

# Intercom

November/December 2007



Official Newsletter

USS Matrix NCC-72296

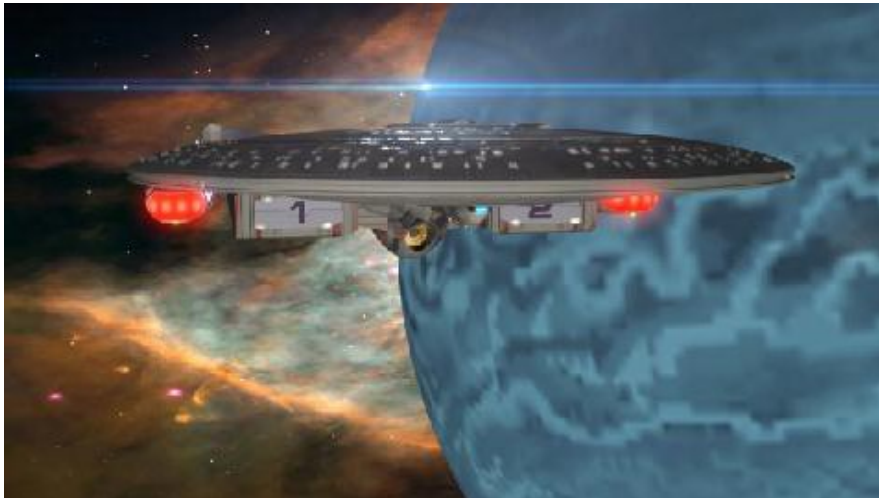
*"Cyberspace - The Final Frontier"*

[www.ussmatrix.org](http://www.ussmatrix.org)

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**CAPTAIN'S BLOG**

Greetings from the Center Seat! Lots of stuff has happened since our last issue.

Our RPG came to an interesting and unexpected end, but never fear, a new one is just beginning! Find out how ADMIRAL Dave Jamison handles a crisis with the Klingons! Discover Romulan Treachery! (as if there is any other kind!) Find out just what retirement benefits await Admiral Hoolihan! And more! Stay Tuned!

In other areas, I attended the Region 7 conference in September, held in Baltimore, MD (just 20 minutes from my house). We covered a number of topics; the issue of cyberbullying, or folks being verbally abusive on the net; the issue of attendance at multi-chapter events in the region, and the topic of how to recruit new members. We also had a panel on how to put on a conference, as well as presentations from two of the Candidates for Commander, Starfleet. We also had a very nice banquet, and lots of good time just hanging with each other.

Did you know that, a group of four people, standing up and talking, will turn completely around in a circle after an hour and a half of conversation? Speaking of Commander, Starfleet, the election ends on November 15th, with the new CS taking office on 1/1. Our own alumnus, Joost Ueffing, is one of the candidates. The other three are Sal Lizard, Emmett Plant, and Wade Olson.

Next year will be an exciting one for Trek Fans! The new movie comes out on Christmas Day, 2008. It will be an Original Series movie, with entirely new actors taking on familiar roles:

Captain Kirk - Chris Pine  
Spock - Zachary Quinto  
Dr. McCoy - Karl Urban  
LT Uhura - Zoe Saldana  
LT Sulu - John Cho  
Scotty - Simon Pegg  
Chekov - Anton Yelchin  
Eric Bana plays the villain, part not yet named.

Some of these actors I know, others I don't. (Feel free to post opinions or comments). The filming starts next month.

Matrix elections are coming up! The nomination part is Nov 1 - 15, the debate/question period 16 - 30 Nov, and the actual election is Dec 1 - 10, with the new CO taking charge on 1/1. More info will be forthcoming by the time you read this.

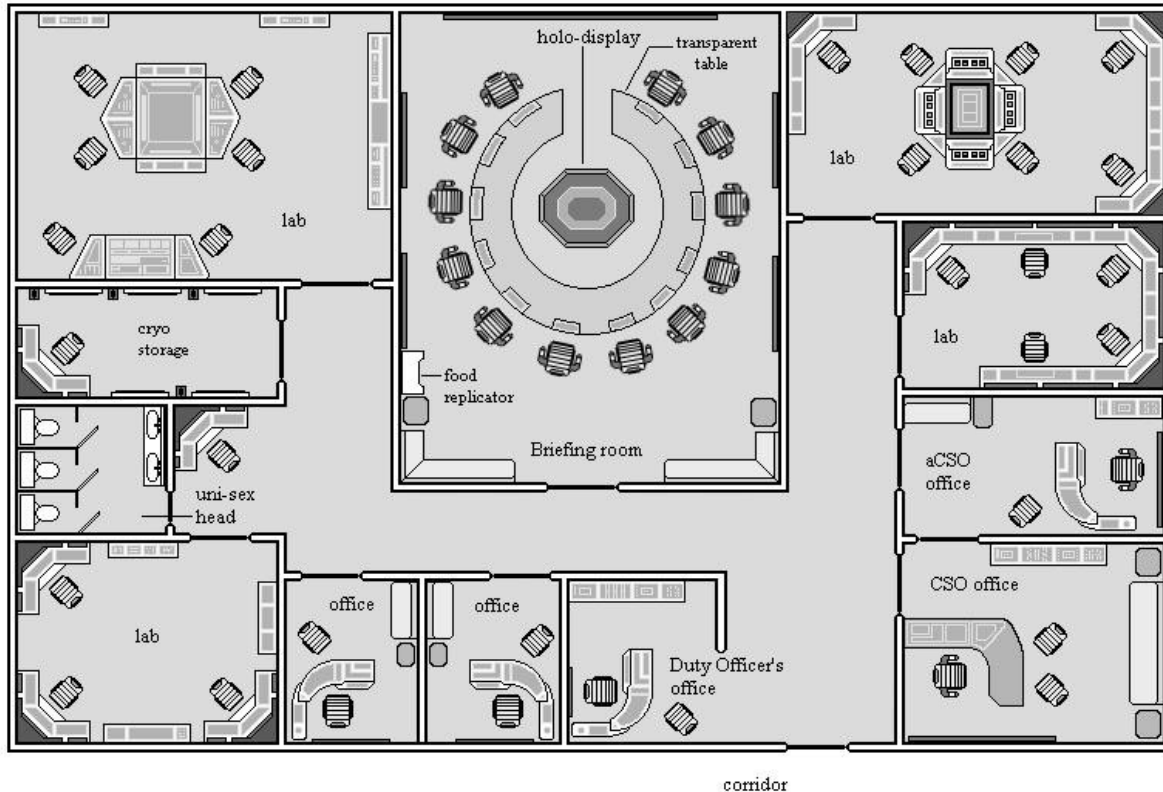
We have a bunch of folks taking courses at our newly revised and improved Internet Starfleet Academy. Check it out!

Oh, one other piece of information. I've been asked when my term as Regional Coordinator ends. It finishes up on August 15, 2008, and I have no intention of running again. I've done my time in the barrel, someone else can take a turn!

That's about it for now! Until next time!

CO Joe

## MEET THE MATRIX



The USS Matrix, NCC-72296 is a Gabriel Class Shuttle Carrier, designed by Doctor James Lythgoe and commissioned by Starfleet on 9711.18. The Matrix is the third ship of Doctor Lythgoe's Gabriel Class, the second oldest remaining in service.

### Science Division

The Science Division houses 4 laboratories. Lab 1 is for all matters related to Biology including Zoology as well as any Chemistry related work that needs to be carried out. This is situated next to our cryo-store for easy access to any preserved samples (also a good place to cool our homemade brew!). Lab 2 is designated for use by our Cybernetics and Borg Technology sections. It also has the necessary containment fields used when working with nanites. Lab 3, is smaller and is situated in-between Lab 2 and the aCSO's office. It is used for the analysis of all data received by the ship's probes and sensors. Lab 4 is our main computer science lab. We have a total of 5 offices, including the CSO and aCSO as well as a Duty Officer's office which houses information on all current projects/experiments being undertaken. All sensor data initially comes through this room before being transferred on.

Our state of the art briefing room enables all of the senior science division staff to meet and discuss or for the CSO/aCSO to brief the command crew.

## MEET THE CREW

Each Newsletter, we will be featuring a different member of the crew of USS Matrix...well, sort of:

### Targs Aboard the USS Matrix



This is how Captain Ros Haywood looks first thing in the morning...OK, you can stop laughing now. Actually, the picture is of Molly O'Brien's Toby the Targ (whereabouts unknown). As some of you may be aware, there are several targs aboard the USS Matrix. For those of you not familiar with targs, this is part of the article at [memory-alpha.org](http://memory-alpha.org): "The **targ** is a herding animal native to Qo'noS, comparable in form to a Terran boar but with spikes on its back. They are usually dark brown, although some are spotted. Targs are generally regarded as "vicious and destructive" animals. Klingons keep domesticated targs as pets and livestock, and hunt wild targs for sport. The meat and heart of the targ is eaten, while their shoulder fat is used to make *var'Hama* candles..." Worf had a pet targ when he was a child.

Terabyte the Targ is one of the latest litter produced by CO Joe's targs, Koloth and nlvQa. She shares her living quarters with her sister, Hattie. The name came about because CO Joe was about to go on RL vacation, and Hattie nearly became a Home Alone Targ until then-Commander Haywood invited her to stay aboard the USS Albion (and sample such delights as rokeg blood cheesecake, the CMO's speciality).

Jalfrezi the Targ, from the same litter, owns LT Commander Troyski. B'Org the Targ, while living as FCAPT Matt Haley's pet, had a fight with his borgified pet dog, and now exists as the universe's only borg targ...

Do you know of any other targs in residence aboard the Matrix? If so...RUN !!!!!

If you want to learn more about targs in general, there is an MU course called '[Targ Expert](#)', based on a worksheet written by CO Joe, with test written by Captain Ros Haywood.

# CREW REPORT

## STATUS

**New Members:** None

**Promotions:** CDR Ros Haywood to Captain

**Appointments:** CRMN Pam Horn as Morale Officer;  
CDR Dave Jamison as RPG Chief

**MU courses completed:** 8

**SFA/SFMC courses completed:** 67

**Crew Strength: 40**

SFI 24

SFI Affiliate 5

Non-SFI 16

## SENIOR STAFF

**Commanding Officer**

*VADM Joseph P Hoolihan*

**Executive Officer**

*CAPT Ros Haywood*

**Second Officer/Training Officer**

*FCAPT Matt Haley*

**Chief Communications Officer**

*FCAPT Steve Ives*

**Chief Operations Officer**

*CDR John Wagner*

**Chief Engineer**

*CDR Rodney Billings*

**Chief of Security**

*CDR Ryan Smith*

**787th OIC**

*MCAPT Shaun Kenyon*

**Chief Science Officer**

*CDR John Hancock*

**Chief Medical Officer**

*CAPT Minka Leaser*

## TRAINING /DEVELOPMENT

Our Second Officer, FCAPT Matt Haley, runs the Matrix College of Command, which gives out the three Matrix-specific courses:

- ❖ Non-Commissioned Officers School
- ❖ Officer Basic Training
- ❖ Command Qualification Course

Contact [Matt](#) if you have questions...

Note to our newer members: EVERYONE needs to take Non-Commissioned Officers Course, or NCOS, as a minimum to start up the promotion ladder! Matt Haley has this course, and it is EASY to do! We have a number of SFI folks that have taken loads of courses and could be getting promoted if they would just take NCOS as well.

### Matrix University (MU) Courses Completed:

**John Hancock**

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Netiquette and Emoticons

**Pam Horn**

Netiquette and Emoticons

**Troy Muller**

Web Page Development: Getting Started

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Netiquette and Emoticons

**John Wagner**

Targ Expert

Tribble Expert

### SFI Starfleet Academy Courses Completed:

**Chris Bayonet**

*Armor*

AR-10 - PASS

*Combat Engineer*

CE-10 - PASS

*Infantry*

IN-20 - DISTINCTION

IN-21 - HONORS

IN-22 - DISTINCTION

IN-30 - DISTINCTION

*Mecha*

ME-20 - PASS

*Xeno-Studies - Cardassian*

XC-10 - DISTINCTION

XC-11 - DISTINCTION

XC-12 - DISTINCTION

*Andorian Orientation College*

System and Culture - PASS

Religion and Rituals - DISTINCTION

Government and Military - HONORS

*Cardassian Orientation College*

Cardassian Union – DISTINCTION

Cardassian Military - DISTINCTION

The Obsidian Order - DISTINCTION

*College of Borg Technology*

COBT 102 - DISTINCTION

*Klingon Warrior Academy*

Apprentice 101 - HONORS  
 Apprentice 102 - HONORS  
 Apprentice 103 - HONORS  
 Apprentice 104 - HONORS

*College of Cryptography*

Basic Cryptography - HONORS

*Flag Officer's School*

Combined Course Curriculum - HONORS

*STARFLEET Officer's Leadership College*

SFA Exam - DISTINCTION  
 CompOps Exam - HONORS  
 CFO Exam - HONORS  
 IG Exam - PASS

CS Exam - DISTINCTION

VCS Exam - HONORS

OPS Exam - HONORS

COMM Exam - DISTINCTION

*College of Federation Studies*

Hist Enterprise 1 - DISTINCTION  
 Hist Enterprise 2 - DISTINCTION

*College of Star Trek Chronology*

Trek Chronology 101:EU - DISTINCTION

*College of Medicine*

Basic Health Field Medic - DISTINCTION

*College of Genealogy*

Level 1 - PASS

*College of Security*

Early Law Enforcement History - DISTINCTION

Basic Security Officer's Course - HONORS

Convention Security Officer's Course - DISTINCTION

*SFA Awards*

Boothby - Bronze (50 courses)  
 ADP - Associate of Science and Technology  
 ADP - Associate of Alien Studies  
 Boothby - Silver (100 courses)

**Matt Haley***College of Starship Operations*

Guidance & Navigation Operations - DISTINCTION

**John Hancock***College of Sci-Fi Television*

Dr Who I - HONORS

Dr Who II - HONORS

Dr Who III - HONORS

Dr Who IV - DISTINCTION

V Episodes - HONORS

V Freedom Network - DISTINCTION

V Main Characters - PASS

V Technology - DISTINCTION

V Trivia - HONORS

**Ros Haywood***College of Down Under*

Geography - HONORS

*College of Survival Studies*

Poisonous Plants - DISTINCTION

Useable Plants - DISTINCTION

*College of Xenanthropology*

Beta Quadrant Overview - DISTINCTION

*College of Mythological Studies*

Classical (Greek & Roman) - HONORS

*College of Starship Operations*

Bridge Operations - HONORS

*SFA Award*

Boothby - Bronze (50 courses)

**Dave Jamison***College of Genealogy*

Level 1 - HONORS

**Amy L'Abbe***College of Down Under*

Flags of Australia - PASS

*College of Military Intelligence*

History - DISTINCTION

Aircraft Past & Present I - HONORS

*Starfleet Officers Leadership College*

SFA Exam - PASS

*College of Survival Studies*

Escape Pod Users Guide - DISTINCTION

Escape Pod Identification - DISTINCTION

Escape Pod Tech I & II - DISTINCTION

Planetary Survival - DISTINCTION

*College of Law*

Xenojurisprudence - PASS

*College of Mythological Studies*

Classical Terran - HONORS

*College of Security*

Early Law Enforcement History - DISTINCTION

Do you want to take the SFA courses named above? You have to be a member of SFI - so maybe now is the time to think about joining by going to [www.sfi.org](http://www.sfi.org)!

*VADM Joe Hoolihan says:*

It's only \$15 per year, and you become members of the largest Trek Fan Club on the planet.

You also get a bi-monthly newsletter, access to Starfleet Academy, and become part of a great bunch of folks.

[Email](mailto:Email) CO Joe, Ros Haywood, or Matt Haley if you have any questions.

## SHIP'S LOG

### RPGS PAST AND PRESENT

The Command Staff of the USS Matrix have decided to take our creative writing in a new direction.

A position has been created for a coordinator of our writing efforts. This individual will be the GM (Games Master) for all RPGs and will coordinate the various plotlines and short stories. Commander Dave Jamison has been appointed as this 'RPG Chief' – he will be the 'go-to guy' for the entire crew.

For instance, say you have an idea for an RPG. You contact Dave, and let him know. If he thinks we can run with it, he starts off the story in RPG form, and posts the ground rules for each game (ie special skills/abilities allowed etc). Please note: all RPGs will from now on be played on the RPG list so, if you are not subscribed, please do so now, or you won't be able to join in!

You can make TWO posts in 24 hours; this gives other crewmembers in different timezones a chance to reply, while at the same time keeps the action going. It is hoped that, by adding such structure to our creative writing – RPGs in particular – the stories will become more exciting and enjoyable for the crew.

*[Weekly updates on the main list to keep the rest of the crew informed have been postponed during the current California wildfire crisis, although the RPG itself continues to run – Editor]*

There have been several requests to finish the 2005/6 RPG 'Borg N Beans'. Dave is currently working on this and trying to find a way to get the story going again by linking seamlessly between the plots-that-were and posts-that-will-be. The posts so far have been chapterised and put in PDF format by Capt Haywood. The RPG "All Hallow's Eve" is also being investigated as a potential restarter.

By the time you read this, however, a new RPG will have started: A Stitch In Time, based on an idea by FCapt Matt Haley about time travel and the Matrix. It is anticipated that this RPG will last from 12<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> November, thus allowing all crew to devote their attentions to the CO Election debates.

Remember the Prime Directive:

**HAVE FUN!**

Greetings to all! Just to follow up on what Captain Haywood previously mentioned, I volunteered for this job for a very simple reason, I love to write!

I truly believe this is something each and every one of us can have some real fun with. Does that mean you must spend precious hours toiling over a post for the RPG? No, not at all! As a matter of fact, a good RPG post is about a few paragraphs or less of information.

Some of you may even remember the "paintball" wars that were occurring throughout the ship some time ago or most recently when a few of us were in the mess hall discussing the benefits of Romulan Ale. ;-)

My point is this, you do not have to be a published author, or a Rhodes Scholar to participate, all that is required is a willingness to jump in and be part of the fun.

I can still remember the hesitation I initially had to jump in when RPG's were in full swing aboard the Matrix. My goal is to get us back to that point in time when there was a great deal of participation!

Another of my intended goals is to get a jump start on creative writing once again; we had some very good stories in the past and I see no reason we can't jump start some of the enthusiasm we all once shared.

Although all of the writing will be on the RPG list, my plan is to incorporate a weekly update on the list so the entire crew knows what adventure currently is taking place.

So to sum things up, please subscribe to the RPG list, jump in and make some posts, send me some ideas for future RPG's and stories you would like to see or collaborate on, and finally just get involved!

It had been brought to my attention in the past by a crewmate who felt the Matrix was dead and on life support! Ask yourself these questions, why did I join the Matrix? What do I want out of the Matrix?

I don't believe we are all here just to be on a list and "think" about Star Trek, we are all here because of the one thing we have in common, our admiration for Star Trek. See you on the RPG list.

Commander Dave Jamison.  
RPG Chief

**LATEST SFI NEWS**

2007 CS nomination final summary

Ladies & gentlemen:

As of 7/15/07, this is the summary of CS nominations for all the candidates:

Franklin, Greg 1 received, 1 valid  
 Lizard, Sal 36 received, 35 valid\*  
 Olson, Wade 13 received, 12 valid\*  
 Plant, Emmett 14 received, 12 valid\*  
 Reid, Kevin 1 received, 1 valid  
 Ueffing, Joost 26 received, 25 valid\*

\* One or more nominating chapter(s) was not in good standing as of 7/15/07

RADM Jerry Tien  
 2007 Election Coordinator

Election Cycle Schedule

June 1 to July 15: Nominations  
 July 16 - Nov 15: Candidates' campaigns  
 September 1: Ballots mailed to members  
**November 15: Closing date to accept votes**  
 November 20: Winner announced  
 January 1: New CS takes office

**SFI members: Make sure your ballot arrives in time!**

**USS MATRIX C. O. ELECTION**

Each December a general crew election will be held for the position of Commanding Officer. Only "Active" crewmembers may vote in the election. The Senior Staff shall appoint an election coordinator. The elected CO shall assume command for the following calendar year starting on January 1st. The Election Timetable is as follows:

NOVEMBER 1 - 15

Nominations for C O accepted by the election coordinator, who verifies eligibility.

NOVEMBER 16 - 30

Eligible candidates conduct debates via the listserv.

DECEMBER 1 - 10

Elections held. Election Coordinator verifies validity of each ballot. Coordinator tallies results, and reports results no later than December 12.

DECEMBER 15 - 31

Turnover from old CO to new CO. Change of Command form submitted.

**EDITORIAL GUIDELINES**

Got something to say that you want to appear in this newsletter? Make it fun, and interesting, and informative, and keep the humor family-friendly, and send it in to the Intercom Editorial Board ([Ed Meiman](#) and [Ros Haywood](#)), and send it by **December 20, 2007** for the January 08 Newsletter.

We welcome all articles, stories, and URL links. Just because we welcome it, does not guarantee that your submission will appear in the newsletter. Sorry. Ros and Ed reserve the right to edit all submissions for spelling, punctuation, grammar, and so on. If you are sending in a URL, please add a brief description of what it links to. If you are sending in anything else, please check that you are able to do so under relevant copyright laws.