

The FLIGHT DECK

The Official Newsletter of the U.S.S. HALSEY

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July 2011

FROM THE BRIDGE:

Greetings and welcome to the horrendously hot month of July. I got to see a lot of you at InConjunction and that was great! I hope to see you all at one or both of the other events we have planned this month. This upcoming weekend, on Saturday, July 16th, is the Dana Dougan Memorial Starfleet Olympics, which will take place at Lieber State Park. Activities start around 10 am and there's sure to be frequent breaks for dips in the lake if this heat keeps up. The Halsey will be hosting the Euchre tournament. Hmm, wonder if I have any waterproof cards so we can do it in the lake? We'll see! Come join us and other ships from Starbase 6 to have a blast and eat until we're stuffed!

Then to add to the festivities, our annual July Bomb-fire takes place at Chief Engineer Mark Milhous's abode. He and his wonderful wife Gloria welcome us back to have a bon-fire... well, okay, maybe late if it cools off, scorch some weenies and admire the fireworks. If it cools off enough, we may hang around and see what we can spot with Mark's telescope. This will take place on July 23rd at 6 p.m. Bring something cool and the libation of your choice.

I'm in the process of setting up a Facebook group for the Halsey so please let me know if you have a Facebook page but haven't received something from it inviting you to join. Our C-n-C is doing that for me and hopefully we will have a nice group up and running soon. That's about it for now.

Stay cool!

VADM Mary

(Edit note – Today is 7/22/11 I've been out of town. Working this weekend ☹ jld)

Upcoming Events:

July 23th - Halsey bomb fire at the Milhous'
August 27 - Halsey meeting at ?????? & time
August 29 -- Richies' Birthday
September 1-5 -Dragoncon
September 19 -Karen Brady's birthday (Talk Like a Pirate Day)
September 24 - Halsey's meeting at ?????? & time
October 22 - Halsey Hayride and Bonfire 5PM Milhous Place???
November 25-27 - StarBase Indy, SFC/Halsey meeting???
December 19 - Halsey Christmas Party - Bishoff's

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

July 1st - Battle of Gettysburg began, 1863.

Dominic Keating's Birthday

July 2nd - US Constitution took effect, 1788

July 4th - Declaration of Independence approved, 1776

July 9th - Linda Park's Birthday

July 13th - Patrick Stewart's Birthday

July 16th - Comet crashes into Jupiter, 1994

July 21st - Battle of Bull Run, 1861

July 26th - Nana Visitor's Birthday

July 28th - WWI (the War to End All Wars) began, 1914

July 29th - Wil Wheaton's Birthday

July 30th - Elvis Presley's first concert, 1954 (I was 4 1/2 months old)

Summer Movies:

July 15

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART II

Warner Bros executives will be weeping once this one is out in the world, as it brings to an end the studio's most lucrative film franchise of all time.

It's the eighth and final movie outing for *Harry Potter* and his Hogwarts cohorts, with David Yates calling the shots behind the camera for the third time. Expect this to make a scary amount of money, and expect Warner Bros' balance sheet to never quite be the same again. Unless it can persuade J K to write a few more books...

July 22

THE FIRST AVENGER: CAPTAIN AMERICA

The second of Marvel's big movies of the summer, it's also the first of up to nine films it has planned for the Captain America character to appear in. That's how many films it's signed Chris Evans - who's taking the title role - up to anyway, and he's going to be accompanied by Hayley Atwell as Peggy. Joe Johnston is calling the shots, Hugo Weaving is on bad guy duties, and Samuel L Jackson will be popping in as Nick Fury too, as the build up to 2012's full-on *Avengers* movie continues.

July 29

COWBOYS AND ALIENS

Mark this one down as potentially the most interesting project of the season. *Iron Man* helmer Jon Favreau is directing the big screen adaptation of the comic book of the same name, which is going to blend together science fiction with a western. He's attracted Harrison Ford to star (in his most interesting role in some time) opposite Daniel Craig, as the pair fight off an alien invasion in 1800s Arizona. Olivia Wilde is also appearing.

August 3

THE SMURFS 3-D

It wouldn't be summer without some kind of talking CGI creature picture, and this time it's The Smurfs who are being digitised for a big screen outing. Raja Gosnell, who put together the first *Scooby Doo* movie, is at the helm, and once again humans and CGI characters will interact with, er, no doubt, very convincing results. Promisingly, Hank Azaria is on villain duties.

August 19

SPY KIDS 4: ARMAGEDDON

The original *Spy Kids* trilogy delivered three big hits, and hopes are high that the fourth will follow in their path. Unsurprisingly, the film's going to be in 3D (the third one was as well), and this time it's a new bunch of Spy Kids who are being recruited for action. That smells to us like there are plans for further films beyond this one. It's not been confirmed yet if Robert Rodriguez is going to direct.

SKANK ROBBERS

Er, a comedy starring Martin Lawrence. These are rarely the words we want to hear, although he's co-starring with Jamie Foxx in this one.

Space News

- **Crew Heads Home After Final Shuttle Mission**

Fri, 22 Jul 2011 09:17:23 AM EDT

The four STS-135 astronauts and their family members who came to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida for yesterday's landing and completion of the Space Shuttle Program's final mission will return home to Houston this afternoon. The public is invited to attend a welcome home ceremony at 4 p.m. CDT in NASA's Hangar 990 at Ellington Field. Gates to Ellington Field will open at 3:30 p.m. The ceremony will be broadcast live on NASA TV and online at www.nasa.gov/ntv.

Space shuttle Atlantis was towed into Kennedy's Orbiter Processing Facility-2 following yesterday's employee appreciation event. Technicians will spend the next few weeks reconfiguring Atlantis after its final flight. Today, they will finish readying the shuttle and its hangar for the normal post-flight processing and begin draining residual cryogenic reactants. They'll continue deservicing work through the weekend.

Atlantis touched down yesterday on the Shuttle Landing Facility's Runway 15 at 5:57 a.m. EDT. The landing brought to a close 30 years of space shuttle flights.

"Although we got to take the ride," said Commander Chris Ferguson on behalf of his crew, "we sure hope that everybody who has ever worked on, or touched, or looked at, or envied or admired a space shuttle was able to take just a little part of the journey with us."

The STS-135 crew consisted of Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley, Mission Specialists Sandra Magnus and Rex Walheim.

"I really want to thank the space shuttle team and the Space Shuttle Program for just a tremendous effort today and throughout the entire history of the program. We gave them a tremendous challenge to fly and execute these missions and to finish strong and I can tell you today that the team accomplished every one of those objectives," said Associate

Administrator for Space Operations Bill Gerstenmaier as he addressed the media at the post-landing news conference. "I'd also like to thank the nation for allowing us to have these thirty years to go use the shuttle system."

On the 13-day mission, the STS-135 crew delivered to the International Space Station more than 9,400 pounds of spare parts, spare equipment and other supplies in the Raffaello multi-purpose logistics module, including 2,677 pounds of food. The supplies will sustain space station operations for the next year. The 21-foot long, 15-foot diameter Raffaello brought back nearly 5,700 pounds of unneeded materials from the station.

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The Final Space Shuttle Mission: STS-135



Image above: Space shuttle Atlantis lands for the final time at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Image credit: NASA/Bill Ingalls

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Space shuttle Atlantis lifted off July 8 on the final flight of the shuttle program, STS-135, a 13-day mission to the International Space Station. Atlantis carried a crew of four and the Raffaello multipurpose logistics module containing supplies and spare parts for the space station. The STS-135 astronauts were Commander Chris Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley, and Mission Specialists Sandy Magnus and Rex Walheim.

[› Learn more about the crew](#)

END OF TRANSMISSION

CDR Janet Dailey