



# Mississippi Current

December 2012



## Captain's Log

Rose Compton

As the year winds down, I've been looking back at the ship's progress. At first, ... I was surprised to see how much we've accomplished and second, I was surprised to see how far we've come. I've been thinking about 2013 and where I'd like to see the ship at this time next year. Topping 2012 is going to be a challenge, but I have faith in that I have a crew that is up to the task.

In a few short weeks, we'll be meeting to discuss the up-coming year and what we want to be involved in. There are so many worthy community projects, it will be difficult to choose. We must also plan for FUN along the way and I've already heard some good proposals. I look forward to hearing the crew's suggestions, ideas and comments, as they will be the driving force behind 2013.

Before we get into 2013, we need to first complete 2012, so let's get on with it.

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## Words of Wisdom

"Let's make sure that history never forgets the name... Enterprise" -- Captain Picard (Yesterday's Enterprise)..... "or Mighty Mississippi "-- Captain Compton. ( This Newsletter)



## *Comm Center*

Katie Haugen  
Comm. Officer

On Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the USS Mighty Mississippi hosted a Holiday potluck at the Davenport Public Library – Eastern Avenue Branch. Attending members from USS Mighty Mississippi were; Rose Compton, Ed Ciccarone, Les Pullman III, Gerry Pearson, Katie & Alex Haugen. Thompson Ship Yard was represented by Alan and Heidee Thompson. USS Lobo, Moline delegates included Bill Van Brunt, Mike House, Liz Robinson and Brad Smith. Starbase 03 emissary was Commodore James Olson and SFI guest, Daniel Hill representing the USS Riverside.

We had a short meeting where USS Mighty Mississippi crew voted on their new ship upgrade. The ship choices were 'Intrepid' or 'Prometheus' class light cruisers. Ed Ciccarone presented the Prometheus and Alex Haugen presented the Intrepid Class. 'Prometheus Class' carried the majority vote of 3 to 2, with the Captain abstaining from the vote to prevent a possible tie.

Thompson Ship Yard is currently working on building the USS Mighty Mississippi's new Prometheus class ship and logo.

Afterward, we enjoyed an array of food, conversation and had a few laughs, while watching a William Shatner documentary "Get A Life" about Star Trek fans. We also saw an interview from Ann Curry with Peter Jackson about the making of "The Hobbit".

After the get together, many of the members attended a showing of 'The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey', with some going to the Rave Cinemas for the HFR 3-D version, while others attended the Putnam's big screen 3-D version. Some enjoyed the movie, some did not.

The next meeting for USS Mighty Mississippi is scheduled for 2pm on Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Pictures of the gathering are presented in RecDec.



# RecDec

Holiday Pot-Luck Photos by Rose Compton



*Cpt. Compton introduces some special guests.*



*Cpt. Alan Thompson, Commodore James Olson and Cpt. Bill Van Brunt.*



*Heidee Thompson, Mike House  
Ed Ciccarone & Daniel Hill*



*Brad Smith and Mike House*



*Watching "Get a Life" Mike House, Heidee Thompson, Katie and Alex Haugen, Gerry Pearson, Ed Ciccarone, Les Pullman, Alan Thompson, James Olson, Bill Van Brunt.*



*Not pictured in the group photos: Rose, Liz Robinson, Brad Smith and Daniel Hill.*



*SickBay*

Alex Haugen  
Medical Officer

### **Could HIV cure Leukemia?**

Your friendly Emergency Medical Hologram here reporting from sickbay that scientists and doctors are testing a possible new cure for leukemia. This cure however is coming from an unlikely source, HIV. Now this may seem a little on the crazy side, but doctors at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia are developing an advance treatment for leukemia called CT019 therapy. It is an experimental therapy that involves reprogramming a person's natural occurring T-Cells - a type of cell leukocyte, or white blood cell, that plays a very important role in the immune system tracking down and killing abnormal cells. In this case they are reprogramming them to track down and kill cancer cells.

In the CT019 therapy, T-cells are being genetically altered using a disabled form of the HIV virus to carry new genetic material which allows them to kill off cancer cells. These genetically altered T-Cells than gain an affinity to the cancer cells and spring into action attacking them in a way that was not possible naturally. Doctors remove the T-cells from the patient and then with the help of bioengineering are injected with the disabled HIV virus. Then, the genetically modified T-cells are injected back into the body. This however does not come without some massive side effects. Raging fever up to 105 degrees, chills, and massive drops in blood pressure may all occur. Patients may be placed in ICU on a ventilator and sedated while this process takes place. Doctors than apply drugs normally used to treat rheumatoid arthritis to stabilize the impact the T-cells have on the immune system. This all sound bad, however it is actually a sign that the treatment is working.

This process may not work in all patients, but for the very young with childhood leukemia it is a promising future. Patients who have undergone this new experimental treatment have within hours or days become almost symptom free. Normal mature white cells are being produced by the bone marrow and over time move into normal range. So far several children have been successfully "cured" of the disease. They will still be closely monitored for future side effects or an occurrence of the leukemia, but currently they are in full remission.

This is your friendly Emergency Medical Hologram signing off and reminding you to always look to the stars, for there is an answer, and we will not stop until we find a cure!



## *New Technologies*

### **Enterprise in Space**

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### **Mission**

**The goal of this page is a tribute to Gene Roddenberry's vision and to promote sending an 8 foot Enterprise satellite into physical space, carrying an actual science payload. As a science and space education project for all ages. A tribute to all Enterprise ships! A tribute to all of the people who have contributed to all aspects of Star Trek. To put the first Enterprise into physical orbit!**

Mission goals and emphasis:

1. Enterprise in Space is tribute to Gene Roddenberry's vision!
2. Enterprise in Space is a tribute to all Enterprise ships in history!
3. Enterprise in Space places a major emphasis on science education from building the ship at a highly-recognized aeronautics and aerospace institution to science and space education for students!
4. Enterprise in Space will put the Enterprise into the Smithsonian Museum after an approval process, making history!
5. Enterprise in Space will fly on board as a tribute: project members' names, all of the

Star Trek series on DVD or some other storage device and pictures from all Enterprise ships in history.

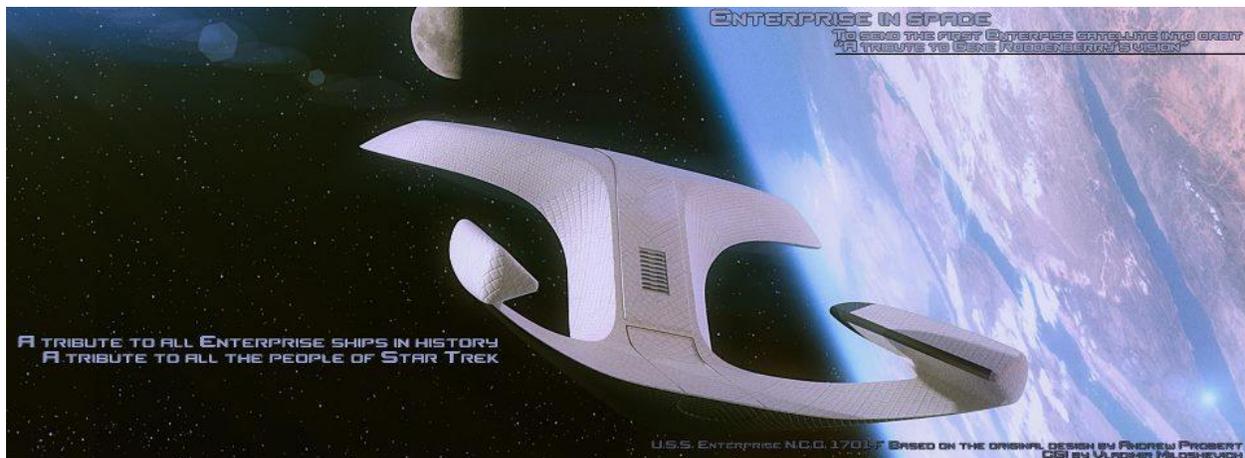
Enterprise in Space is a first of its kind social media and people project, whose goals are to physically fly a small 6 to 8 foot Enterprise working science satellite into space by memberships. No one has ever used social media to fly a spacecraft into space. Memberships are free, however we can't launch without funding and a dollar or more will get you on a list to fly in space on the first Enterprise to go into orbit. However, you can contribute as much as you want too. We then hope to retrieve the ship and put it in the Smithsonian or another aeronautical aerospace museum. All memberships are non-refundable, however, no matter what the money will not be wasted. There will be credentials. If the mission does not get funded the majority of the money minus operational costs, will be distributed to space and science education. We are hoping to fly on the 50th anniversary of Star Trek! More details coming soon on this page and the website.

If you would like to snail mail in a dollar donation mail it to:

FutureWorks L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 672  
Woodburn, OR 97071

or you can paypal to: [falcon@webpotential.com](mailto:falcon@webpotential.com)

**This is an opportunity for people to come together with cosmic co-operation and similar interests, in space, science, education, astronomy, cosmology, science fiction and space promotion; Working together to accomplish a historical event. It is my hope together we can accomplish the mission and learn and have fun along the way. To think outside the box.**



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Comments can be made to [USS.MightyMississippi@gmail.com](mailto:USS.MightyMississippi@gmail.com)