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The December 2011 Holiday Party

## Year in Review-2011 for the USS Storm

By Captain David Sladky, Commanding Officer, USS Storm

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

That quote from a *Tale of Two Cities* really sums up how the year went for our chapter. During this last year, we the best of times was had in covering a lot of ground in holding events and in promoting our ship and **STARFLEET** to the South Jersey area, but the worst of times have to be some of the most strange and scary events to ever hit New Jersey that I can recall: having an earthquake, a hurricane and several tornadoes hit South Jersey, all in the same week! Sobering things like the loss of life due to random acts of violence or how our men and women in the military face danger every day to ensure the safety and security of our country also occurred, but the Storm weathered all of this and pushed forward to create some of the best times of the year.

Our year started by collecting money for the *Polar Bear Plunge* (which benefits the Special Olympics) in February, followed by having our chapter's *Launch Party* in March, recruiting more members during our *Meeting and Mixer Event* in April, and enjoying our *First Annual Bar-B-Que* in June. In July, some of our members attended the *Shore Leave Science Fiction Convention* in Towson, Maryland, where it was announced we won "Shakedown Chapter of the Year of 2010" for **SFI's Region 7**, and later that month we held our first *Game Day* in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Two members attended the *2011 STARFLEET International Conference* in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania in August, while in September we picked up a new member at our first *Marine Brunch* at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant in Vineland, New Jersey. October was a busy month; we donated to the *Juvenile Diabetes Walk*, sponsored a family for the *21Down's Buddy Walk*, held our first *Star Trek Day* at the Eagleview Health Center in Pittsgrove, New Jersey, and hosted the *R7 Halloween Party* - raising 65 pounds of food for the local food bank and 25 new toys for *Toys for Tots*. (We) went to the *R7 Command Summit* in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey in November, and at the time of the writing of this article, December is bringing the Storm's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Holiday party. . . and I wonder why I am tired. . .

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#### Upcoming Convention:

### Farpoint 2012

Dates: February 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Location: The Crowne Plaza Baltimore North

Timonium, Maryland 21093



#### Upcoming Convention:

### SHORE LEAVE 34

Dates: August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Location: Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn

Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031



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**Movie Review and Preview**

by LtCol Robert DiMatteo



**Movie Review of THE THING**

In 1951, the Howard Hawks' classic *The Thing From Another World* was released and in 1982, about 30 years later, John Carpenter gave us *The*

*Thing*. In October 2011, roughly 30 years later, we have the newly released Matthijs van Heijningen, Jr. version of the film. But in an attempt to not mess with perfection, the newest remake isn't a remake at all. *The Thing* tells the story of the events that lead up to the 1982 version of the film. If you're a fan of sci-fi/horror, this film is an excellent choice. Due to be released on DVD on 01/31/12.

**Movie Preview of BATTLESHIP**



From the director of Hancock comes an epic sci-fi naval battle for the fate of the Earth. Peter Berg produces and directs *Battleship*, an action/adventure that unfolds across the seas, in the skies and over land

as our planet fights for survival against a superior force. This film is being listed as "based on the popular Hasbro game", but don't let that throw you off. From all the available pictures and trailers, it appears to be very much a sci-fi action-adventure film along the lines of Independence Day. I am definitely looking forward to watching the crew of the USS John Paul Jones face-off against this unknown threat, whether they be otherworldly or terrestrial. *Battleship* is scheduled to be released in theatres 5/18/12.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**December 2011**

MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 C	21 H	22 A	23 N	24 N	25 Christmas U
26 K	27 A	28 H	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	

**January 2012**

						1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 King Pin Bowling
9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 MLK Day	18	19	20	21	22 Marine Meeting
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**February 2012**

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Farpoint & Katsucan	18 Farpoint & Katsucan	19 Farpoint & Katsucan
20 Shoreleave Day	21	22	23	24	25	26 Marine Meeting
27	28	29				

**Activities:**

**December:**

- 11<sup>th</sup> - Storm Meeting 10am at Cosmopolitan
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Marine Meeting 10am at Cosmopolitan
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Storm Party 12pm at Cosmopolitan
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Toys for Tots drop off day
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Star Trek Day for Eagleview 2pm

**January:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Storm Meeting 6pm at King Pin Bowl
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Bowling at 7pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Marine Meeting 10am at Cosmopolitan

**February:**

- 12<sup>th</sup> - Storm Meeting ?? at TBA
- 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> - Farpoint 2012 (Sat @ 9 am is the SFI meeting)
- 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> - Katsucan 18
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Marine Meeting 10am at Cosmopolitan

**Upcoming Conventions:**

- Farpoint Feb 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>
- Katsucan Feb 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>
- Balticon May 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>
- Shoreleave Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

From the XO by VADM Larry Neigut (continued from page 2)

to do something I told myself I wouldn't do again... take the center seat. It's not on the Storm, but a correy chapter, the USS Robert E. Lee, NCC 74225, Defiant Class. Our VRR is complete and is being mailed to Captain Sladky as I write this.

We will be taking advantage of the Accelerated Shakedown Program, so we should be an official chapter in Region 7 in 7 months. If you are interested in joining us, let Dave or myself know. If you join the new Shuttle Robert E. Lee, you can still participate with the Storm, as she is our mothership. We will plan many events together.

Well, the hour grows late and I must make something to eat before I pass out.

Happy New Year!

VADM Larry Neigut

CO, USS Robert E. Lee

XO, USS Storm (for a little while longer, anyway)

**Promotions:**

By order of the Promotion board, Chief Of Security Hector Santiago has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Congratulations!

**Newest Members:**

- Ed Dougherty
- Jason Dane Campbell
- Paul Rezac
- Tony Fantauzzi
- Robert Doyle, IX

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### Chief Engineer's Report

by Paul Rezac, Chief Engineer, USS Storm

My fellow shipmates,  
So much has been going on it ain't funny.

First, I finally found a job working for a local fast food Mexican restuarant. I work nights so I can stay at home with the kids during the day. Never have worked fast food before, so this ought to be interesting. I work out of Crete, Nebraska, my hometown, about 20 miles due east of where I live.

Second. As many of you have heard, we are starting a new chapter. I have been persuaded to become said soon-to-be vessel's XO! Hard to believe that I'm going from a newbie to a real somebody in such a short amount of time on both ships. Not sure how many more newsletters I will be doing here, but that's alright. I plan on staying with the Storm as long as I am allowed. I got the OCC exam emailed to me, but I want to take my time and get it done right the first time.

Now onto the stuff I should really be writing about, our ship! Things here are doing well. So well, in fact we are about to give birth! The shuttle has turned out fantastically, and is under way. It will become a Defiant-Class vessel named the U.S.S. Robert E. Lee. Don't worry, Captain, I am making sure your baby is being well taken care of while I do double duty. Heck, even the Disco Room is all functional for ya so you can boogy down for our launch party. I have been re-reading *Mr. Scott's Guide to the Enterprise* and the *Starfleet Technical Manual*. Those babies will help me out a little more so I can keep our ship in top notch condition.

Well, that is about it for now.  
Hope to write even more good news for ya'll next time.

Your Chief,  
1LT Paul J. Rezac  
Chief Engineer, USS Storm  
(soon to be) XO, USS Robert E. Lee

