



Mississippi Current

August 2012



Captain's Log

Lt. Rose Compton

August has been a very busy month for the crew of the Mighty M. Along with the away missions and community involvement, there is also the planning for the following month's events. There are so many fun events, it makes it difficult to choose where we can spend time together, ...but we are certainly making an effort! RecDec will update you more on that issue.

We're gearing up for an outing in September, which we are affectionately calling TREKnic. It is a Trek themed, sci-fi picnic planned for and hosted by the Mighty M. and USS Lobo, for those in the starbase 03 area. Much of our time this month has gone into ideas, planning and shopping for the event.

The Mighty M. has passed a couple of milestones in the last month. First, we celebrated our first year anniversary and secondly, our face-book page has just surpassed 500 friends. We're pretty pleased with both accomplishments. I must give kudos to my first officer in regards to the face-book page. Lt. Jg. Ed Ciccarone is fantastic about making sure the page is checked and updated every day and I am informed of every friend invite/confirmation. I don't want to think about how far behind I would be without his assistance.

It is with a saddened heart that we read of the death of Neil Armstrong and our sincerest condolences go out to his family. He had such an amazing life and was such an inspiration to so many. He will live on through his legacy.



Words of Wisdom

"Don't call me Tiny." -- Sulu (Star Trek III)



Community Involvement

The Crew- (Rose, Ed & Les)

Our ship, although small, has been working quietly behind the scenes, doing what we can to add to our community. We consider education of the children and welfare of unwanted animals a priority.

July 31st, we added to a “Stuff the Bus” campaign, for Washington Elementary, 5th grade. This school is one of the poorest in the district with 93% of the student’s families living at or below the poverty level. We collected \$30.00 worth of back to school supplies. Some of the items were pencils, block erasers, spiral bound composition books, folders, loose leaf notebook paper, glue sticks and sticky notes. In all, we delivered 6 full bags of items to help them begin the school year.

On August 13, we delivered 30 labels/box tops for education to Sudlow Intermediate School, Davenport. We also added another 14 with e-labels. Sudlow is the smallest and poorest intermediate school in the inner city and we feel our efforts will certainly help the students.

On the 13th, we also delivered our first donation of pop-tabs to the Shriner’s. It seemed to take for-ever to collect a pound, but we did it! While one pound may not sound like much, our small ship thinks that was a lot of soda/beverage to consume!!! Now we begin on the next pound!

We continue to collect for the Toys 4 Tots program this fall. At this point, the ship has collected 10 items/toys. We will do the ‘official’ shopping in October.



Rec-Dec

Movie Night

Ensign Les Pullman III

On August 18th 2012, I ventured out with USS Lobo members; Cpt. Bill Van Brunt, Sr. Officer; Mike House and SB 03 Commodore James Olson to see ‘Expendables 2’. The overall consensus was 4 thumbs up, as everyone said they enjoyed the movie.

My opinion was that this one was just as good as the first and maybe just a little bit better. With lots of action and some tongue and cheek humor, the movie always keeps your attention and never seemed to drag. All the stars were back for this one, with expanded roles for Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis. With the addition of Jean-Claude Van Damme and Chuck Norris, it seems that all of the action stars of the 80’s and 90’s were in this one. We’ll have to wait and see, but I wouldn’t be surprised if there was a third one in the future.

NASA ART

Lt. Rose Compton

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, (August 5th) several members of SB 03 took time out to visit the local 'Figge Art Museum'. Joining Ed, Les and myself were USS Lobo, Sr. Officer; Mike House, SB 03 Commodore James Olson and Thompson Ship Yards, Alan & Gypsy Thompson. For most of us, it was a first time visit and the exhibit that captured our attention was '*NASA/Art: 50 Years of Exploration*'. It featured 72 works of art commissioned by the NASA Art program and spanned the entire history of NASA. (on loan from the Smithsonian and the National Air and Space Museum.) Great names included in this exhibit were Norman Rockwell, Andy Warhol, Jamie Wyeth, Annie Leibovitz and Robert Rauschenberg, just to name a few.

Included and in addition to the art work, was the '*University of Iowa Space Pioneers, 54 years of Exploration*' exhibit. The University of Iowa is considered a pioneer in space research and development of spaceflight instruments flown on more than 63 successful missions. We were also offered a viewing of "*When Man Left Earth, The NASA Missions*". On our visit, 'The Eagle Has Landed' was to be shown.

Thinking this would be a great outing for the group, I coordinated everyone's schedule, set us up for a semi-private tour and arrived early; with Ed in tow; so that we could get any last minute details and direct each member as they arrived.

The '*tour*' guides were *not* very knowledgeable on the subject and while I *DO* understand that they were volunteers, and do not wish to take away from them in that respect, I can certainly say that this is not what I/we were expecting. Not only did they not know much about the very art work they were trying to describe, but they only hit on a very few pieces of the art (*and in my opinion, not the best of*) as well as not mentioning a single word on the instruments from U of I. Then.... we were off to view the documentary ... which broke down 40 minutes into... so we never got to finish that. Granted we all know .. 'one small step, one giant leap' and have seen it dozens of times, but this once it was to coincide with the exhibit.

I have since apologized to each member of the group for suggesting this as an away mission. After speaking with the group, it seems I was not the only one dissatisfied in the visit. The general consensus was that we should take a second shot at this. But this time, we will go on our own and read the plaques with each piece of art and each instrument. In this way, we might actually get to enjoy all of the art and instruments in the exhibit, instead of just a few which were poorly researched by our guides. Further more, if we have questions about a specific item, we can take notes and then come home and research it on the computer!

End Log..
(until next issue)

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