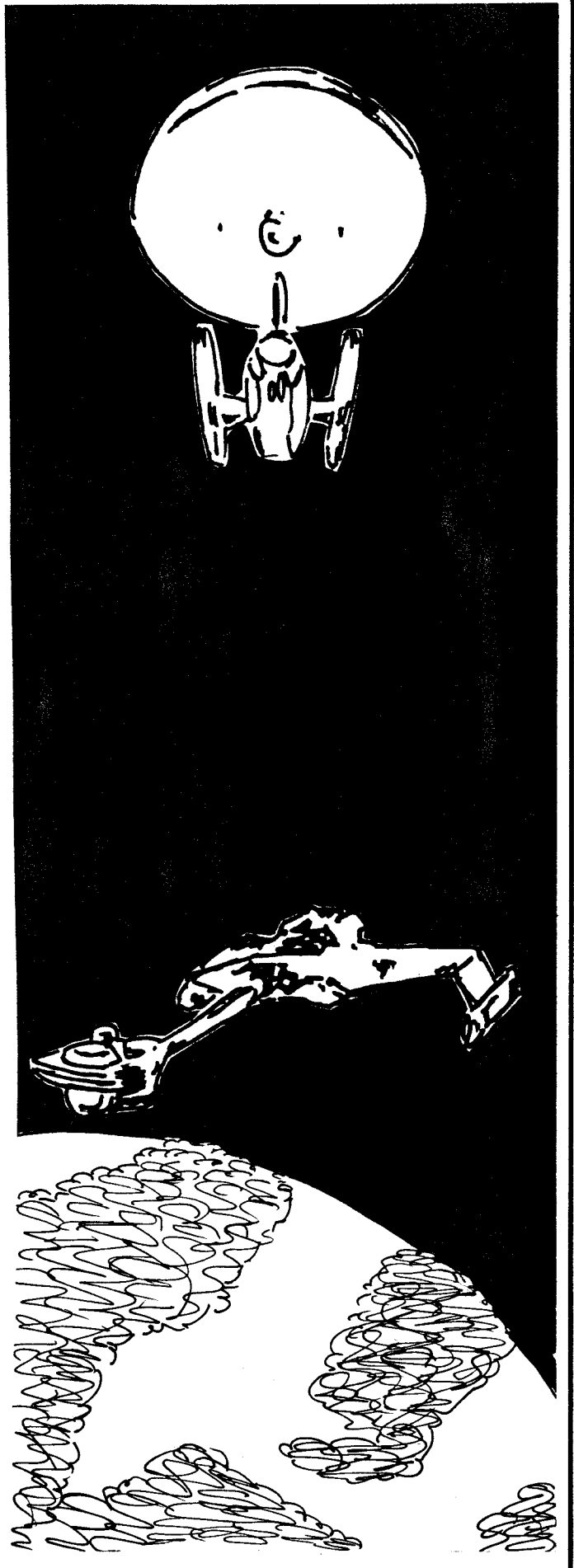
### Staff Officers: ATTN:

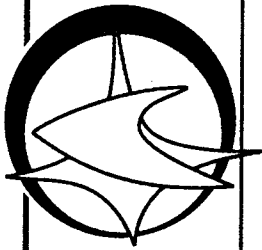
Commanding Officer (or CO)  
Executive Officer (or XO)  
Science Officer  
Chief Engineer  
Chief Medical Officer  
Security Chief  
Cadet Corps Commander  
Director of Special Services

### Miscellaneous: ATTN:

Local Membership (joining or renewing)  
Publications (Newsletter or Magazine submissions)  
Mars Colony (M.C. Project material)  
Information (General information request)  
Records (Changes in address, phone, yellow card, etc.)

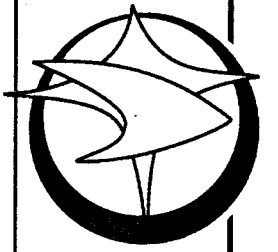
When mailing information to the Republic, PLEASE keep a copy for your own records, in case your mail does not arrive, or does – in several pieces.





# MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Staff Meeting Douglasville	4	5	6 Ship Meeting Noon
7	8	9	10 Staff Meeting Norcross	11	12 Sea Trek	13 Republic 1 Year Anniversary Party Sea Trek
14 Sea Trek	15 Sea Trek	16	17 Staff Meeting Douglasville	18	19	20 Ship Meeting Noon Gold Mining Trip
21	22	23	24 Staff Meeting Norcross	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Staff Meeting Douglasville			



# JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Ships Meeting
4	5	6	7 Staff Meeting Norcross	8	9 Star Trek V Atlanta Premier	10 Star Trek V Republic Movie Trip Cadet Sponsored Party
11	12	13	14 Staff Meeting Douglasville	15	16 DIXIE TREK	17 DIXIE TREK
18 DIXIE TREK	19	20	21 Staff Meeting Norcross	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

STAFF MEETINGS: Subject to change with little notice. Contact CO or XO for verification.