



Mississippi Current

January 2013



Captain's Log

CO Rose Compton

We've sailed into 2013 under a new seal, in a new vessel and are looking forward to what the New Year has to offer. The crew has met for the first time this year; discussed our options, laid-out some tentative plans and have a vision for the up-coming months. We have an idea of where we want to go, so all that remains, is to accomplish the goals we have set for ourselves and to

'Make it so'.

Our newsletter will be changing slightly over the next few months, with the addition of each new member, as each individual's "uniqueness adds to our collective" and we assimilate what the crew is willing to share. We hope that you will bear with us as we grow and begin to mature.

In this issue you will find.....

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Words of Wisdom

"There's an old saying, 'Fortune favors the bold'. Well, I guess we're about to find out." – Benjamin Sisko, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.

("Ditto", to the Mighty M. crew,;;;: CO Compton)



Introductions

Ship Upgrade

Lt. Jg. Ed Ciccarone

With the addition of several new crew members over the last year, the USS Mighty Mississippi has outgrown our runabout, and we are now eligible to move up to light cruiser. After reviewing all of the different types of light cruisers available, two classes made their way to the top of our list: Prometheus and Intrepid. To decide which of these to choose, there was a brief debate during the 2012 Christmas potluck, and then the USS Mighty Mississippi crew voted. As a result of the vote, the USS Mighty Mississippi petitioned Starfleet Command to upgrade to a Prometheus class ship. SFC approved our request, and as of January 1, 2013 we are Prometheus class light cruiser USS Mighty Mississippi 201151-A. We are currently the only Prometheus class ship in Starfleet Command.

The Prometheus class' tactical prowess is quite impressive. For example, it's the fastest light cruiser in Starfleet, with a normal cruising speed of Warp 9.2, a maximum cruising speed of Warp 9.92, and a maximum speed of Warp 9.995, which it can maintain for up to 12 hours. It also has the ability to separate into three sections, with each operating independently or with one of the other sections. Each section can be remotely controlled from the Main Bridge via the ships sophisticated tactical computer and/or from the Secondary (Battle) Bridges. In addition, it has a total of five warp nacelles; the primary and secondary sections each having two, and one nacelle for the tertiary section during multi-vector assault mode.

Its weaponry is impressive, as well. In merged configuration, Prometheus class has the following armaments: thirteen Type-XII Collimated phaser arrays, six MK 95 Pulse-Fire quantum/photon torpedo launchers, two Quad-Turreted Pulse-Fire Torpedo Launchers, and one Pulse-Fire Phaser Bank (Lower Section - 4 Beam). In multi-vector assault mode, the upper section has six Type-XII Collimated phaser arrays, two MK 95 Pulse-Fire Quantum/Photon Torpedo Launchers, and one Quad-Turreted Pulse-Fire Torpedo Launcher; the middle section has four Type-XII Collimated phaser arrays, three MK 95 Pulse-Fire Quantum/Photon Torpedo Launchers, one Quad-Turreted Pulse-Fire Torpedo Launcher and one Type X Pulse-Fire Phaser Bank (4 Beam); and the lower section has eight Type-XII Collimated phaser arrays, two Mk 95 Pulse-Fire torpedo launchers and one, Type X Pulse-Fire Phaser Bank (4 Beam).

In addition to its tactical capabilities, this class of light cruiser is equipped with five shuttlecrafts of various classes, and has a 3,000 person evacuation limit. It also has holo-emitters throughout the ship, which means the EMH Mark II is not confined to sickbay and can help the ill or injured wherever they may be. These features make the Prometheus class ideal for planetary exploration, humanitarian aid, and evacuation missions.

Last, but not least, the appearance of this vessel is reminiscent of a Native American arrowhead. This visual characteristic serves to remind us of the cultural history of the upper Mississippi River Valley, which has been home to the Sioux, Sauk and Fox, Chippewa, Pottawatomie, Illini, Menominee, and Ho-chunk (or Winnebago). *As such, we proudly introduce Prometheus class light cruiser USS Mighty Mississippi 201151-A.*





Recruit Katie Haugen

Meeting Minutes

January 2013

On January 19th, USS Mighty Mississippi held their first meeting of the 2013 year. Rose Compton, Ed Ciccarone, Katie & Alex Haugen, Gerry Pearson, and Les Pullman III; from Mighty M were in attendance. Also in attendance were Rhonda Haller (possible recruit), James Olson (Starbase03), Mike House (USS Lobo), and Alan & Heidee Thompson (Thompson Ship Yard). The meeting came to order at 2:15 PM and began with a review of the ships accomplishments for 2012.

Thompson Ship Yard held a ceremony, with the crew of the USS Mighty Miss, to re-commission the Mighty M to a Prometheus class starship with a new designation of NCC 201151-A.

Discussion followed for the 2013 ship-wide projects. Pop tab collections for the Shriner's and Labels for Education were both approved to continue throughout 2013. Katie Haugen presented a new recycling project through 'Terra-Cycle'. The new project was approved to begin during 2013.

The next discussion was regarding a few newsletter changes, where Katie Haugen will start to take over some duties on the newsletter.

Rose Compton brought up the topic of the ship's need for a website. Alex Haugen will look into options and report back at the next ship meeting.

Ed Ciccarone gave details for the new promotion merit program.

Katie Haugen talked about some options for free local publicity for the ship.

The ship's community involvement was next in discussion. Approved items include Salvation Army bell ringing in November & December. Further discussion will follow later in the year on this topic. We will be taking this involvement project to the other local ships to see if they are interested in joining in with us on this.

4th quarter community involvement was approved as was 3rd quarter, pending further discussion in the year.

2nd quarter was approved to help with the local domestic violence shelter, with further discussion for 2nd quarter at next meeting.

1st quarter was approved to continue with adopting a kennel at the Scott County Humane Society.

Alex Haugen suggested looking into a Pizza Ranch fundraiser to help us off-set our costs for the 2013 year. Alex also suggested getting ship t-shirts made; he will look into more options on this and report back.

Away missions were then discussed. The ship will be represented at the following events; Creation Con-Chicago and TrekFest (Riverside, Iowa). We are unsure if we will have ship representation at Starbase Indy this year, but discussion will continue in the upcoming months.

Club outings were discussed and approved. Cabin Fever Cure (bowling outing to take place in February-16th), Star Trek – Into Darkness movie viewing in May, Treknin in September and holiday potluck in December.

Gerry Pearson also suggested a club/member book share program, in which we all approved and we will start to do in the near future.

The meeting came to an end at 4:45 PM.



[Sickbay](#)



Recruit Alex Haugen

This month's article is a bit different than others. It is about disaster preparedness, what should I do if there is a disaster in the community? Well depending on your skill level and ability to help you can do a ton. My main focus will be on mobilizing resources, triage of the injured, and where resources may be available to you.

We are stationed out of the midwest, an area that has many different seasons and constantly changing weather conditions and our base was just hit with a major tornado which destroyed many buildings, uprooted trees and has flipped over cars. You were inside a major shopping center when this happened and much of the building you were in is now destroyed. You seem to be ok after brushing off the dirt and debris from your body. You have had some basic CPR and first aid training, now what do you do? Well first line of action would be to establish how badly others around you are hurt. Start by calling out, "**Stay calm, everyone**, can I have anyone that can walk to my voice come to me right now, I am trained in first aid and will be able to help you." This establishes your green victims or those who are not hurt in a life or limb situation. Generally if they are able to walk to you than they are not seriously hurt. Ask these people if any of them have basic lifesaving skills or medical abilities. Then assign teams or jobs based on talent available.

Next you will want to mobilize the emergency medical system, have someone in your group call 911 via cell phone or land line. If telephone services are down in your area have several people go in pairs looking for medical equipment that may be available at your location. Next based on the talents of your helpers you will start looking for others injured or covered in debris. If you have some fabric, markers, or tape available to you start marking the victims as to their level of severity, or moving them into groups. Yellow victims will be someone you will want to pause and give help to, they are generally stable and may require minor medical attention, but they are not in need of immediate assistance. Red victims are labeled as those who need immediate lifesaving help, these victims are ones who you would be checking ABC's or Airway (do they have an obstruction or are they being crushed in a way they cannot breath freely), Breathing (are they breathing on their own) Circulation (have they lost a large amount of blood, is their heart beating, so on). These patients need immediate lifesaving skills, if someone in your group has identified themselves as someone who works in the medical profession this would be a patient for them, if you are the only one with medical training you must act. Is CPR necessary, do you need someone to apply pressure on a wound to stop the bleeding, is the person unconscious? All things you will need to assess. If the person is bleeding, clean rags, clean water, and a plastic bag is all you need to help them. First take the plastic bag and place it over your hand like a glove if you don't have any latex gloves available. Second clean out the wound with clean water. Third, apply pressure above the wound on a major artery if possible. This will stop the bleeding. Tourniquets are not something that is recommended anymore because it can cause death of other tissue. If you have someone who can take over and apply pressure this is the best case, if not and you need to attend to others a tourniquet may be the answer.

Lastly look around for those who would be labeled as black victims. These are the ones who have already passed away or who you cannot provide the level of assistance to in a fast enough manner to save them. They should be let to pass in dignity. This is only generally used in a mass causality situation such as a major natural disaster or a terrorist action where much of your areas' emergency staff is being used. This is just one of many possible situations that could happen in your area.

So how do I apply this if I don't have any medical skills at all? Your first action in this instance is to call for help! If you are unable to call 911, see if anyone around you that is uninjured has any medical skills at all and assist them and listen to them for direction. If no one in the immediate area has medical training you can still assist. First off you again want to mobilize resources. Call out and have all those uninjured come to you. Then start looking for the injured. You can still do a quick assessment of wounds, breathing, and circulation. Listen for breath sounds, if it does not sound like normal breathing possibly classify the person as a Red or a Yellow victim. For those who are badly hurt and bleeding, find a plastic barrier to put between you and any blood. Place pressure above the wound, clean out cuts with clean water. If you are an untrained layperson this may be all you can do, but still could save someone's life. However being prepared is key. So if you are reading this and do not have any CPR or basic first aid training check with the local Red Cross or local community college. Most provide basic CPR / lifesaving classes monthly and I would recommend everyone who has not taken a class do.



New Technology



THERE ARE FREE-FLOATING PLANETS IN THE UNIVERSE

Recruit Gerry Pearson

Ref: SCIENCE NEWS, p.8, December 15, 2012.

The newly-discovered orphan planet CFBDSIR2149 cannot be a “conventional” planet because it doesn’t orbit a star. It’s roaming in a cluster of about 30 stars (AB Doradus, in the southern constellation Dorado) about 115-160 light-years from Earth. ***The free-floating planet is the closest to Earth yet discovered.*** Astronomers reported the discovery in the December 2012 issue of Astronomy & Astrophysics. The planet is estimated to be 4 to 7 times the mass of Jupiter, and (assuming that it is about the same age as the stars in the cluster) is between 20 million & 200 million years old, about 1/45 of the age of our sun.

Astrophysicist Philippe Delorme of the Institute of Planetology and Astrophysics of Grenoble in France lead the discovery team, who were originally looking for brown dwarfs, using the Canada France Hawaii Telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. They noticed a strange object with an unusual color, and measured its spectrum of light. This gave the first hints that it might be a planet, and this was confirmed using the European Southern Observatory telescope in Chile.



NEW LIVING QUARTERS FOR ASTRONAUTS

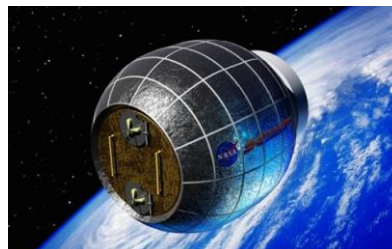
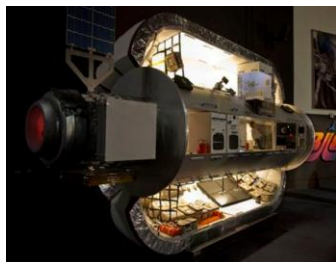
Recruit Les Pullman III

Ref: QC-Times 1-16-2013 (AP)

NASA has teamed up with Bigelow Aerospace to provide new living quarters at the International Space Station (ISS). The new inflatable room will be a 13 foot blimp-like module that can be compressed into a 7 foot tube for delivery. It will provide three times as much room as the current aluminum models.

The \$17.8 million test project will begin in 2015, after a two year trial period. This could then open the door for habitats on the moon or even on missions to Mars.

Robert Bigelow, the founder and president of Bigelow Aerospace, plans to sell stand-alone space homes in 2016 for any scientific companies or wealthy adventurers looking for their own place in space.





RecDec

RE-COMMISSIONING THE MIGHTY M.

CO Rose Compton

During our January meeting, we held a ceremony to re-commission our ship. Thompson Ship Yards, Alan and Heidee Thompson were on hand to transfer the ship to its new crew.

Plans for the observance began long before the meeting as Rose searched online in an attempt to find an actual ceremony to use. Alan Thompson began work on a plaque to use as a representation for the ship. Heidee Thompson developed Chocolate breakable bottles to christen the ship with and Ed Ciccarone worked on a theme song for Mighty M. A lot of emails crossed cyber space as we tried to pull it all together from a distance.

The ceremony went off rather well, even though we'd had no time to practice it. A visiting friend, Rhonda Haller, did the honors and christened the ship with the chocolate bottle. Heidee Thompson asked for protection and guidance from those who govern space and Alan Thompson transferred the ship to Captain Rose Compton. First Officer Ed Ciccarone set the first watch and the crew, Katie & Alex Haugen, Gerry Pearson and Les Pullman III chose their new quarters.



After the ceremony, we all had chocolate bottles for dessert.

A special thanks to all who participated in the re-commissioning, but especially to Thompson Ship Yard for their additions to the ceremony and for the beautiful Mighty M. plaque.

Heidee's delicious chocolate bottles



1-2013 Crew of Mighty Mississippi NCC 201151-A
Alex & Katie Haugen, Les Pullman III, Rose Compton,
Ed Ciccarone and Gerry Pearson
w/ plaque and commission certificate.



Heidee & Alan Thompson, Rose Compton &
Ed Ciccarone with the ships plaque.