



Mississippi Current



November 2013



Captain's Log

Cpt. Rose Compton

It's been another busy month and I apologize to the crew of the Mighty M. for the lateness of this NL. I'm beginning to run out of time before I run out of chores.... But we'll work on this in the coming months.

We've just concluded the SFC annual meeting and the awards have been presented. There will be a full accounting in next month's addition, along with pictures.

Our December monthly meeting will be Saturday, 12-14-2013 at the Eastern Ave Branch of the Library. We will be hosting the December Holiday get-together. Afterwards, we will be attending a showing of "The Hobbit; Desolation of Smaug" at the Rave Cinemas on 53rd St.

Hope to see you all there.



Words of Wisdom

"All I ask is a tall ship, and a load of contraband to fill her with..."

-- Quark (Little Green Men)



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Introductions



Hello I am Rhonda Haller

I grow up in Grandview Iowa. Moved to the Quad Cities in 1996 and have to say Love it here. I have two wonderful boys Robert is a student at ISU till the end of this year and Marcus is currently serving in the Air Force in Neb. I don't like to brag but they are both Brilliant hansom Young men. I currently work in a warehouse driving a fork truck which after being on nights for a while am joining the rest of the world on first. Which should allow me more time to join the group on some adventures.

I do enjoy most scifi but LOVE Doctor Who can seem to get enough. I do read some but have to say my short attention span makes it hard sometimes. Love movies and make sure I watch a few t.v. shows each week; Sons, American Horror Story and The Walking Dead.

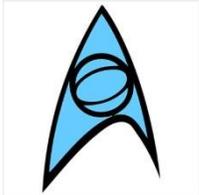
Rhonda will be entering the security division.



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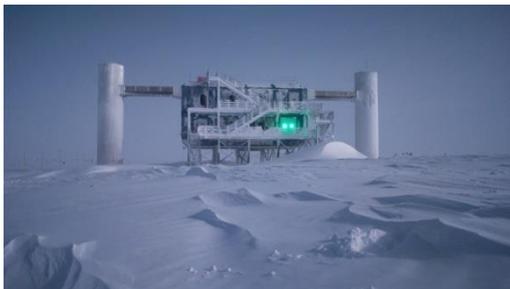
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Science Station

Extraterrestrials on Earth: Scientists find outer space stuff at South Pole

Submitted by *Les Pullman III*
Written By *Gene J. Koprowski*
Published November 21, 2013
FoxNews.com



ET isn't out there ... he's already here.

Scientists have discovered travelers from beyond our solar system buried under the ice of the South Pole -- not living creatures or space beings but tiny, extra-terrestrial particles known as neutrinos.

“Extra-terrestrial in this context means coming from outside the solar system,” Olga Botner, a professor in the department of physics and astronomy at Uppsala University in Sweden, told FoxNews.com. “For the first time ever we now have evidence for a flux of high-energy neutrinos from outside the solar system.” Neutrinos are elementary particles like electrons, but they lack an electric charge. These visitors were detected by a massive science telescope buried beneath the frozen Pole and aptly named [the IceCube Neutrino Detector](#), Botner wrote in an article published Thursday in *Science* magazine.



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New Technologies

Submitted by [Ed Ciccarone](#)

Written By [Drew Prindle](#)

Published November 03, 2013

Digital Trends

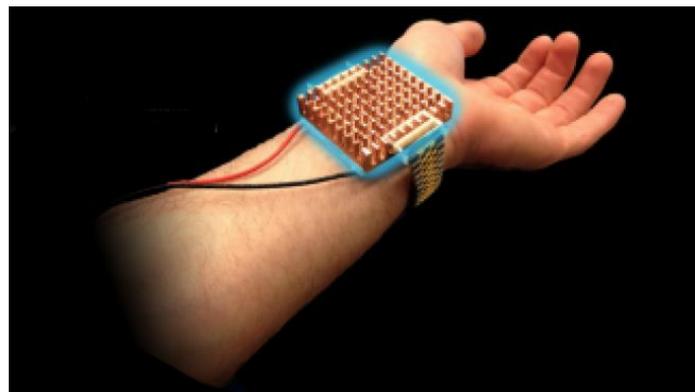
MIT students develop wearable cooling device that could make air conditioning obsolete

We come across quite a lot of cool technology, but it's not every day that we find something that can *literally* cool you down.

Developed by four engineering students at MIT, Wristify is a prototype wearable device that leverages the physical phenomenon known as the *Peltier effect* to reduce your body temperature.

The Peltier effect, named for French physicist Jean Charles Athanase Peltier who discovered it in 1834, describes the phenomenon of heating or cooling caused by an electric current flowing across the junction of two different conductors. As the current moves from one conductor to another, the transfer of energy causes one side to heat up and the other to cool down.

<http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2013/11/03/mit-students-wearable-cooling-device/>





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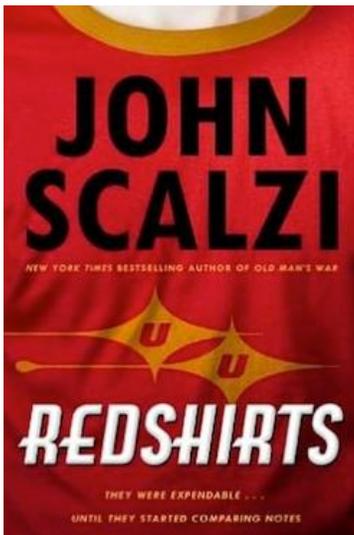
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Rec-Dec

Ed Ciccarone

Book review:



Redshirts by John Scalzi

Redshirts is a comic science fiction novel, but don't let the title fool you. It is NOT a Star Trek novel; it's a Star Trek parody. As you read it, you'll recognize all the elements of Star Trek: starship, bridge crew, aliens, time travel, away missions, and of course, expendable crew members. You'll also recognize a Star Trek style storyline and pre-commercial cliffhangers, even though the book doesn't contain commercials. However, it's not just a Star Trek rip-off or a mindless slapstick parody in the style of Spaceballs. John Scalzi cleverly combines overt humor with very dry humor that sometimes sneaks up on you. More than once, I found myself laughing out loud at something that I didn't realize was funny until a few seconds after I'd read it.

Underlying the parody is an intricate story that is deep and somewhat surreal. The concept for the underlying story is also quite unique. In addition, it's very well written. In fact, Redshirts won the RT Reviewer's Choice Award for 2012 and the 2013 Hugo Award for Best Novel. But then, maybe that's the type of excellence that would be expected from someone who served as a creative consultant for Stargate Universe. Yes, John Scalzi was a creative consultant for Stargate Universe. Pretty cool, right?

While I chose to read Redshirts old-school fashion, as a hardback book, it's also available for e-readers like Kindle and Nook. If you like listening to audio books, it just happens to be narrated by Wil Wheaton. But again, it's not a Star Trek novel.



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Community Involvement

Festival of Trees 2013

The Chapter has successfully completed another mission within the community with the holiday wreath for Festival of Trees. It was titled "Galactic Holiday" and did sell. The money goes to QC Arts and is used for after school projects for children, who would otherwise not be exposed to art programs.

CREW.... A job well done!!





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Current Roster for USS Mighty Mississippi NCC 201151-A.

Cpt. Rose Compton; Captain
Lt. Ed Ciccarone; Ops.
Lt. Jg. Les Pullman; Science Officer
Lt. Jg. Alex Haugen; Medical Officer
Ensign Katie Haugen; Communication Officer
Recruit Gerry Pearson; Science Officer
Recruit J.D. Lester; Communication Officer
Recruit Jon Noble; Marine
Recruit Tom Miller; Security Officer
Recruit Rhonda Haller; Security Officer

(Renewals are due by December 31st 2013 to maintain good standing membership in 2014.)

Renewal forms can be found at

http://starfleet-command.com/downloads/Membership_ap.pdf

or contact your CO.