



Blue Alert

Excellentia in Defero - Excellence in Communication



Volume 2, Issue 12

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL AT OSB!!!

Dec 2010

Letter From the Editor

By: LCDR StarFinder Warp

Editor in Chief, Blue Alert

On this threshold of a new year, we of Online Starbase are witness to the dawn of a great new era. Command of OSB changed hands on 8 December 2010 from Rear Admiral Ryan W. Dean to newly promoted Rear Admiral Jade in a brief, unprecedented ceremony that was as moving as it was solemn. The highlight of the ceremony was the surprise presentation by Rear Admiral Jade of a medal, the newly created Ryan Dean Award for Distinguished Command Service, and the first ever OSB Certificate of Commendation, to Rear Admiral Ryan W. Dean.

Another momentous event took place the very next day when Captain Kal-EI announced the opening of the splendid OSB Historical Archives, a joint project of the Departments of Engineering, headed by Captain Kal-EI, and Public Relations, headed by Commander Matt Foard.

So, as the New Year unfolds, let us reflect appreciatively on the past era and embrace the coming era.

Captain / First Officer Relationship

*Captain Kathryn Janeway & Commander Chakotay:
Part V: The "Equinox" Incident*

By: CDR Yu'wanna

Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer

Another difficult moment between Janeway and Chakotay was marked by their encounter with the Equinox. The Equinox had also been lost in the Delta Quadrant, and when Janeway discovered that Captain Ransom was using sentient beings as fuel for the ship, she developed an obsession to stop and punish him.

In 2376 Voyager discovered another Federation ship that had been lost in the Delta Quadrant, the USS Equinox, a science vessel captained by Rudolph Ransom. He explained that his ship was attacked by creatures that killed quite a lot of his crew. The crew was transported to Voyager for medical care and the Voyager crew tried to repair the Equinox. Thus, Janeway discovered why the creatures were attacking the Equinox: Ransom had been catching them and turning them into fuel for the ship. Janeway, whose moral sense found the idea revolting, confronted Ransom and arrested him and his crew. Unfortunately, the EMH for the Equinox, who was beamed aboard Voyager with his ethical subroutines disabled, helped the crew escape back to the Equinox. They disabled Voyager, kidnapped Seven and flew away, leaving Voyager under attack by the creatures who had been so upset with the Equinox.

Janeway became so obsessed with finding Ransom, that she started to make use of means that would not have been acceptable to Starfleet. She was willing to kill a captured member of the Equinox if he did not tell them the location of the ship, and confined Chakotay to his quarters when he interfered:

JANEWAY: "We've had our disagreements Chakotay, but you've never openly opposed me."

CHAKOTAY: "You almost killed that man today."

JANEWAY: "It was a calculated risk and I took it."

CHAKOTAY: "It was a bad call."

JANEWAY: "I'll note your objection in my log."

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Officer Profile

Murray, the Station Tribble

By: CDR Yu'wanna

Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer



It's finally happening: the most controversial "officer" on our Starbase is finally revealing himself! My friendship with Murray is no news to you. What you do not know is that I've been trying to convince Murray to let me interview him for months now, and he finally agreed. In case you wonder, Murray is neither a he, nor a she. We decided to call Murray a "he" because it's easier to communicate. Murray resents being referred to as "it".

Name: **Murray**

Age: classified

Position on the Starbase: Station Tribble - The official mascot of the OSB, occasional undercover agent

Location: somewhere on the OSB (the exact location: classified)

Hobbies: eating, drinking, making pranks, studying other species, solving mysteries, helping people in need

Enjoys: being spontaneous, living life at its fullest, relaxing, purring,

Hates: Bob (no, he does not hate Klingons, he is just allergic to them)

Guilty Pleasures: annoying certain officers, Targs and Klingons; stealing cookies

First Encountered Star Trek: on stardate 4523.3 - the incident known as "The Trouble with Tribbles"

Other Interesting Facts :

- Understands all known languages in the Universe
- Is the fastest known Tribble - no one has been able to catch him so far
- Has found the secret of eternal youth; and before most of you start hunting him down, you should know it only works for Tribbles....
- Can change the colour of his fur at will

CDR Yu'Wanna: How did you and Star Trek meet?

Murray: If you really want to find out, watch TOS: The Trouble with Tribbles. I was the very first Tribble purring within Federation space. Yes, I'm that old! *laughing purr*

CDR Yu'Wanna: Which is the most valuable thing you have learned from Star Trek?

Murray: "To boldly purrr where no one has purrrred before!"

CDR Yu'Wanna: What is your favourite Star Trek species and why?

Murray: Tribbles, obviously. *laughs* In fact, I like most of the species, except Klingons. I'm allergic to Klingons. But if I have to choose a favourite, that would be...*thinking*...cats, no doubt.

CDR Yu'Wanna: Your favourite ST character and why?

Murray: Spot, the cat. He is one of my best friends.

CDR Yu'Wanna: Any plans for the future you wish to share with us?

Murray: Nope, I am a Tribble of the present moment. I never plan anything, just enjoy all the opportunities life has to offer.

CDR Yu'Wanna: The things you like and dislike most about yourself and about other people?

Murray: I just love myself, and I love everybody. Except Bob. I hate Bob. I really do. Do not ask me why, it's classified!

CDR Yu'Wanna: How long have you been on the OSB? On what circumstances did you join the Starbase?

Murray: Oh, I'm on the Base from the very beginning. But at that time I preferred to stay hidden and just observe people. I find it fascinating to observe other life forms. I managed to sneak around for years, without anyone noticing my presence, when, suddenly, in February 2009, Lieutenant Danny Clark saw me. I thought it was no use hiding anymore. They called me Murray. It's not my real name, but I like it. It gives me the feeling that I've been accepted as a family member. Ever since, there were dozens of officers trying to catch me and this is kind of funny, because no one has been able to catch me before and no one will, of course. *laughs and purrs*

CDR Yu'Wanna: What is your real name then?

Murray: Trust me you won't be able to purr it. *laughing purr*

CDR Yu'Wanna: What do you like most about the Online Starbase?

Murray: This is the most unusual Starbase I've ever been to, actually. I like that fact that there are so many people from different parts of the Galaxy, of different cultures working, sharing ideas and having fun together. I also like all the sweets and cookies I find around. My favourite is chocolate, but I usually eat anything sweet. And I will come after your Fig Newtons someday, Mr.Warp. *laughing purr*

CDR Yu'Wanna: Tribbles are known to reproduce every twelve hours. How did you manage to solve this issue?

Murray: It is one of the side effects of immortality. I took that decision long time ago, because, if I hadn't, it would have endangered all the places I've been. And I've been to many places, believe me. I sometimes get depressed because I can't have offspring, but then I go under treatment and I usually recover quickly.

CDR Yu'Wanna: I know you occasionally work as an undercover agent for the Federation. I also know you saved the Starbase on several occasions. What can you tell us about that?

Murray: Nothing, really, that is top secret information. Sorry! Though I consider myself more like a Private Eye rather than an undercover agent. I just like solving mysteries and annoying bad guys. Ok, I admit: I like annoying people who think I am dangerous. Because actually I am not. *smiles*

CDR Yu'Wanna: What about your evil twin, or twins?

Murray: Oh, they're harmless, actually. Just envious of my skills and popularity on the OSB.

CDR Yu'Wanna: What words of wisdom do you have for new members to OSB that would help them get integrated?

Murray: New fellow officers, hear me out: if I, Murray the hunted Tribble, managed to integrate, I'm sure you will, too!

CDR Yu'Wanna: Anything else you wish to add?

Murray: I wish all of you a Merry Trix-Mas (Trixmas: Tribbles' Christmas) and a Happy New Year! Purrrrr.....

◆◆◆◆

Trek Top Five Winter Holiday Spots

By LCDR SF Warp

Editor in Chief, Blue Alert

Without a doubt, the supreme place for one to be over the holidays, the place of perfection, is home, sweet home. Ideally, loved ones will gather 'round a warming fire in front of a living room fireplace on a cold winter's eve and be chatting or singing holiday songs, enjoying good food and drink, waiting for the magic of that one special day, and anticipating the New Year.

The next best place to home, any home, is Earth. From the summer-like climes of the Australian continent to wintry North America, every conceivable holiday environment is available to human and alien alike. San Francisco, home to Starfleet, is popular for it's old world sea faring charm, and its seafood restaurants are among the finest in the quadrant. The Rocky Mountains are a skier's idea of Paradise. The beaches of Queensland in north eastern Australia attract surfers, scuba divers and swimmers. If it doesn't exist on Earth, it doesn't exist in the galaxy.

For those who cannot be home or visiting somewhere on Earth, especially for those who are single, there's Risa. Also known as the "pleasure planet," Risa boasts the greatest variety of attractions and distractions anywhere in the Alpha Quadrant. Known for its beautiful tropical resorts and its abundance of pristine beaches, Risa's attractions include Suraya Bay, where the *Lohlunat*, or Festival of the Moon, is held; Galartha, a cliff face that changes pitch while you climb it; a little boat-restaurant that sails into the bay every evening just after sunset that patrons can wade out to and be served seafood right off the deck; Subterranean Gardens with luminescent plants; and Steam-Pool, said to be very relaxing. There are night clubs galore (caution is recommended when night clubbing),* and there are family accommodations as well.

Number four, the lesser known but equally enjoyable Amusement Planet located in the Omicron Delta region, was discovered by Captain James T. Kirk aboard the USS Enterprise in 2267. The planet was found to be lush and beautiful – and entirely artificial. Likened to an amusement park, the planet uses small antennae to scan the thoughts of visitors. The information thus obtained is used to construct artifacts to implement the fantasies of those visitors.* All one has to do is think of a fantasy, to make a wish, and that wish will be made to come true.*

Deep Space 9, orbiting Bajor, is the choice of a great many. One can simply relax over a drink at Quark's bar, try to get lucky at the dabo tables, or partake of a holosuite. Bajor is the spiritual visitor's choice, while a trip through the wormhole to the Gamma Quadrant provides untold avenues of adventure. Not a bad selection at all.

These are the top five winter holiday spots within the Starfleet Universe but, little known to Starfleet, there's an even better one: **Online Starbase!** Look for me there! ♦

*Star Trek Wiki—Memory Alpha

History of USS Voyager - Part I

by LCDR Tre'gok of Mirtak

Senior Correspondent

USS Voyager was an Intrepid class starship, most notable for the seven years spent exploring the Delta Quadrant. Constructed at Utopia Planetia Fleet Yards, it was launched from Earth on Stardate 48038.5 in 2371. It was one of the earliest Intrepid class starships and had technology that was unavailable before the 2370's, including bio-neural circuitry, variable geometry warp nacelles and an Emergency Medical Hologram. It was also the first ship to test Warp 9 in deep space. Captain Kathryn Janeway assumed command almost immediately before it was launched from Earth after being greeted by Vice Admiral Patterson who gave her a tour of the ship beforehand.*

Before Voyager's launch Janeway's second officer and Chief of Security, Tuvok, successfully infiltrated a Maquis ship. The ship with him on board, went missing in the Badlands. Also, Janeway successfully recruited a reluctant Tom Paris to serve as an 'Observer'.*

After departing from Deep Space 9 and entering the Badlands, Voyager was swept 70'000 light years from Earth into the Delta quadrant where it discovered the Maquis Ship, Val Jean. Several of Voyager's crew were killed including: the first officer, the helmsman, the chief Engineer, the transporter chief and the entire Medical staff including the CMO.*

After this several members were taken from their ships and subjected to painful three-day medical evaluations by a strange entity know as the Caretaker. Unable to find a mate to continue his work, he returned them to their respective ships. However, Be'lanna Torres and Harry Kim were both taken ill and sent to the planet Ocampa to be cared for.*

By the time Voyager had arrived at Ocampa, the Caretaker's condition was deteriorating and soon after arrival he died. However, Tuvok believed he could harness the technology used to send them here, to send them back home, but he would need time. However, this would have meant leaving the new technology in the hands of the Kazon-Ogla, whose actions would most likely endanger the lives of the Ocampan.*

Captain Janeway decided to destroy the technology rather than let it fall into Kazon hands. She ordered two Tri-Cobolt devices fired at the array, which destroyed it. This decision however left Voyager stranded in the Delta Quadrant. As the Val-Jean had been destroyed, Janeway and Chakotay decided to merge their crews. Additionally, Janeway and Chakotay decided that it would be a Starfleet crew, which left many Maquis unhappy. After installing Chakotay as First Officer, Be'lanna as Chief Engineer, and making the EMH, now called the Doctor, the full time Chief Medical Officer, Voyager began its projected 70 year journey back home.* ♦

*Star Trek Wiki—Memory Alpha

CONGRATULATIONS

Hip, Hip HOORAY to the Premier OSB Promotee

(Effective: Stardate 201012.08)

To Rear Admiral

Jade

Hip, Hip HOORAY to November's OSB Promotees

(Effective: Stardate 201011.26)

To COMMODORE

Daxino Joel

To CAPTAIN

Kal-EI

Richard Boudreau

To LIEUTENANT

Dragon

JoanOfArc Anasazi

Departmental Advancement HOORAHS

(Effective: Stardate 201012.08)

To STARBASE COMMANDER

RADM Jade

To STARBASE VICE COMMANDER

Captain Marshall Crockett

To CHIEF, Department of Recreations

CDRE Daxino Joel

To CHIEF, Department of Public Relations

CDR Matt Foard

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO

HOOZAH, to the OSB Commendation Awardee

November

LCDR SF Warp

HOORAH to the OSB Posting Awardee

1000th Post on November 26, 2010

CAPT Marshall T. Crockett

Calendar of Events

Article Submission for Blue Alert Newsletter

Place: PM to LCDR SF Warp

Time: 8 JAN 2011, 2359 OST

Anyone who wants to get published in our next newsletter must have their articles submitted by the 8th of each month.

Captain / First Officer Relationship

(Continued from Page 1)

CHAKOTAY: "I don't give a damn about your log! This isn't about rules and regulations. It's about right and wrong, and I'm warning you, I won't let you cross that line again."

JANEWAY: "Then you leave me no choice. You are hereby relieved of duty until further notice."

CHAKOTAY: "What's happened to you, Kathryn?"

She had locked one of the crew of the Equinox in a cargo bay and threatened to unleash one of the alien beings, who were attacking both crews and were lethal to humanoids. Chakotay stopped her and unsuccessfully tried to reason with her.

CHAKOTAY: "Is this really about Seven, or is it about Ransom?"

JANEWAY: "I don't know what you're talking about."

CHAKOTAY: "You've been known to hold a grudge. This man betrayed Starfleet, he broke the Prime Directive, dishonoured everything you believe in, and threw Voyager to the wolves."

JANEWAY: "Borg, Hirogen, Malon. We've run into our share of bad guys. Ransom's no different."

CHAKOTAY: "Yes, he is. You said it yourself. He's human. I don't blame you for being angry, but you can't compromise the safety of this ship to satisfy some personal vendetta."

JANEWAY: "I appreciate your candour. Now let me be just as blunt. You're right, I am angry. I'm damned angry. He's a Starfleet Captain, and he's decided to abandon everything this uniform stands for. He's out there right now...torturing and murdering innocent life-forms just to get home a little quicker. I'm not going to stand for it. I'm going to hunt him down no matter how long it takes, no matter what the cost. If you want to call that a vendetta, go right ahead."

Having gained Ransom's cooperation eventually, Janeway realized she had been wrong and reinstated Chakotay. Chakotay's attitude throughout the whole episode had been inspired. He was the one who saw things clearly and warned her she wasn't doing the right thing, but he was never disloyal to her and he did not work behind her back, something she appreciated in the end:

JANEWAY: Chakotay. "You know, you may have had good reason to stage a little mutiny of your own."

CHAKOTAY: "The thought had occurred to me, but that would have been crossing the line." ♦



Trek Tech: Tricorders - Part 2

By: **LT Hana Diosas**

Correspondent

By the early 2360s, the Starfleet tricorder had taken on a more streamlined appearance, distinguished by a flip-open design maximizing both portability and interface surface availability. Incorporating several sensor clusters, these tricorders featured multi-channel communications assemblies, and multiple databank modules. Encompassing visual displays and graphic touch pad interfaces, the tricorder of the 2360s provided easy means for on the spot archive retrieval, the recording of away mission events, and constant scientific measurements including biological, geographical or meteorological.*

In service as early as 2361, the TR-560 Tricorder VI model sensing device was available to officers serving aboard such vessels as the USS Victory and the USS Enterprise-D.* With an array of sensors on the front of the device, this tricorder design flipped open to reveal a large number of control surfaces and a square display screen, roughly the same size as those utilized as early as the 2260s.*

Equipped with a small hand sensor, stowed below the sensors, the TR-560 tricorder was capable of communicating with non-Starfleet computer systems, and were therefore vulnerable to some computer viruses, even capable of transmitting them to other systems.*

Gray in color, these tricorders were constructed with a durable casing, but could easily be destroyed by a phaser set to "disintegrate".* ♦

*Star Trek Wiki - Memory Alpha

Recreations Department Openings!

Recreations is currently seeking to hire new members into its department. If you like to read and discuss books, the Book Club is looking for a motivated team member to spur novel ideas and go where no reader has gone before. If you are more into graphics, then do we have the position for you as the next "Scene This!" Host.

If you are interested in either position then please contact CDRE Daxino Joel.

Alien Species: The Deltans

By **LCDR SF Warp**

Editor in Chief, Blue Alert

The Deltans are a humanoid species originating from the planet Delta IV in the Alpha Quadrant. Their government is the Deltan Union and they are members of the United Federation of Planets.*

Deltans largely resembled Humans, but have no surface hair except for eyebrows, lashes, and (occasionally) a very thin layer of soft down along arms and legs. They are slightly slimmer than Humans. Their cheekbones, eye shapes, and jawlines are slightly more symmetrical. Humans (and many other humanoid species) find Deltans quite attractive. Deltans are telepathic and empathic allowing them to sense other people's emotions and administer medical aid by absorbing and minimizing pain. This "Mind meld anesthesia" means Deltans make excellent medical personnel.*

Deltans are perhaps best known for their high sexuality, both sexes emit some of the most potent pheromones known to Federation science. As a result, Deltans are something of natural aphrodisiacs, most intensely among their own race, but with a strong effect on most other humanoid species. Because of this, Deltans swear an "oath of celibacy" when serving in Starfleet. The Deltan oath of celibacy serves to ensure the safety of non-Deltans. It is said that a non-Deltan who enters into a physical relationship with a Deltan risks insanity.*

In 2182, the Deltans made first contact with the Andorians. The Deltan sage, Niro, guided the planet through its tumultuous decades from first contact to Federation membership, developed the Oath of Celibacy and wrote much of Deltans' modernized legal code.*



Ilia

Following the Deltans becoming full members of the Federation in 2259 Starfleet teams were assigned to Delta IV. The Deltan Ilia worked closely with these teams and formed a strong attachment to the Human Willard Decker. The two later served together briefly aboard the USS Enterprise before both were reported, "missing in action," after the Enterprise encountered the V'Ger probe in 2273.* ♦

*Star Trek Wiki - Memory Beta

Lesser Known Facts About Captain Kirk Part II

Contributed by CDR Yu'Wanna

Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer

Captain Kirk's ship doesn't have doors, only walls that he walks through. If the walls don't step aside to let him walk, he punches his way through.

Captain Kirk doesn't actually write the logs, the words assemble themselves out of fear. (You didn't think he kept the blonde yeoman for that, did you?)

When the Klingon Devil goes to sleep every night, he checks under his bed for James T. Kirk.

There are so many galaxies in the Universe because most of the outer space is afraid to be in the same galaxy with Captain Kirk.

When Captain Kirk does a pushup, he isn't lifting himself up, he's pushing the Enterprise down.

There is no clock on the Enterprise. Captain Kirk decides what time it is.

If at first you don't succeed, you're not Captain Kirk.

Behind every successful male, there is a female.
Behind every dead male, there is James T. Kirk.* ♦

*Inspired by:

<http://www.chucknorrisfacts.com/page9.html>

OSB Writing Contest

By: LCDR StarFider Warp

Editor in Chief, Blue Alert

Created by: CAPT Marshall Crockett

OSB Vice Commander

The Public Relations Department is always looking for creative writers. Contest Submission Guidelines are:

Length: 750 Words maximum

Deadline: 8th of the following month, 2359 OST: PM LCDR SF Warp

Topic: Finish the starter at the bottom of this section

Genre: Any Star Trek genre is acceptable

Don'ts: Don't kill off any main characters, have relations between any characters beyond the ones established in ST canon, use foul language, overt sexual innuendo or verbiage, or any other distasteful item not covered here but would make you go, "What? Seriously?"

DEC TOPIC: Ensign Razma Nez had finished her holodeck routine. The young Trill was ready to freshen up and start her shift. "Computer! End program!" No response. "Computer! End Program! Computer!? Wha...?"

THE WINNER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!!

Star Trek in Everyday Life

By LT Hana Diosas

Correspondent

NASA Discovers New Type Of Life... Draws Comparison to Star Trek's Horta

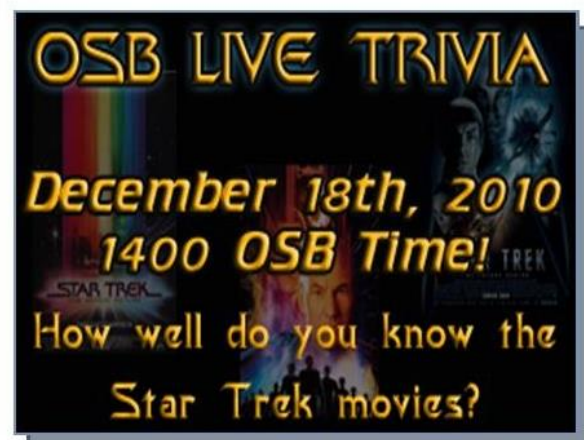
On December 2nd, NASA held a press conference where they disclosed the discovery of a microbe (on Earth) that can swap what was believed to be an essential element of life, for a toxic chemical. And during the press conference, one of the NASA scientists drew a comparison to the Horta from Star Trek.*

NASA has discovered a new life form, It is called GFAJ-1 and is different from any other life form on the planet. So far it has been understood that all life is made of six components: carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus and sulfur. But this new microorganism found in Mono Lake, California is able to substitute the poisonous element arsenic for phosphorus.*

During the Q&A, Mary Voytek, director of NASA's Astrobiology Program, drew a comparison to Star Trek to explain why this was big news:

"This is a phenomenal finding. We are talking about taking the fundamental building blocks of life and replacing one of them with an unusual, perhaps not unpredicted, but another compound. In our mind this is the equivalent, and some of us remember seeing the original Star Trek episodes, but of ["Devil in the Dark"] and the Horta. This in our mind is the equivalent of finding that Horta which is a silicon based life, substituting carbon, which is what we think all life forms are made of, with silica. Now we are talking about an organism that we think we are talking about an organism that, if not replacing all of it, appears to be using another fundamental component of life. The story is not entirely carbon. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and the other essential elements—it is replacing arsenic for phosphorus. This is a huge deal."*

*Source: TrekMovie.com



Fiction

“Space Gift”

By: **RADM Jade**
Starbase Commander

The Captain said, “All stop! Reduce magnification factor to four!” The object was like nothing he or his crew had ever seen. “Sensor readings, Mister Ahn?”

Commander Ahn replied, “Sir... it’s... I don’t know, while it does read solid I can’t see what’s inside.”

As the magnification reduced, all on the bridge could now fully see the object which had materialized right in front of their path. If it hadn’t been for collision alarms they might have been shredded into atoms, by a huge wrapped box.

“Does everyone else see an overgrown box, wrapped in shiny green Christmas paper, with a big red bow on top?” Captain Tanner asked.

“Aye sir, it’s a huge gift just hovering out there,” Commander Ahn confirmed.

“Oh good,” the captain said with obvious relief, “I’m not having a holiday induced hallucination.” He paused to reflect on his last three words. “Wow, try saying that three times fast. Speculations?”

“You don’t suppose it’s the Borg?” Ensign Fox suggested.

“Ensign, please tell me you don’t believe the Borg would wrap themselves in Christmas paper?” Tanner asked the helmsman in astonishment.

“Well it is cube shaped, sir.”

“Not their style... other speculations... please?” the Captain begged.

There was silence on the bridge. Tanner couldn’t blame them. He couldn’t recall any reports of Christmas presents popping out of nowhere in no-mans-land. He made his way to the security console.

“Lieutenant B’Etta, is it possible to use the phasers to do a precise cut right along this, this and this seam,” Tanner indicated with his hand the seams on the box as he talked.

“Sir, you want to open the present!?” the Andorian security officer asked.

“Well that’s typically what presents are for.”

“Why not just tear into it with a few torpedoes?” Ahn asked then added. “Wait, you’re not one who saves the wrapping paper are you?”

Tanner took a deep breath then said in a defensive tone, “My wife makes me save the paper.”

The bridge broke out into suppressed giggles and stifled laughs.

Tanner scratched the back of his head then looked around. “Keep laughing all you single people, one day

y’all will truly understand the joys of the predicament of being married.”

“Not the way the last three women have dumped me,” Ensign Fox muttered just loud enough for Tanner to hear.

“That makes you the blessed one, Mr. Fox,” Tanner turned to look at B’Etta again.

“Sir, it could be a trap,” B’Etta said returning them back to a serious mood.

The captain nodded his head in agreement. “It very well could be Lieutenant, but we’re out here to explore the unknown. How would our report to Starfleet look if we said ‘Saw huge wrapped gift in the middle of space, but decided to leave well enough alone?’ The Brass is going to want to know if it is indeed a Borg cube joyfully wrapped for our destruction.”

“I thought you said it couldn’t be a Borg cube?” Fox asked with confusion.

Tanner dropped his head in frustration. This from the naive guy who thought a Tribble was a medical doctor. He tried not to roll his eyes. “No, Ensign, I was just making a point, there are no Borg here.”

“I’m just saying the dimensions are close to the same...” he stopped short when he saw the Captain’s doleful stare towards him. “Right, sir, no Borg cubes out here.”

“Glad that’s settled. Commander Ahn, go to yellow alert; Ensign Fox get ready for evasive maneuver Gamma 6; Lieutenant B’Etta have a couple of photon torpedoes on standby just in case; keep all sensors recording and be ready for anything.” He paused to take a breath and waited for the chorus of ‘Aye sir’ to echo back at him. “B’Etta if you would do the honors of opening the gift.”

With surgical precision, B’Etta made quick work of the box allowing it to fall open and reveal its content. At first there was nothing then a dazzling light show began. There was a fanfare of music, fireworks exploded, lights chased each other and twinkled. Then neon lights flashed the phrase, ‘Happy Holidays from Online Starbase!’ Then it suddenly all disappeared into silence.

“Anyone know where this Online Starbase is?” Captain Tanner finally asked.

“Coordinates were transmitted after the show, Captain, and the helmsman has laid in a course,” Commander Ahn said.

Tanner smiled, “Engage!” ♦



Entertainment

ACROSS

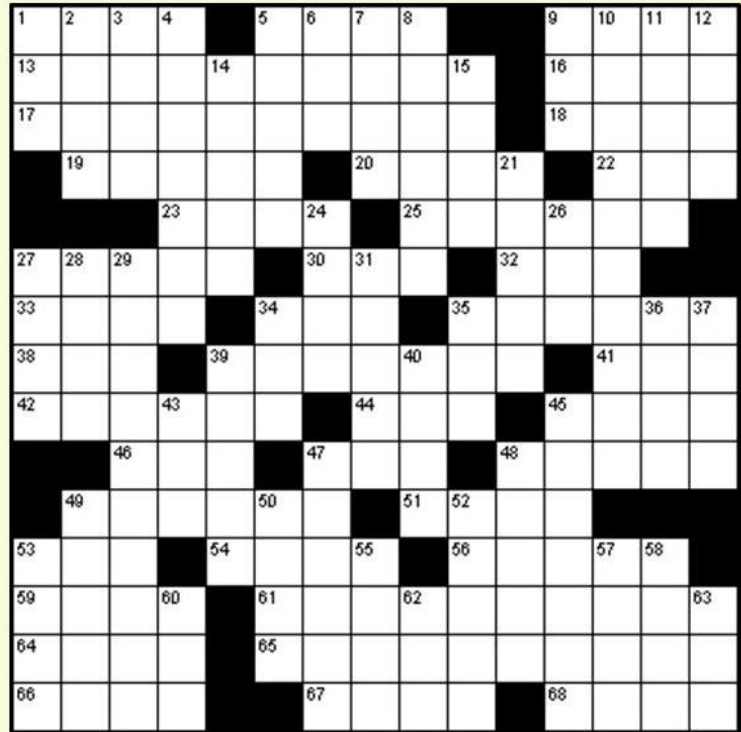
- 1 Eye
 5 After
 9 "Beat it!"
 13 Achieved again
 16 Food for sea urchins
 17 *Trekker* to the stars
 18 "What's gotten ____ you?"
 19 Like "The X-Files"
 20 "Guilty," e.g.
 22 ____ el Amama, Egypt
 23 ____ a one
 25 Founded the chair
 27 Thomy ambassador
 30 Dash lengths
 32 Suffers from
 33 Carbon compound
 34 Ed's request
 35 Space-flight program
 38 "Yadda, yadda, yadda"
 39 Transporter fodder, once
 41 Kind of rule
 42 Australian bears?
 44 Pistol, slangily
 45 All there
 46 Keep out
 47 Bluecoat
 48 Had quite a menagerie
 49 Gifted orbital engineer
- 51 "Cast Away" setting
 53 The sun
 54 Toward the sheltered side
 56 Bait
 59 Nursemaid, in India
 61 Helmsman
 64 Bolted
 65 Furtively
 66 Black stone
 67 Halftime lead, e.g.
 68 ____ on down the road
- 9 Schuss, e.g.
 10 Hundredth
 11 Adjust
 12 "Number One," worked science
 14 Courtroom event
 15 Big game
 21 Flu symptoms
 24 Calendar span
 26 ____ and cheese
 27 Hunt for
 28 "I'm ____ you!"
 29 The words one knows
 31 Geo Model
 34 "Help!"
 35 Pan, e.g.
 36 Taboo
 37 Sure-footed goat
 39 Winter wear
 40 Arizona Indian
 43 Anita Brookner's "Hotel du ____"
 45 Put away, in a way
 47 Come up with
 48 Fold
 49 California holly
 50 "Desire Under the ____"
 52 Commemorative marker
 53 The linguist
 55 Checked out
 57 Sect of Islam
 58 Congers
 60 Bewitch
 62 Certain tougues do it
 63 "The Catcher in the ____"



DOWN

- 1 Bauxite, e.g.
 2 Characteristic carrier
 3 When repeated, like some shows
 4 Going on and on
 5 It looks good on ____
 6 Balloon filler
 7 Barber's motion
 8 Magnetic induction units

Online Starbase's Blue Alert Crossword Puzzle Prequel Trek - Edited by SF Warp - December 2010



Answers to the Previous Puzzle

P	A	V	A	N	S	O	B	T	A	M	P
A	L	I	N	E	P	E	A	G	O	N	E
C	A	S	T	E	U	R	N	O	M	E	G
T	R	A	I	L	E	R	J	A	N	E	W
					C	I	A	N	O	N	E
K	I	M	X	V	I	I	D	O	C	T	O
A	D	O	S	E	R	R	S	N	O	R	M
R	A	T	E	S	E	V	E	N	D	I	B
S	H	O	A	L	S	A	G	E	A	C	R
T	O	R	R	E	S	N	O	R	M	K	E
					M	E	S	A	V	A	T
W	I	L	D	M	A	N	R	E	Q	U	I
H	O	O	H	A	A	B	A	U	N	R	I
A	T	L	A	S	F	U	R	I	N	A	N
T	A	L	L		U	S	E	S	Y	N	G



SF Warp

Blue Alert would like your feedback

We'd like to know what you think of OSB's Blue Alert Crossword Puzzle. Is it too easy? Is it too hard? Our hope is that it is neither, that it is both challenging and fun. Please PM your thoughts and comments to LCDR SF Warp. Thank you

—Ed.

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Change of Command

By: CAPT Marshall Crockett

OSB Deputy Commander

On December 8th this Starbase changed hands from the two-year reign of RADM Ryan Dean to the new commander, RADM Jade. The ceremony began at 1930 hours OSB time and was attended by 15 officers, one tribble (Murray) and a few guests...not sure how they got past security but I'm sure Capt Kal-el had something to do with it! Once RADM Dean and then-Commodore Jade were in place, the change of command commenced. In a time-honored and formally scripted ceremony, the banner was transferred and newly-promoted RADM Jade became our commander.

This was a very unique occurrence for an online community. Very seldom, if ever, does command and control of an online site actually change hands from one person to another where the outgoing commander/admin relinquishes all ownership of the site to another. I am very impressed at the professionalism, dedication and overwhelming support this community's membership has in both Admiral Dean and Admiral Jade to make this transition smooth. Additionally, the Vice Commander and two department chiefs were changed...without incident. There is much to be said for the quality of people on this base. I am honored to be serving with each and every one of you.

ATTENTION ALL OFFICERS!!!!

If you were a staff officer in OSB's past, please contact LT Cottingham with your office, dates and historical recollections. OSB's History Section is hard at work chronicling and building a comprehensive historical archive.

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