



BISMARCK'S REMARKS

December 2007

WE WON!!



Bismarck's Remarks takes 1st Place

From the Guest Editor

The Newsletter has always been called “Bismarck’s Remarks”, because it isn’t about one Bismarck member; it’s about all the Bismarck’s members. It means the newsletter represents all of us. As we enter into a new era with the USS Bismarck-E, and FCAPT Kevin Johnson at the helm, I feel this title truly captures the spirit of our Bismarck family.

We do need people to help proof, print, and/or mail the newsletter. All printing and mailing costs will be reimbursed by the ship.

This issue was published by Robert Ziegler with assistance from Kevin Johnson.



Bismarck’s Remarks is published monthly. Submissions and comments should be sent to the following address:

USS Bismarck
PO Box 2060
Middletown OH 45042

Or emailed to newsletter@ussbismarck.org



From the Captain

Wow! As you'll see in the following pages, the USS *Bismarck* did real well at the SFC Annual Meeting. We took home six awards, including **2007 Best Large Ship!** It was my deep honor to accept those awards and represent the USS *Bismarck* throughout the convention. The awards and good reputation the USS *Bismarck* has is because of YOU, not me. Each and every one of you has worked to make the new *Bismarck-E* an outstanding success. Let's aim for another five or six award's again next year!

We've got a lot of fun things planned for December and January. Our annual Holiday Party is December 15th at 6 PM. We'll also be having a Fun and Games Day on January 26th, 2008. We'll have our General Meeting at 11 AM that day. We'll keep it short so we can relax, watch movies, and play games for the rest of the afternoon and evening.

Bismarck-E long-sleeved shirts are now available. Men's shirts are \$27. Ladies' shirts are \$35. XXL and larger sizes will cost you an additional \$3. If you want your name embroidered, it will cost you an additional \$5. See our Quartermaster, Rick Pinsky, for details.

Thank you for your generosity this holiday season. Crew members have donated \$100 worth of BisBucks to American Cancer Society in memory of David MacDonald and Don Dailey. The *Bismarck* will also be buying a brick or stone at Hospice of Dayton in memory of Dooger.

As we approach the end of the year, please coordinate with Ops to make sure all of your points and attendance have been correctly marked for 2007. Also please submit any award recommendations to Command Staff. I would like to close the books on all point changes and award recommendations by the end of Fun and Games Day (Jan 26th) so there's time to create duty orders and awards before the Anniversary Party.

Whether you celebrate Yule, Hanukah, Christmas, or something else, have a wonderful Holiday season!

Serving you,
Fleet Captain Kevin Johnson

SFC Annual Awards

By Fleet Captain Kevin Johnson

It was my great, great honor to accept the following Fleet-level awards on behalf of the USS *Bismarck*, NCC-1797-E:

3rd Place – Junior Officer of the Year – Audra Blais
2nd Place – Senior Officer of the Year – Kevin Johnson
1st Place – Website of the Year
1st Place – Newsletter of the Year

AND

1st Place – Large Ship of the Year

I'm very, very proud of all of you. These awards aren't because of me, your captain. They are because of the work you all have given the USS *Bismarck*. It has been six years since we won Large Ship of the Year. Let's go for it again next year!

There was one other award the *Bismarck* received. An award that no *Bismarck* member has ever received before:

The Paul A. Sundstrom Lifetime Achievement Award

This is the highest award Starfleet Command can hand out. It's not even handed out every year. The recipient must have spent years and years contributing to their ship and to the Fleet. It's the Medal of Honor of Starfleet Command. Which *Bismarck* member was given the only standing ovation of the day? You'll have to come to the Holiday Party to find out!

Recognition also needs to go to the following personnel: Our own Anthony Day for creating the Fleet awards; Dennis Gilbert and Paul Sylvester for video-recording the Fleet meeting.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to VADM Dana Dougan and her ship, USS *Independent*, for winning 1st Place Senior Officer and 1st Place Small Ship, respectively. Congratulations also go to the USS *Yorktown* for winning 1st Place Medium Ship.



After-Mission Report: Starbase Indy

by Captain Kevin Johnson

Starbase Indy 2007 was a great success at a great hotel. The ConCom proved you don't need Patrick Stewart or Katie Sackhoff to have a good time. The Guests of Honor were Ray Parks (Darth Maul), Luke Ski (parody performer), David Reddick (Star Trek cartoonist), and others. But the true Guests of Honor were all the volunteers who ran the con, managed the consuite, led panels, and created a warm, fun environment.

The *Bismarck* Away Team kicked off the con Friday night by attending a reception for the Starship Commanders, hosted by Dana Dougan, CO of the *Independent*. Con-goers got to meet and socialize with the COs of the *Bismarck*, *Defiant*, *Endeavour*, *Halsey*, *Independent*, *Indianapolis*, and many others. Dana Dougan even had cake for everyone.

After the reception, the Away Team finished checking into the Marriott East. We all had originally planned on staying off-site at the cheaper Fairfield Inn or the Days Inn, but changed our minds at the last minute to stay at the Marriott. We're glad we did. Not only was it more convenient, but the rooms were extremely nice. Some rooms even had free massage chairs like those you see at The Sharper Image (ones that retail for \$5000 or more). A nightly rate of \$82 plus tax was a good rate for the comfort and convenience.

The hotel restaurant was also impressive. Unlike other hotel restaurants, this place didn't gouge you for money. A hot breakfast buffet was \$10. Large-portion lunch items off the menu were \$8-10 each. The restaurant was comparable to Applebee's or O'Charleys.

Eventually the entire Away Team wound up in Main Programming for Friday Night Karaoke. There we learned the vocal talents (or lack thereof) of some of our friends in Fleet. Rick Pinsky sang "Yoda", "Bohemian Rhapsody", and "The Chanukah Song". First-time karaokeer Lisa Johnson rocked the house with "You Lift Me Up" by Josh Groban. (The people present turned down the lights and started waving glow sticks with Lisa's singing.) Following karaoke we hit the *Defiant* and *Barfleet* room parties then crashed.

The SFC Annual Meeting was at 10 AM on Saturday. That gave people enough time to wake up from the late night and get a bite to eat without having to stagger into the meeting with a hangover. Dennis Gilbert and Paul Sylvester (who came in with Emily just for Saturday morning) video-recorded the meeting. Anthony Day made the Fleet awards (which FADM Andy Sams couldn't stop raving about). Lisa sat up on the dais and gave the report from the Chief of Command Staff Support (aka Anthony).

We do have a great Admiralty Board this term. They are excited about revitalizing and re-energizing SFC, just like the *Bismarck* did during this past year. The Admiralty Board moves slowly because the AB members are contemplating big changes that have the potential for really growing SFC.

(Having our Fleet Commander deployed to Kuwait didn't help either.) I know we'll see a lot of good things out of the AB in the next few years. There is no Starbase 05 Commanding Officer yet for Ohio and Kentucky. The three quadrants of SFC haven't chosen a new Commander-in-Chief yet, so FADM Mark Bishoff is continuing to serve as Acting CINC.

SFC is still looking for people to serve in a variety of support positions. Please see Kevin, Lisa, or Anthony if you have any ideas and interests to help SFC grow.

After lunch, Kevin led two panels entitled "Getting Your Ship Into Shape" and "Growing Junior Officers" with the assistance of Lisa, Dana Dougan, Roy Jackson, and Andy Sams. Dinner was sloppy joes in the consuite. The entire Away Team Mission then took power naps until it was time for the room parties. Yes, Lisa bought the Fleet Commander again at the Barfleet slave auction.

Rick and Dennis stayed for the con's closing remarks.



Fleet Admiral Andy Sams presenting an award to Captain Kevin Johnson of the USS Bismarck



Bismarck Holiday Party Almost Here!

The annual Bismarck Holiday Party is almost upon us! The committee has been working hard to make this year's party a strong success.

The Holiday Party will be at 6:00 PM on Sat, Dec 15, with dinner starting at 6:30 PM. It is open to members, guests, and other Fleet personnel. Please RSVP to the Holiday Committee (Rick, Dennis, Audra, Liz, Jen, and Eric). The recommended attire is Holiday smart/business casual. (Dress up in your favorite Christmas, Hanukah, or Yule themed clothes. Think nice shirt and slacks. No tie required.)

A new location is being tried this year: Eric Dearth's clubhouse. Eric lives behind the Fairfield Commons Mall in Beavercreek, Ohio. Complete directions will be posted soon. Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Middletown (our normal meeting location) will serve as our backup location should the clubhouse suddenly become unavailable. One of the clubhouse rooms will be a playroom for our smallest midshipman.

Just as in years past, please bring a side dish, dessert, or appetizer. Please coordinate with Dennis and Eric, the galley chiefs, to avoid dish duplication.

It wouldn't be our Holiday Party without our gift exchange. If you need to change your participation in the gift exchange, please contact Rick ASAP. Gifts should not exceed a value of \$25. Guests are welcome to participate too as long as the committee is given enough advanced notice to include them.

There is no cost for members and guests attending the party, except for the gift exchange. Please bring a food dish to share with others.

Other Awesome Accolades

By Captain Kevin Johnson

Several *Bismarck* members have earned various accolades outside of the USS *Bismarck*. We would be slacking if we didn't recognize their significant achievements.

Lt. Audra Blais completed her Associates Degree through Sinclair Community College in November. She did that on top of being Chief of Operations and designing an award-winning website! Wow!

Lt. Tom Stiver had a starring role in a straight-to-DVD Hollywood release. He plays Captain Stye in *Pirates of Ghost Island*. It's available at Best Buy and Target for \$24. Be warned, it is a bit of a slasher movie! The critics may not have liked it, but we're still proud of Tom!

Captain Kevin Johnson, Commander Jack Barr, and Rear Admiral Rick Pinsky have all been elected to leadership roles in Jefferson Lodge #90. They would be Free and Accepted Masons. Kevin was elected Senior Warden (Sr Vice President), Jack was elected Junior Warden (Jr Vice President), and Rick was elected Senior Deacon (4th in line). Former *Bismarck* CO, Matt Hudson, was elected Secretary of the 500+ member lodge.

Jack was also elected Deputy Master of Middletown Council of Royal and Select Masons, a Masonic unit which bestows advanced degrees to Master Masons.

Congratulations to all of you!



January Fun and Games Day

To kick off the 2008 on the right foot, we're having a Fun and Games Day on Saturday, January 26th, 2008. Bring your favorite DVDs, card and board games, and snacks and drinks to share (no alcohol allowed, sorry). Our General Meeting will be at 11 AM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. By noon we'll end our monthly business and break out the movies and games. There's no scheduled end time. Feel free to come and go as you need to. A small collection will be taken in the evening to help cover the cost of dinner. (Mike Payne has offered to make some crock pot meals.)

Please no online games. We want you to interact with each other, not with a computer screen.

If you are bringing children, please bring games and movies for them too. (We'll have a separate area for them, but there won't be a babysitter on duty.)

We'll also be raising money for charity that day with a silent auction. The pirates from RF have donated 4 daggers and a sword that they deem defective (the weapons and sheaths are still in great shape). There may even be additional items. The silent auction will run until dinner time. The proceeds will go to our 2008 charity fund.

Please also use this afternoon to make sure your promotion points and attendance for 2007 are correct. Also turn in any recommendations for Bismarck awards (departmental, merit, Junior and Senior Officers of the Year, etc.) to Command Staff by this date.

December 2007

4 th	First night of Chanukah
8 th	Nancy Graf's Birthday
15 th	Bismarck Holiday Party 6:00 PM, Eric Dearth's Clubhouse Beavercreek, Ohio (backup is Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Middletown) There will be a gift exchange (\$25 maximum) POCs are Rick, Dennis, Audra, Liz, Eric, and Jen
21 st	Emily Sylvester's Birthday
22 nd	Winter Solstice (Yule)
25 th	Christmas Day
31 st	New Years Eve

No Senior Staff or General Meeting in December!

January 2008

1 st	New Years Day
6 th	Paul Sylvester's Birthday
12 th	Senior Staff Meeting 7:00 PM. Captain's Quarters Franklin, Ohio
18 th	Ruth VanCleve's Birthday
21 st	Martin Luther King Jr Day
26 th	Bismarck Fun and Games Day 11 AM to 12 PM – General Meeting 12 PM to late – Games and movies Please bring games, DVDs, and snacks to share No online games, please.

Please note the change in time for January's General Meeting!

