



THE ENGINEERING LINK

"Engineers are Warped"

SD: 202205.01



NCC-1793

SFI * REGION 01 * USS HEIMDAL NCC-1793 * ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

Awarded 2021 Region 01 "Communications Excellence" Best Departmental Newsletter



From the console of the Chief Engineer

Capt. Darrell W. Millner

Greeting again and here we are folks, wading into what is hopefully as Kermit might say *'On the most sensational, inspirational, celebrational, Muppetational - this is what we call "The Engineering Link"'*.

I'm definitely feeling like "The Swedish Chef" or maybe "Beaker" today - but don't worry, only on the cover page. So feel free to **skip** the ramble if you like, the content provided by the team is still spot on.

I do hope you will forgive the self-indulgent ramble below - I know it is only *"partially"* departmental, but it does apply. As we get moving into summer I realize it's important to manage my **activities** [not time / I cant control time], to hone my **focus** on things that matter and address them accordingly, and to realize it's NOT 100% or *nothing* - you give what you can, when you can, and when you do you focus on that specific thing. For example, I'm learning to be better at *NOT* responding to my phone when I am having a meal with someone, to lessen my "Attention, Deficit, ... SQUIRREL" moments and give those around me, projects, etc the specific attention they deserve.

For those of you familiar / or not with the Doctor Who S04E11 Episode "Turn Left" it has the gut feel to me like ST:TNG Season 6 episode "Second Chances" with the two Rikers . The key factor - had the *transport been successful* - or at a point had I actually *turned left vs. right* what course would my life, those around me, and the galaxy for that matter have taken. A course that is changed by *one* degree may not seem significant in the short term but makes a huge difference as one traverses the galaxy of life. Now if you are following me, and I hope you are, you might be thinking "someone is having a melancholy, regretful, or bellybutton* sort of day - or not enough coffee" but NO - I'm actually appreciating the course. Now trust me, I have days of meeting Mr. Ida (If only Ida done this, that, or the other thing) but not today. When I joined SFI.org in September of 1984 my journey was already proceeding on course, I didn't know the course details, but as a laddie of 19 I was going fast in "A" direction. The Heimdal - like my soon to be bride Barbara steered me in a proper direction. It's been those minor course corrections, the avoiding the rocky shores, the taking in the moments that have made all the difference. And its time to tweak things a bit and take on more course corrections. OK, OK, perhaps I do need more (or less) coffee, this is sounding like a blog ha ha. Time to kick things into gear a bit, finish up projects here in Engineering, I sometimes think I am that writer with a half started novel in the drawer - ten years later - "I'll finish it soon". "Mr. Henderson, lets get this issue moving..." Bet you're still wondering if you should have skipped page one aye! Well here we go!

Capt. Darrell Millner, CEO
- USS Heimdal -R1 -Delta-Sector -



BORG TRIBBLE
Be Afraid, Be Very Very Afraid

When Engineering takes an unintended turn.
K.Delanco - FB

STARFLEET BY THE NUMBERS
As of SD 202205.01

STARFLEET

- 5697 Members, 232 Chapters

REGION 01

- 1132 Members, 47 Chapters

USS HEIMDAL

- 65

HEIMDAL ENGINEERING

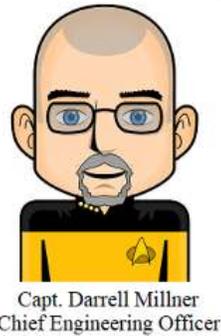
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Online Resources

The Engineering Link
trek.millnernet.com/eng-link/

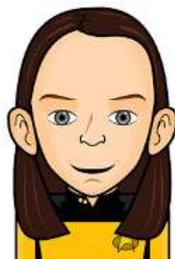
Heimdal's Home Page
<https://www.ussheimdal.com>



Cmdr. Dennis Henderson
Sr. Engineering Officer
Shuttle Bay Officer
Matter/Anti-matter Specialist



Capt. Lem Campbell
Sr. Engineering Officer
Flight Deck Officer
Transporter Chief



Lt. Cmdr. Larry Rowland
Sr. Engineering Officer
Shuttlecraft Pilot
Transporter Specialist



Ens. Larry Whately
Duty Engineering
Quartermaster



PO3 Gary Burley
Maintenance Engineer
Ship Fitter



Lt. Cmdr. Zak Lyon
Helm Officer
Technology Specialist



ENS. Jody Lyon
Dilithium Maintenance
Recreation Officer



Lt. "Bud" Walker
Navigator



Heimdal Engineering
SD:202205.01

~ A "SAMPLE" OF FICTIONAL DUTY POSITIONS HERE IN ENGINEERING ** Updates In Process ~

- Chief Engineer** - Heads department. Oversees running of all engineering systems and divisions. Accountable for the overall performance of the vessel. (A Miracle Worker).
- Assistant Chief Engineer** - Primary assistant or backup to the chief engineer. In situations when the chief engineer is away from the engine room, the assistant chief engineer is responsible/in charge.
- Shuttle Bay Officer - (SBO)** Coordinates with Operations manager on Main Bridge for shuttle launch and landing clearance. Directly oversees FDO's.
- Helm Officer** - Responsible for ship's maneuverability & sometimes weapons control.
- Navigator** - Plot the ship's course; responsible for safely getting the ship from point A to point B.
- Transporter Chief** - Oversees the operation of ship's transporters.
- Transporter Specialist** - Maintain & operate the transporters. Work with the Transporter Chief.
- Duty Engineer** - Engineering officer acting as the duty officer when the chief or assistant chief engineer is off-duty.
- Engineering Specialist** - All-purpose engineers. Environmental controls, replicators, holodecks, and more.
- Flight Deck Officer** - (FDO) Responsible for all operations within their particular shuttle bay (3), reports directly to SBO for launch and landing clearance. Primary station - Operations Control Booth.
- Shuttlecraft Pilots** - Pilot shuttlecraft on missions that require use of shuttlecraft.
- Technology Specialist** - Experts with all machines & technological contrivances.
- Matter / Anti-matter Specialist** - Monitor the intermix process.
- Dilithium Crystal Specialist** - Responsible for monitoring the dilithium crystal converter assembly.
- Damage Control Specialist** - Evaluate & control the amount of damage a starship sustains to the best of their abilities. Also effect ship's repairs.
- Deflector Systems Specialist** - Monitor & provide data on the ship's deflectors / shields.
- Quartermaster** - Assign quarters, handle equipment & supplies & the distribution of same.
- Maintenance Engineer** - Specializes in repairing damaged systems.
- Ship Fitter** - Fabricate, assemble, and build structural parts of/for the ship.
- Recreation Officer** - Activities director. Maintains morale. Maintains the Recreation Deck. Coordinates off duty crew activities.

Engineering Reports

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SD: 202204.25 – Monthly Engineering Report – Lt. Cmdr. Zak Lyon

This month has not been routine due to my re-certification. But it has given me an opportunity to study and spend some time thinking.

Despite my initial reaction, it turns out that taking those academy courses did unlock something to think about. For one thing, I realized that I will now be expected to take a shift – gamma of course - in the center seat. I know I probably learned it at the Academy but never thought about it when I got my last promotion. Of course, bridge officers of a certain rank must get experience in the event that they might have to take command. It is something that I don't really aspire to - need more time for people watching and listening – though hope I am ready when the time comes to get that experience. During my study this month something else hit me. All the non-com personnel that are being summoned to the bridge whenever something needs repair, but are otherwise not permitted step onto the bridge. They need to repair and get off the bridge – often with not as much time as they would like to complete the job. Cheers to those engineering technicians. They don't get it enough. Maybe the Commissioned Officers run the Bridge but it is our non-commissioned crew that keep it running. I have a nodding acquaintance with many of these technicians but will remember to show appreciation when we next meet. I was also reminded that I only have 5 minutes to get to the Bridge during certain alert statuses. Not to mention all of the unique rules regarding the Battle Bridge. And the Main Bridge can be used as a life pod. Don't think I learned that one the first time around. Don't even want to think about the circumstances under which that is ordered. It sure helped me appreciate all the things we take for granted every day - things that are necessary for the running of a ship this size.

As you can see, I have focused a lot on studying those two courses that I was required to retake. I learned a lot, even though I initially didn't like the implication that the instructor made about Af-Kelt or time sickness. A very personal thing with my El-Aurian heritage. I would like to let you know how much of a help my fellow engineers have been this month. I have thanked one who covered my shifts this week and made it possible for me to get all this stuff squared away.

Also, Lt. Vinaya has been approached by Stellar Cartography because of her interest in astrometrics. The testing phase of the MASU technology has enabled her to connect with different departments now that she can freely move around the ship and she has been taking full advantage of it. She really impressed the XO. I know that she's happy anywhere between the sea and the stars. And she is a dreamer. I wonder where those dreams will take her next.

During my "down-time" I did sneak around and "help out" on a couple of projects. Technically I was off duty. Just now, while I was preparing this report, I got notification that I can return to duty. I assume you received the same. I am so relieved. (actually, no longer relieved.) This is wonderful news. I need to be around people. Frankly, if it had not been for the First Contact Celebration, I would not have had much contact all month. Enough puns. My apologies, sir. These things come across better in person. Lyon out.



Lt. Cmdr. Zak Lyon
USS Heimdal NCC-1793
Engineering Dept

SD: 202205.01 – Monthly Engineering Report – Lt. Cmdr. Larry Rowland



Captain Millner reporting.
Unfortunately we are having challenges with the main computer core and comm traffic between specific decks. I have currently assigned members of Communications, Security Engineering, Pet Fleet, and have alerted XO Smith of these challenges. We all look forward to Part 2 of Rowland's Special Series and hope that PeeWee is doing well.

- Millner Out



Engineering Reports

SD: 202204.25 – Monthly Engineering Report – Ensign Jody Lyon

All seems quiet since my assignment to support the First Contact Day is complete. The opportunity to recreate and relax was just what the crew needed. It was so fortunate that the Heimdal schedule allowed for a three-shift commemoration and that no emergencies interrupted our escape from our routine. I wasn't sure that I had the necessary background for this assignment. But you knew best and saw my potential. Due to the nature of the event, our culinary facilities were stretched. We had not anticipated how many crewmembers were choosing to prepare their culture's food "old-school." Our team created temporary food prep stations to supplement. Although, some replicated ingredients had to be used, we anticipated lower replicator use in the rec and mess halls. However, creation of the new prep stations required not only construction from scratch with involvement of all necessary trades, but engineering support to keep the replicators on-line as we were running them full time for appliances and prep-ware to stock them. At the conclusion of the event, strike time was minimal with the number of assigned crew and volunteers involved. It seems that the event actually created a sense of increased camaraderie and cooperation. The crew was on a "high" from the event and the space was in tip-top shape in record time. We all agreed that scheduling such events had significant effects on crew morale and as such should be continued when appropriate.

Looking forward to my next duty station and my continued training



Ensign Jody Lyon
USS Heimdal NCC-1793
Engineering Dept

SD: 202205.01 – Monthly Engineering Report – Captain Darrell Millner

Computer – begin recording..... "I have found myself distracted and busy as a "tribble herder" on feeding day over the past few weeks. There have been a number of systems issues, personnel issues, and equipment malfunctions that have my teams stretched. On Monday night just after the Engineering teams monthly general session – "Status Video Conference – open floor" the fire suppression system in shuttle bay 2 went off unexpectedly and both computer and manual shut downs were not functioning to spec. As reported previously our team has been working long hours to get the shuttle bays back in proper operation (see earlier reporting), stocked, and up to speed. Personally I think many of the crew would like to see me order the deck be cleared, secure the crafts, and do an emergency blow out and start over. Of course the environmental department would have a fit (and rightfully so), the deflector team would lecture me on the negative affects on systems, and XO Smith would have my hide, wait my raktajino must be getting cold. As I was saying, the shuttle bay, short on staff, selective comm system issues, and I made a scheduling error and at the last moment we were short on bridge coverage Thursday evening so I pulled a double. One advantage was some additional time getting to know our newest Engineering member Lt. William "Bud" Walker, Jr. Bud and I have worked together in the past, and as former Security Intelligence/Bridge Tactical Officer we've butted heads a few times. Don't get me wrong, I am fortunate to have him in Engineering now – he brings a lot to the table - but he has the quirk and I spot him looking at reflections in the consoles like there is someone else there. Davis said he had noticed id a few times as well, but that Bud plays it off as its because hes 'always keeping tactically aware'. Smoke and mirrors I say, but as long as he continues to perform exceptionally as our second shift navigator – I'm a happy chief.

I must say the team continues to amaze, flat out professional all the way around. Zak Lyons has been progressing with additional remote SFA courses, Ens. Jody Lyons with juggling her normal duties and First Contact Day (I'm still stuffed from all the desserts), PO3 Gary Burley taking lead on updating the shuttle graphics and logos, and Capt. Lem Campbell helping with new crew member orientation sharing his wisdom with this new generation. Cmdr. Dennis Henderson juggling medical concerns and insisting he needs to keep a normal work shift in order to keep his focus – what an exceptional officer. Plus the two Larry's lol Whately and Rowland keeping operations going so I don't have to work around the clock. I am truly blessed.



Capt. D. Millner
USS Heimdal NCC-1793
Chief Engineer

A First Contact Debrief – All Is Well

ENGINEERING LINK ARTICLE
LT. CMDR. ZAK LYON & ENS. JODY LYON

With the success of the First Contact Celebration, I was interested in feedback from the crew regarding what worked and what didn't, what was meaningful to them personally and any other thoughts about the "holiday" itself. I received many positive responses, most verbally, but one crewmember submitted a written document. Said he was "looking" for things to keep him busy so I will include LCDR Lyon's feedback in full before giving my thoughts.

"What is First Contact Day really all about?" Every human child hears these words from a teacher or parent at some point. Everybody has seen the statue. Heck, most high school students have impersonated that statue of Zefram Cochrane. All earth kids have piled into that school transporter line after making models of the Phoenix. "Which was the first human made vessel to achieve warp flight." I can still hear my 5-year-old self reciting this in a sing-song manner." Of course, we knew the Phoenix by the time we got to kindergarten. We'd step out of the transporter to find ourselves in the place where it actually happened. Bozeman, Montana, USA. This was one of the real fieldtrips – not a holotrip. The teacher said, this is where we were given the world - the galaxy - that we enjoy today. But we would learn later, it is not about what happened. It's about what it means.

It is said that 1/3 of all the people any of us will ever meet, we will meet through warp travel. Let that sink in on this holiday. That and all the huckleberry pie that has become associated with the celebration on Earth. It is about the end of war and the beginning of something new.

It's about those ancient words they say on that holo-presentation about Cochrane and mean so much to so many. "...they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." What they didn't know was that it was just the beginning of a process. Yes, the cessation of war leads to peace and prosperity. That surface level is obvious. But we find now that peace leads to innovation. Or to quote a revered 20th century Earth philosopher, Jonathan Larson, "the opposite of war isn't peace, it's creation."

Thanks for the magic carpet ride, Dr. Cochrane. I guess we really don't know what we can find until we take the ride.

I really appreciated the LCDR's feedback and writing skills. Perhaps we can use him in this capacity in the future. He also offered his help in setting up our First Contact Bar by giving me access to his quarters and his supply of various alcoholic and fruit beverages. He has quite the collection and said I was welcome to any except one. This was a clear large flask type bottle with black leather straps and gold design. The liquid was dark and thick. The bottle was on the top shelf and looked as if it had not been moved from its place in a long time. The LCDR said this bottle was sacred and he cautioned me not to even touch it. I can't deny I was a little curious but certainly I complied. I think it was a direct order. I don't completely understand all this El-Aurian stuff. Never met one, even half El-Aurian before. I barely am getting all the human stuff down.

The other crew responses were generally positive. A few were suggesting that a warning be placed near the Bolian food should we offer it crew-wide again. I enjoy spicy food myself but that was too much for me. They must have quite the digestive system. They were the only other crew that were sampling the Klingon dishes. There was that one Trill from Sciences, however. The Vulcan food was a hit and satisfied all the herbivores onboard. I brought my usual hasparat – two versions: the spicy one that makes your eyes water and one that was a little toned down. And, of course, there was huckleberry galore. The pie made from these fruits that represent Montana cuisine was abundant. Many of the cooks decided to experiment with adding huckleberries to one of their own dishes and created a small competition among themselves. In cook-off style, the samplers voted for their favorite. Believe it or not, it was the Tellerite stew that won. I did enjoy the Andorian dessert the best myself.

The music ranged from peaceful string instruments and stirring ballads to raucous laser-enhanced protest songs to quite loud and long opera selections. Another crew suggestion was that the "entertainment" was not present during the gamma shift offering and that in the future all shifts should have similar offerings.

A last-minute decision to include a studio of sorts for visual art display was a hit. Not only were the crew treated to beautiful and unusual pieces, but several crew revealed themselves to be quite the artists. A couple even received requests for original work to decorate their quarters.

I believe that the goal of the event was achieved "in spades" as they say. You see, I am learning.



Chief Engineering Officers of the USS Heimdal

Proving once again - "Engineers are Warped"



Lt. Cmdr. Larry Rowland

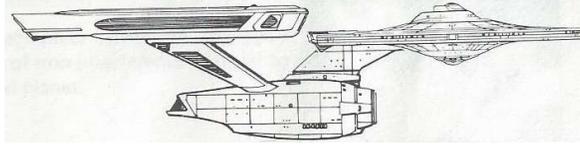


Rowland took up the reigns as CEO in Nov 2014. Having just returned in June 2014 to the Heimdal's Welcoming arms. Like many, Larry had stepped away for several years, but found us once again. His original SFI commission date was March of 1985. Since returning to Starfleet & the Heimdal Larry contacted Starfleet about his previous OTS standing. Starfleet still had his records & told him he didn't have to re-take OTS; that his previous score was still in good. BUT ... to Larry's credit he decided to take OTS again and after passing *again* he went on to take OCC & passed that course with HONORS. He was juggling many things but was not hesitant. Over the next few months he continued with STARFLEET Academy and the archives have revealed a partial list of his early successes.

- OCC - with HONORS on 12/1/14
- Chaplain Services College of Spirituality (Duties of Chaplain) with DISTINCTION December 21 2014
- Chaplain Services College of Spirituality - Spiritual Counseling with DISTINCTION 2/1/15
- College of Orbital Mechanics - Laws of Motion & Orbits with DISTINCTION 2/1/15
- Flag Officer's School - Introduction to FOS with HONORS 2/9/15

All while spearheading the Heimdal's Engineering Department - what a great example. Plus not only numerous quality articles, monthly reports in the Heimdal's Rainbow Connection but a legend at the yearly Chili Cook Off event - well he was the only one wise enough to bring a gas mask. "Engineers are Prepared"

He completed his tour as Chief Engineering Officer at the end of October 2016 with distinction and we are pleased that he is still a participating member and Senior Officer with Heimdal Engineering today.

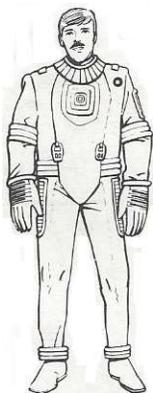


Region 01 - SFI -

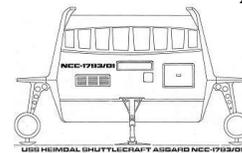
As we have discussed in the past, we do not exist in a fan organization bubble. We are part of STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL. Let that sink in for a moment, "International". Region 01 was there as part of its birth in 1981*. The founding days of 1982 and the USS LaGrange, USS Jamestown, and so many other chapters. It is important to realize that you as one of the current 5697 members of STARFLEET, and one of the 1132 members of Region 01 play a vital role in how our our organization is perceived, represented, and more.

Last night Region 01 wrapped up its elections for Regional Coordinator (RC for Short) and key guiding part of the leadership structure for any region. I can only say that I wish both parties the very best, I hope that which ever team has this distinct privilege of leadership will provide sound direction and 'in good faith' lead accordingly.

Most of us know, at least I assume, that there is a newsletter from STARFLEET "Communique", Chapter newsletters like the Heimdals "Rainbow Connection", and this one "The Engineering Link". From a regional perspective there is the R1 "Fleet Status Update" that comes out monthly, 4-2022 was released on the 16th jammed packed with updates from around our region.



STARFLEET
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



Heimdal Engineers at Starfleet Academy

2022 April Graduate(s)

Lyon, Zackary

CSO-101 - **Flight Operations**

- IOSTS:COSO Honors - 22APR2022

CSO-107 - **Bridge Operations**

- IOSTS:COSO Distinction - 24APR2022

Survey Question 202205

Question :

Lets keep it simple this month,

- Of the numerous Star Trek inspired franchises - Rank YOUR top 3 favorites
- If you could only have copies (or Access) to three, which would it have to be?
- Please email your answer to Chief Millner on or before 25 May

Last Months Survey Replies

"Captain Millner apologizes", when asking this question last month I added a note of "Replies will be accumulated and shared but NOT with your name..." I was confused with another request that was in process. But will stay true to format.

#1 All forms of communication set up thus far have enhanced the experience of being a member of the engineering department for me. Sometimes you need an email to get a lot of info across. Sometimes you need face to face live conversation- zoom- to get the subtleties and nuances. I always learn something. In the last zoom meeting, I learned about discord - I had heard of it but didn't really know what it was. Facebook is good for sharing with a lot of people. And what can I say about the newsletter? Love it. So it is all good for me.

#2 I am a busy person. I always appreciate getting multiple notifications. I tell people send me an email, a text, social media message - all of it. That way I have the best chance of getting the information in a timely manner. Yes, any form of communication is great. Never too much for me. The newsletter and zooms are perfect for me being out of the Heimdal geographical area and allow me to become closer to the crew.

#3 I feel sometimes that it's all information overload, and I would like to have a single portal, database, email or similar with it all in one simple spot. But life is not like that ha ha. I like th overall format of applications similar to Discord, but change takes time. Many are still adjusting to or simply staying away from zoom (for many reasons). Though I am not FB's biggest fan, I really appreciate the aspects of our private group page.



Heimdal Monthly Engineering Zoom

SD: 202205.16 ED: **April 16, 2022** 7:00 pm eastern

Come join your Engineering team in a lively discussion about everything from Shuttle Bay clean up, R1 updates, Reports, Stories, Tools, Roleplay initiative, Gardening, Weather and more. It's lots of things, but boring is not one of them. Digitally - Face to Face - you may be surprised at how much fun it can be.

*** Zoom coordinates will be emailed ***

If you have scheduling or technical challenges, let me know

ST : The Search for Spock & ST:TNG

. Wall Paneling. Used multiple times in Star Trek for "Alien" walls, Starfleet interiors, doubling up for the Star Trek universe, and more. They are actually molded from US NAVY items occasionally used for sound experiments under water. You have to admit they look cool, waste not want not in space.

- Notes from "Whatculture.com/star-trek" as seen on YT. What an enjoyable resource – Millner Out



STAR TREK Trivia Anyone?

What was the name of Miles O'Brien's tarantula?

Last Months Question: First person named as Chief Engineer in the 1st season of ST:TNG.

Answer: Sarah MacDougal in episode "The Naked Now" Bonus: Jim Shimoda Asst Chief same episode



Special thanks to our contributors

- Zak L., Jody L., Darrell M.,

Please note, corrections and additions are always welcome

Footnotes: Thank you to the following very helpful online resources

- whatculture.com/topic/star-trek
- funtrivia.com/trivia
- memory-alpha.fandom.com/

At one point in Earth's history, the audio cassette tape was comprised of sides A and B.

Therefore, it was only logical, the successor would be known as a ...
CD!



STAR FLEET
POSTAL
SERVICE

Disclaimer: No part of this newsletter is intended as an infringement on the Star Trek copyright held by Paramount™ or any other company or entity. This is a not for profit, fan organization, that strives to embrace the ideals of Star Trek, the inspiration of the "Great Bird of the Galaxy" and have fun in the process.

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