



Mississippi Current

March 2013



Captain's Log

Lt. Cmdr. Rose Compton

We set our flags at half-mast this month, as we mourn losses in our region and send condolences to family and friends of SFC:

Planetary Out-Post 5A; Rct. Diana Spitz, Science division

Starbase 03; Lt. R.D. Brown; Operations Specialist

SB 03 Bridge Officer; Mary Cichanowski, the loss of her father

USS Winfield Scott's Security Officer; Ken Raley Jr., the loss of his father.

As a ship, we continue to grow, mature and improve. Each month we learn from the previous and continue to better ourselves as we attempt to make the community we live in a better place. We realize we will not change the world, but we also understand that every little bit we do, makes our world a better place in which to exist. With so many worthy charities out there, it makes the choice a difficult one. As a small ship, we try to choose ways in which we think we can do the most good and have the largest impact.

Our last quarter's donation to the Humane Society of Scott County will assist with new arrivals this spring, allowing them a good start in life. For the second quarter, our plan is to assist the local Domestic Violence/Abuse Shelters, with a wish list donation. Those requiring the shelters assistance need a helping hand to get them out of a bad situation and back in to a safe living environment. We hope to be a part of that and assist with a few items that they need for day to day life as they make the transition..



Words of Wisdom

"Computer, compute to the last digit the value of pi" -- Spock (Wolf in the Fold)

Happy Pi Day (3-14-2013)



Comm Center

Meeting Minutes

Cadet Katie Haugen

Meeting called to order 3:10pm on March 16th, 2013 at N. Fairmount Branch of Davenport Public Library.

Those in attendance included:

USS Mighty Mississippi
Rose Compton
Ed Ciccarone
Les Pullman
Alex Haugen
Katie Haugen
Gerry Pearson
Guest; Rhonda Haller
USS Lobo
Mike House
Liz Robinson
Brad Smith (Is this right?)
SB03
James Olson

USS Mighty Mississippi presentation by Captain Rose Compton, shared with the meeting attendees history of the original USS Mighty Mississippi ship. The ship was the first battleship of its size to move up the Mississippi River. The ship saw battle in the Mexican-American War and the Civil War and took on a mission to Japan. She was commissioned in 1841 and her fate came in 1863.

Certificates were awarded to several crew members for promotions.

Rose Compton – Lt. Commander
Ed Ciccarone – Lt.
Les Pullman – Lt. Junior Grade
Alex Haugen - Ensign

Old Business:

Exams – Katie & Gerry still need to take exams. Deadline is 4/10/13. Katie is planning on taking hers prior to next meeting.

Website – Alex found that web hosting through Go Daddy is \$12.99 for a .com or \$4.99 for a .org. Not sure if we would fall under a .org. Rose to look into setting up a web domain. Rose found a web design site at Wix.com.

Promotion Merit spreadsheet – Katie to put together something within the next week and send over for Captain Rose to review. Spreadsheet to be presented to the rest of the ship at April meeting.

Community Involvement:

Labels for Education – 100 labels delivered on March 11th, 2013 to Sudlow Intermediate School, Davenport, Iowa. Collection to continue among shipmates for September delivery.

Kennel Adoption at Humane Society of Scott County – Kennel fee paid and shipmates collected items to donate to HSSC. Items collected included kitty litter, cat food, blankets, towels, rubbing alcohol, cleaning supplies, soap and brooms. These items were delivered by Rose and Ed immediately following the meeting. Nestle Purina-Davenport agreed to deliver a pallet of puppy food and a pallet of kitten food on behalf of USS Mighty Mississippi.

Domestic Abuse Shelter – The ship will shop for wish list items individually and bring them to the June meeting to be delivered.

Toys 4 Tot's – Liz Robinson from USS Lobo presented to the USS Mighty M an idea to collect books to donate to the Toys 4 Tot's this winter. The ship members of Mighty M agreed to join with USS Lobo on this effort. New books will be collected from now until November by ship members. At our November meeting we will get our donation to Liz Robinson to deliver to the military recruiting center in December.

Other Business:

Recruitment at *Into Darkness* showing – This will be tabled until our April meeting. We plan to firm-up our plans for this then. James Olson mentioned that he is in discussions with the management team at Regal Theaters in Moline about having a table set up in the lobby prior to the movie premiere on May 17th. James will let us know what he finds out.

Kirk's Birthday Celebration – Kirk's Birthday Celebration will take place at the Temple Missionary Baptist fellowship hall on March 23rd, 2013 beginning at 1pm. This will be a potluck party.

Group Discussion:

Robots –Sci-fi VS Reality Meeting attendees discussed robots in our everyday life. We discussed how we normally think of robots as something of the future, when in reality we use robots every day. Robots, According to Webster's definition, can technically be anything from cell phones to alarm clocks to washing machines and more. Robots also exist on a larger scale of anything from industry production lines to military drones and most impressively, the Mars Rover.

Next Month's Discussion: Which Star Trek Captain was the best? And WHY?
Meeting brought to a close at 4:20pm.

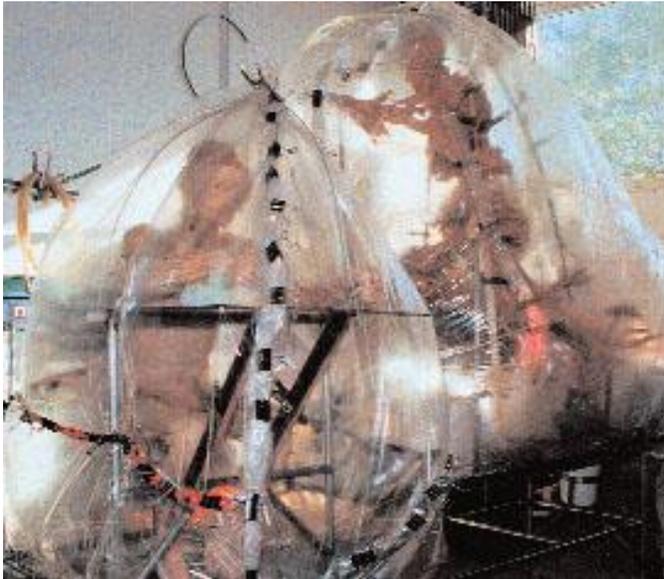


Sick Bay

Ensign Alex Haugen

There is a fun and exciting new exhibit in town that opens up the world of the human body to the public. It is called Bodies Revealed and it is on display now at the Putnam Museum and Giant Screen Theater in Davenport, IA. This fun and exciting exhibit lets the viewer explore the human body in a way never before possible. Bodies Revealed displays real human bodies that have been cut away and have gone through a plasticization process in order for the viewer to see what real human anatomy really looks like.

Plasticization, a process was developed by German scientist Gunther von Hagens in 1977, involves replacing the water and fat inside the body with a plastic material. This process allows the body to be preserved in such a way that it can be transported, touched, displayed in such a

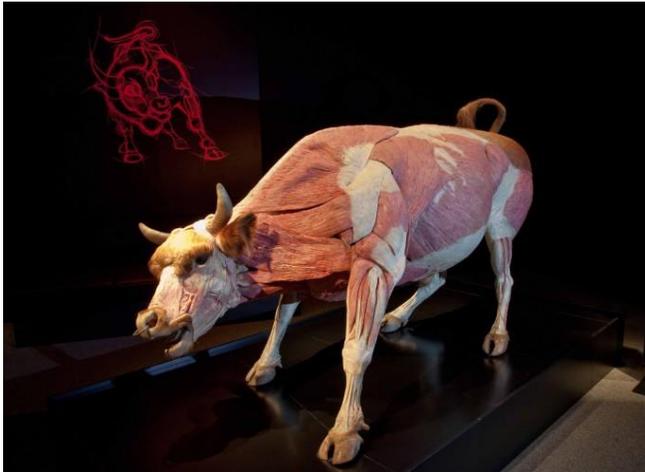


way that does not smell or decay while retaining much of the original property of the original tissue. This process is done in four steps. First, the fixation step, where the body is dipped in a formaldehyde based solution which helps prevent decomposition and also aids in fixating the body into a certain position. Second, the body is dissected and then placed in a bath of acetone. This acetone bath is done in freezing temperatures and it draws out all of the fluid inside the cells and replaces it with the acetone. Third, the body is placed into a vat of plastic solvent inside a vacuum chamber, the acetone is boiled out

at a low temperature and as it vaporizes the plastic polymer is left behind in its place. Lastly, the body is cured in under UV light, gas, or by heat. The overall process can take weeks to years to complete depending on the size of the specimen and what systems they are saving.



This process is not only for the human body however. There is a similar exhibit, which just started at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry called Animal Inside Out. This exhibit uses the same process developed by von Hagens to display the inner workings of animals, from as



small as a frog or pigeon to as large as a bull or giraffe. Truly an amazing view of the inner workings of the animal body, Animal Inside Out contrasts how we as humans are very similar to our animal friends. I had the pleasure of just attending this exhibit over the weekend as well as seeing Bodies Revealed the previous weekend. Both were extremely well done and I recommend that you go and check them out if possible.



Community Involvement

CO Rose Compton

The ship focused attention on the Humane Society of Scott County for this quarter. An average of 500 pets arrive at the HSSC each month, with about 80% coming in as strays and the rest are surrendered by owners who can no longer keep or care for their pets. The HSSC is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization **funded entirely** by donations, adoption fees and a fee charged to the city and county for the care of the animals.

The arrival of spring also brings the arrival of newborns to the animal world. The ship adopted a kennel and to help get those babies off to a good start, Nestle Purina, Davenport was gracious enough to donate and deliver, on our behalf; 2 pallets of kibble, 1- Kitten Chow and 1- Puppy Chow. We also collected items from the HSSC wish list to help maintain the facility. Some of the items collected included brooms, food bowls, cat litter, used blankets and towels, paper towels, laundry detergent, toys for cats & dogs, liquid hand soap, hand sanitizer, alcohol, dryer sheets, ink pens, cat food and dog treats.

Congratulations to the Mighty M. Crew on another successful mission.



Pictured Left to Right: CO. Rose Compton, Ensign Alex Haugen, Cadet Katie Haugen, Lt. Ed Ciccarone, Lt. Jg. Les Pullman III, Recruit Rhonda Haller and Cadet Gerry Pearson.



**Mighty M. crew members Ensign Alex Haugen, Lt Jg. Les Pullman III,
Lt. Ed Ciccarone and Lt. Cmdr. Rose Compton accept their promotion certificates
at the March 16th monthly meeting.**



New Technologies



Mars Honeymoon destination of the future?

A tycoon announced plans to send a middle-aged couple on a privately built spaceship to slingshot around the red planet and come back home, *hopefully with their bodies and marriage* in one piece after 501 days of no-escape togetherness in a cramped capsule half the size of an RV.

Under the audacious but bare-bones plan, the spacecraft would blast off less than five years from now and pass within 100 miles of the Martian surface. The cost was not disclosed, but outsiders put it at more than \$1 billion.

The team of space veterans behind the project hasn't quite figured out the technical details of the rocket they will use or the capsule the husband-and-wife astronauts will live in during the 16-month voyage. But they know it will be an adventure not for the weak of body or heart.

"This is not going to be an easy mission," chief technical officer and potential crew member Taber MacCallum said. "We called it the Lewis and Clark trip to Mars."

The trying circumstances include: no showers, limits on toilet paper and clothing, drinking water made from the crew members' recycled urine and sweat, and almost no privacy. But the flight also comes with never-before-seen views of Mars. And there's ample time for zero-gravity sex in space, something NASA doesn't like to talk about.

He said if it is a man and a woman on such a long, close-quarters voyage, it makes sense for them to be married so that they can give each other the emotional support they will probably need when they look out the window and see Earth get smaller and more distant: "If that's not scary, I don't know what is."

The private, nonprofit project, called Inspiration Mars, will get initial money from NASA engineer-turned-multimillionaire investment consultant Dennis Tito, the first space tourist. The organizers hope to raise the rest through donations, advertising and media partnerships.

NASA will not be involved. Instead, the project's backers intend to use a ship built by other aerospace companies, employing an austere design that could take people to Mars for a fraction of what it would cost NASA to do with robots, officials said. Even though some of the hardware hasn't even been built, Tito said he is confident everything will come together by 2018 with no test flights.

It will be a stripped-down mission when it comes to automation and complexity, meaning the couple will have to fix things on the fly like TV's MacGyver and do more piloting than on NASA vehicles, said chief medical officer Jonathan Clark.

It involves huge risk, more than a government agency like NASA would normally permit, officials concede. For example, the spaceship will fly during a period when galactic cosmic rays will be high because of the sunspot cycle. That will increase the crew's cancer risk by about 3 percent, which is more than on any NASA mission, Clark said. The ship would also re-enter Earth's atmosphere at twice the speed of ordinary space capsules, something Tito said still needs to be worked out.

"Since they don't plan to land on Mars," said former astronaut and current MIT aerospace engineering professor Jeff Hoffman, "it's really a question of keeping people alive for 501 days in space, which is not an impossible task."

What important web addresses do I need to know?

Main Website

<http://www.starfleet-command.com>

SFCQ1 On FaceBook

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/179274080353/>

SFCQ1 on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/SFCQ1>

SFCQ1 Newsletters

<http://www.starfleet-command.com/newsletter>

SFCQ1 Documents

<http://www.starfleet-command.com/documents-page.htm>

SFCQ1 on TrekSpace

<http://www.trekspac.org/profile/StarfleetCommand>

SFCQ1 Message Board

<http://www.starfleet-command.com/forum>

SFCQ1 Store

<http://starfleet-command.com/sfc-store.htm>

Café Press

<http://www.cafepress.com/sfcq1>

Comments can be sent to USS.MightyMississippi@gmail.com