

The Star Fleet Times

Volume I

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STAR FLEET UNIVERSE

Issue #11

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome back to another year of the Star Fleet Times! Starting this issue we're going to try to focus on one particular topic/subject as much as possible (a different topic each month). For example, in this issue our focus is on starship construction, including some SSDs and commentary from the forthcoming Campaign Designer's Handbook. The SSDs are officially open for playtest, so send any reports directly to ADB.

In our next few issues we'll see optional rules for F&E, the lighter side of SFB, an all-tournament issue, a fiction spotlight, and of course the Scary Ships Issue in October. If you have any ideas for other possible subjects, let us know!

FED CVN MRS SHUTTLE NOTE

Back in October we printed an SSD for the Federation CVN, which included several MRS shuttle displays. This caused some confusion because there seemed to be more drones present than an MRS could have. These are not "special CVN-only" MRS designs! The drones are shown as they are so that players can select whichever possible drone load they like, marking off the others as unavailable. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The STAR FLEET TIMES will list any convention in this space which holds at least one SFB event. All cons MUST have SFB to be listed (after all, this is an SFB newsletter). However, cons on this list will not necessarily have a *sanctioned* tournament (and some events may cancel without notice). You should write to the address shown for a pre-registration booklet, which will tell you just what kind of SFB events you can expect. (If nothing else, this will help you decide what game materials to take!)

If you are having a convention, or know of one in your area, submit the information for it as soon as possible (preferably a flyer from the con itself). If the convention is holding a *sanctioned* SFB tournament, please let us know. Deadline for publication in any issue of the TIMES is the 15th of the month in which that issue is to be published. Note that the TIMES is not published in June or December of each year, so conventions in those months will have to be announced well in advance.

BASHCON '96 (February 23-24, Toledo, OH): BASHCon's 10th year will include roleplaying, board and miniatures games. No SFB events shown on flyer, but one or more usually appear at this con. For info write to: UT-BASH, Student Activities Office, University of Toledo, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Toledo OH 43606 or call (419) 537-4654.

CONFLICT OF HONOUR (March 30, Ralston, NE): In its 3rd year, this con will feature some sort of SFB events, but no further info was available. For info write to: Spring Campaign '96 c/o R.L. Callaway, 5038 S 83rd St, Ralston NE 68127.

EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN (March 29-31, Carbondale, IL): This con will be held in the Ballrooms of the Southern Illinois University's Student Center and has SFB events scheduled. Send an SASE to: Egyptian Campaign '96, c/o Strategic Games Society, Office of Student Development, 3rd Floor Student Center, Carbondale IL 62901-4425, call (618) 529-4630, or Email ECGamCon96@AOL.COM.

EUCON '96 (April 13-14, Eugene, OR): This con will be held at the Holiday Inn in Eugene, and will include a sanctioned SFB tournament and a patrol tournament. There will also be roleplaying games, collectible card games, and other board games. For convention info write to: EUCON 1, PO Box 11594, Eugene OR 97440 or Email EUCONGAME@AOL.COM.

PENTECON 8 (April 12-14, Ithaca, NY): A sanctioned SFB Saturday Patrol game and several other SFB events will be held at this convention in Ithaca. For information write to: Peter D. Bakija (PDB6@aol.com), 105 Eastern Hts Dr., Ithaca NY 14850.

CAPCON (April 12-14, Columbus, OH): An SFB tournament will be held at this annual event. For info on SFB events send electronic mail to Guy Flora at guyef@lincoln.treasurer.ohio-state.edu.

MADCON (April 20-21, Madison, WI): Ken Burnside will run a sanctioned tournament at this convention, held in the Downtown Arts & Activities Center, 112 Fairchild St. in Madison. For more info send Email to yorik@ns1.inxpress.net.

ROC of AGEs (May 10-12, Charlotte, NC): Planned events include a Rated Ace tournament and Prime Directive events. Write to: Brad Lee, 105 Honeywood Ct., Kissimmee FL 34743 for more information.

DALLASCON '96 (June 28-30, Irving, TX): To be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel near the DFW Airport, DallasCon will have a sanctioned Rated Ace Patrol-style tournament ending in three rounds of single-elimination play. For more information contact John E. Cady, 18175 Midway Rd #208, Dallas TX 75287 or email j.cady5@genie.com.

ORIGINS 1996 (July 4-7, Columbus, OH): ADB plans to continue holding the SFB "Gold Hat" National Championships at this convention. Additional info: GAMA is working out a 10-year deal with Andon Games to manage Origins. Andon has authority to "manage six regional Origins cons annually" but these will certainly be only existing regional cons with only a few dealers, not shows like Origins where EVERY game company shows up. Also, according to the GAMA newsletter, Origins will remain east of the Mississippi River for at least 10 years and probably forever. The STAR FLEET TIMES will keep you posted on any future developments.

GEN CON 1996 (August 8-11, Milwaukee, WI): Gen Con will once again be held at the MECCA convention center in downtown Milwaukee. TFG and ADB have confirmed that they will not sponsor/run a major multi-round SFB event at Gen Con this year. The poor turnout last year (compared to Origins which held steady for several years) does not justify the expense of a major tournament or the effort of a major product release. Several non-ADB judges will run one-round SFB scenarios.

LONGEST-RUNNING STAR FLEET BATTLES PLAY-BY-MAIL CAMPAIGN. Our first game is in Y198 and is nearing a conclusion; new players can no longer be added. However, we've started our second game, beginning in Y150 and using a double-blind map. This is a new game and players are needed to fill any of several positions. Join us! For info send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: John D. Berg, 609 Apollo Dr., Joliet IL 60435.

STAR FLEET WARLORD: Agents of Gaming operates this play-by-mail strategic SFB campaign in the Greater Magellanic Cloud. Buy ships to search for (or conquer, or defend) resources needed to buy even more (and bigger) ships. For a rulebook (with no obligation to play), send \$5 to Agents of Gaming at the address on the last page of this newsletter.

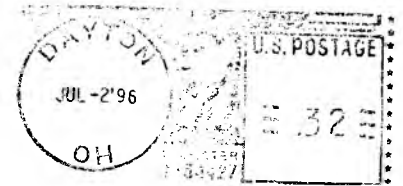
KNOW OF A CONVENTION? We get most of our con announcements from flyers. If you pick up a con flyer and that convention has one or more SFB events, send it to us! We can't print it here if we don't know about it!

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NETWORKS & ELECTRONIC MAIL

GEnie: On this network, SFB is category 10 of page 805 (menu item #1). For information on GEnie call Client Services at 1-800-638-9636 (voice only). SFB services include questions & answers, playtest material, ongoing discussions, weekly real-time conferences, and overnight access to the staff. On GEnie contact Amarillo Design Bureau by sending electronic mail to ADB\$, Task Force Games by sending to TFG\$ and Agents of Gaming by Emailing B.GRAW1.

Compuserve: SFB has established an active presence on this network. Call 1-800-848-8990 for information on Compuserve. To contact ADB, send Email to 71333,2123. TFG can be reached at 76443,3031.

Internet Email Addresses: ADB: ADB\$@genie.com or Steve.Cole@genie.com. TFG: TFG\$@genie.com. Agents of Gaming: B.Graw@genie.com or Agent1@gnn.com.

Web: ADB: <http://www.task-force-games.com/sfu/sfu.htm>. AOG: <http://members.gnn.com/agent1/aog.htm>.

SFB CLEARINGHOUSE

Agents of Gaming is authorized to act as a clearing-house for some out of print TFG material. Chief among these are back issues of Starletter, Star Fleet Times and Subspace News, all of which are available for \$2 each; \$3 each for overseas customers.

Starletters:

Back issues available: 80, 82, 84, 86-92. Others sold out.

Subspace News:

#1: Early Years Hydrans; rules for Nova Cannon.

#2: Frax Sub SSDs: frigate, war cruiser, missile cruiser.

#3: Flivver simulator race. Includes Flivver CA SSD, plus rules for hoverwarp and hyperdrones.

#4: Alliance conjectural maulers. SSDs included for Tholian MCW, Kzinti MCM, Hydran MCL, Gorn MHD.

#5: Triaxian simulator race. Includes all rules needed for play, plus Triaxian CA and DD SSDs.

#6: Introduction to three new simulator races: Britanian, Canadi'en, and Barbarian.

Star Fleet Times:

#1: Gorn, Rom fast cruisers; Custom Ship Design System.

#2: Thol, ISC maulers; D5 squadron SSD; MON scenario.

#3: Romulan Saberhawk SSD; CDS expansion rules.

#4: Humor issue with 4 weird ships.

#5: Tournament issue (tactics for new tournament ships).

#6: Origins report; Quality Campaign Design article; Canadi'en non-mauler heavy cruiser SSD.

#7: SFB campaign rules, Deltan war destroyer SSD.

#8: Legendary officers, Fed carrier hybrid SSDs.

#9: Scary ships: Andromedan Shiva, Rom Megahawk,

Lyrans SSCS, Fed CVN (72 fighters!).

#10: More legendary officers, two Barbarian SSDs.

#11: Naval Construction Dock and Warp Gate SSDs.

#12: Fiction, F&E Production Wheel, Flivver carrier group.

#13: 4 more humorous ships including Fed police mauler.

#14: Bombers and fighter-bombers (*really* big fighters).