

# Official U.S.S. Raven Newsletter



## "Nevermore"

Nov/Dec

2001



## New Editor/Same Staff

The Counselor is the new editor and this is her first newsletter. She would like to hear what you think. Any suggestions, Ideas, or Articles for the next edition would be nice. Each one will have an editor's question. All responses will be published in the next edition. (Subject to editing of content and length). The first editor's question is what is your review of Earth the Final Conflict one of the last Dreams of Gene?

## Captain Report

I have been working on getting a lot done since the last newsletter. I have gotten the Raven Website submitted to over 80 thousand submission sites. Also, two groups of Raven members have gone to the Maryland Renaissance Faire. The away team I commanded enjoyed themselves. I won some of the games I played. Our group's winnings kept one happy crewmember in free drinks all day. I got a woody, (a small piece of wood with a heart on it), that I won throwing large axes at targets. The free drinks were won throwing hand axes. The group had fun and spent a lot of money. Grin. I had hoped that we would enjoy the Faire with the Phoenix. The day started off cloudy and the sun came out. I am glad to see the big turn out at the meetings since the last communication. With more active members participating we will have more fun. Also I would like to welcome our new member Mary Kokoszka. I am impressed with her and I think she will become a really active member.

## First Officer Report

This is a short report due to a busy schedule. I have been to the Maryland Octorberfest being held at the Maryland Renaissance Faire this month (Oct) with Chuck Vega and Mike Allen, as well as several furs from the Anthromorphic

Fandom. We had a blast there. I got a new fox marionette dressed in a Puss n' Boots outfit. It was built by Dragonwings.net of Easton Maryland. The three Raven members attending enjoyed samples of spirits offered there.

The last meeting went well. Several issues were discussed however I can't go into detail on them. Farpoint is coming up and looking rather nice. I want to thank Counselor Rowell for working hard to prepare and serve a great meal for the meeting attendees. She it too be applauded for the super efforts. Afterwards, we all headed out for moonlight bowling where the Captain won a \$250 jackpot for bowling a strike.

I want to welcome our new member. Lets all give a warm welcome to Mary Kokoszka. She signed up at the meeting and joined the chapter and IFT on the spot. I hope several other prospects join up and see what a great crew and ship we have here. I am glad to see it. William Dickerson is finally back with the ship.

Lastly, I have been practicing my puppetry more now. So far the raccoon puppet is under construction by the puppet builder in Virginia. He will be done by Christmas. I also have a fur suit or mascot being made. I will be mascotting more next year with the regional Fursuiters in the fandom around the tri-state area. Chuck is considering having one made in the form of a wolf. My puppet collection has grown lately with the addition my marionette fox named Sir Foxtrot. He is my first string puppet and I am learning to use him. I have so far learned to walk him and make some body movements. These puppets aren't easy to operate. My custom fox puppet, like I said, is being built and will be used in cabaret acting. I plan to use him and others at the Raven outside functions starting next year.

Oops, I need to say my new email address is now [puppetpaws@home.com](mailto:puppetpaws@home.com) . I do not have the AOL account anymore. If you need to contact me please go by the new email address.

# Geo 6's Latest Report

GEO Monthly Report

GEO: GEO 6

Commander: Captain Gerald H. Borleis

Report Period: September 2001

Date Prepared: 20 October 2001

Ships in Area:

USS Angstadt, USS Cochrane, USS Defender,  
USS Endeavor, USS Harmony, USS John W. Comish,  
USS Millennium, USS Pakyian, USS Phoenix,  
USS Prospect, USS Quasar, USS Raven

The month has been a slow one for the GEO Ops. Do in part to the recent events. I would like some direction on the Newsletter awards. When is the correct time to be reviewing them and is there someone who could help with the review? I am not an expert on literature, not even very good at it. Sorry this is a little late, I was hoping to hear from the Cochrane. I haven't heard anything from them this month.

Angstadt -- Bake sale in front of K-mart. Raised \$81.25 Crew picnic with members and friends at CO's home. Recycling project. Crew got permission to gather soda can tabs at an auction for our ongoing project. Two large baggies were filled. We now plan to place boxes at other events to request soda can tabs so we will no longer have to remove the tabs ourselves. Donated soda tabs to Hershey Medical Center. Four crew members went together to donate blood, two of which donated plasma. Movie night - spaghetti dinner at CO's home. Chapter donated \$50 to the Red Cross Crew held Sci-fi writers group at the local library. Four non-crewmembers attended. Role playing night - AD&D Chapter donated \$25 to Rheems Fire Company fundraiser for NY tragedy. Crew got together for WWF night and dinner at CO's home. Two members worked on special Halloween edition newsletter.

\*Cochrane - Been busy with medterms and working on getting installation in the house. Still going to the Vulkan convention in Strongsville Ohio.

Defender -- Budget Meeting Held, Discussed Next Crew's Night Out, Discussed Next Charity Drive, Discussed Next Fundraiser, Watched ST:TNG Episodes via TNN (5 Day Mission), Discussed Possibility of Writing a Trek-Based Story, Continued Website Renovation, Continued Construction of Newsletter - New Edition

Endeavor - Meeting and work on the Toys for Tots program.

Harmony -- After a small turn out at the previous meetings we had a good turn out for our event at Shriners Hospital. The local Fox network backed out but then we just were not big news right then. But that is not important, the kids had fun playing games with our participation. There was even a game of jeopardy where we supplied a category giving clues to name the planets.

John W. Comish - September meeting Cancelled, due to work schedule conflicts. Lots of fund raising/charitable donations to report. Raised \$65 for Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (unable to participate in walk though, due to illness on my part, and work conflicts on Commander Molnar's part.), Also, since the events of September 11, the crew has been active in donating money, and clothing items to the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and United Way. United way and Red Cross donations totalling \$150 crew wide (and still continuing), and Salvation Army has received 5 bags of clothing donations. Members making donations are as follows: David Stayduhar, Kat Stayduhar, David Molnar, Dria Howlett, Christina Carstatter, Bill Heigel. (no reports from other members.) Also,

Honorary member, Leslie Fish, reports that there is a Filk CD/songbook? in the works which will have proceeds (when finished) donated to the relief fund.

Millennium -- Discussed web site, news letter, and the up coming Memory Walk. The new Star Trek series and the upcoming convention.

Pakyian -- Four meetings. Several members of our chapter volunteered their services at a local Renaissance festival. Two of our chapter members signed up as volunteers to aid in the recovery of victims of the tragedy in New York, and also the local attack at Somerset

Phoenix -- role playing, flea market at wor wic community college, ship meeting , social at the park, renaissance festival, magic the gathering card game, bake sale at acme, pizza party for Enterprise, road clean up.

Prospect -- Captain tried to give blood on Sept 1, was successful in giving on Sept 17. Attended World Con Masquerade on 1st won best in show. Attended the Hugos - Jack Williamson, Gardner Duzois and Bob Eggleston and J.K. Rowling won Hugos as did Flying Tiger Hidden Dreams. In fact Bob won 2. Had a meeting at Debs house. Bucktails served as co-color guard at the Veteran's Memorial Dedication in Mansfield. They were the color guard at the 1890's parade - had 4 Prospect members walking with us. Deb was on call for Red Cross Disaster for weekends in September. Helped the Salvation Army collect money for NY at Walmarts after the Veterans dedication.

Quasar - Julie Mayer wrote two letters for our nursing home talent show project. They will be sent to the appropriate people before the end of the month. They have been discussing what charity they would like to raise money for in our raffle. Mark Noel and Ellen took a trip to attend the 35th anniversary Slanted Fedora convention in Las Vegas. They hope to make an email address and work on raffle project this month.

Raven - Crew Dinning Out, Teleconference about USS Raven By-Laws, Press Release, Raven Charity: Crew raised +\$250.00 at American Heart Walk. USS Raven booth – Handed out coloring books (Donated By Raven), Crew Luncheon, Captain provides transportation for crew to USS Raven events, Newsletter distributed to crew, Saturday Afternoon Cookout, Monthly Meeting, Computer Fair, Crew viewing of new *ENTERPRISE* series, Crew interviewed by Dover Post of Delaware on new *ENTERPRISE* series, Charity Drive meeting (Disaster Charity)

\* Denotes ships reporting late.

Captain Gerald H. Borleis  
GEO 6 Commanding Officer  
Qapla'  
Capt. Jerry Borleis  
Captain, U.S.S. Millennium  
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# Treasure Report

**Ahoy there, this is the Treasurer's report for the month of October. As of 9/19/01 our ending balance is \$56.50. If anybody has any good ideas for fund raising I would be happy to hear them. Bake sales are always good but new things are just as fun and add a little variety. It keeps people interested in the fund raising. We have some operating costs coming up that allow us to keep our non-profit status so some fund raising is going to be necessary real soon. Any ideas can be sent directly to me at [simon1081@aol.com](mailto:simon1081@aol.com). I will then discuss them with the Captain to see what would be feasible. Thanks for your time and have a fine day.**

**Joe Simon**

# Counselor's couch

Hi Everyone!

In the past month the Raven Crew has been busy with a variety of events. We attended the Maryland Renaissance Fest twice, went moonlight bowling, and relaxed with a night of games and conversation. Future events include the Philadelphia Slanted Fedora Convention the weekend of November 16<sup>th</sup> and the Farpoint Convention in February.

The day I attended the Maryland Ren Fest started off stormy with gray skies, wind and cold temperatures. By the time the rain stopped we were entering the gates and by mid afternoon we had a beautiful sunny, warm day to enjoy our journey to into the past. There were many interesting shops to visit and several enjoyable games to play. We had bronze coins crafted featuring a Raven on one side and the "Rose of Kiev," (a symbol of world unity), on the other. We enjoyed a Renaissance lunch and attended a jousting match as well. We had a great day and those in attendance were all glad they decided to participate.

The game night was a fun night of trivia and conversation. We munched on a variety of appetizers and tested each others meddle at remembering Star Trek plots, characters, and details. We discussed various ideas in the realm of science fiction, and generally enjoyed a relaxing evening of camaraderie. The winner of the trivia game, good going Joe, took home a prize. We are looking forward to planning more of these events in the future.

The Captain, Lieutenant Commander Ellingsworth, and myself will attend the November convention. We are looking forward to a great line up of stars including but not limited to Gates McFadden, Denise Crosby, Brent Spiner, and Wil Wheaton. There

will be a dinner party on Saturday night where two of the stars perform, (in this instance Brent and Gates), after which all of the other stars circulate and give convention attendees a chance to mingle and take pictures with them. Slanted Fedora cons, while a little pricey, are always worth attending.

If you haven't made your reservation for Farpoint it is time to do so. We have rooms reserved, but the spaces will not be available forever. George Takei will be setting aside a special time to spend with IFT members. It should be a very enjoyable visit. George is very personable and easy to talk to. This is one convention all Raven members should attend. If you buy your tickets through IFT the cost is \$40 for the weekend. Those sharing the rooms will divide the room rate between them. For more information about the rooms contact Lieutenant Allen.

On a final note I'd like to welcome our new member Mary Kokoszka. It was a pleasure meeting her, and I look forward to her company at many more events. If anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Counselor Gale Rowell  
Counselor@ussraven.org

## Historian's Report

### **Big Ted and Gene's Vision**

Two submarines, two cruisers, four destroyers, one frigate, three assault ships, a support ship, 85 aircraft including three F-18 class squadrons, an F-14 squadron, plus assorted helicopters and radar planes, and other aircraft.

And Big Ted.

“Walk softly and carry a Big Stick.” President Theodore Roosevelt.

With 5,500 personnel, a four and a half acre flight deck, cruising at upwards of thirty knots, with its above listed battle group CVN 71 the USS Theodore Roosevelt is a big stick.

Gene Roddenberry evidently believed that statement as well. In Wartime and Peacetime.

Yes he knew war. Knew it well. A winner of the Distinguished Flying Cross for almost a hundred combat missions as a WWII bomber pilot, Captain Roddenberry was a great military pilot. However, the 'friendly skies' of the post war world didn't suit him. So he wandered a bit until he found himself a member of the LAPD. Where one's job was to maintain the peace. While carrying a big stick, and a revolver.

Roddenberry's vision of Star Trek was not the wide-eyed idealism some have made it out to be. The ENTERPRISE was armed, they fought battles, killing people and blowing stuff up. But in almost every case, force was the last resort. From the Original Series through Next Generation under Roddenberry, the choice made by those flying the flag of Star Fleet was choose to negotiate rather than fight. But if there was a fight to be had...

"I didn't start this war, but I'm liable to finish it." Kirk 'A Taste of Armageddon'

The various lead characters of all of Roddenberry's series never seemed to go looking for trouble. Even EARTH: Final Conflict and today's ANDROMEDA, they did not go out looking for a fight.

This may be directly related to Roddenberry's war experience. Everybody knew war was coming. He and several friends even joined the Army Air Corp in July of '41 (he had gotten his pilot's license the year before). But the US was still promoting peace until a fateful Sunday Morning in December of that year.

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." -FDR

America and her people have been, through MOST of our history... yeah... Most of our history... have not gone around looking for a fight. There have been instances where 'pre-emptive action' was called for to avoid a more serious situation later. But for the majority of the USA's 225 years, the country did not react in force unless first attacked.

Japanese Imperial Admiral Yamamoto predicted that his country would essentially have the run of the Pacific for about six months after they attacked Pearl Harbor. But then they would ultimately suffer defeat.

"We have awakened a sleeping giant and have instilled in him a terrible resolve"

He knew America well, he had been over here as military attache, he had seen the people and the industrial might of the country. He had counseled the Emperor against open warfare. But ordered to plan and lead the attack, he did.

Historically those that have challenged America have always underestimated our willingness to do what was required to restore our country to peace.

Maybe in this case those that ordered and planned the Attack of September eleventh have been watching the TV talk shows. Listening to the people that get on Jerry Springer and watching the commercials that show American men as stumbling idiots and American women as hopeless shop-aholics.

Perhaps they have read in the papers about how Americans are all worried about irradiated meat in the supermarkets or whether or not a student led prayer at a sporting event was to be allowed. Americans are more concerned about saving the three-toed toad than defending themselves. Citizens of the USA wring their hands about who was being voted off 'Survivor' and weren't worried about a few irrational glory-seeking Islamic extremists.

And we weren't. until the second plane hit

In that moment. Broadcast world-wide on TV.

America. That sleeping giant of 1941.

Was reawakened.

Years before, men like the writer Gene Roddenberry, a bright-eyed man from Boston named John F. Kennedy, Strom Thurmond, an army colonel at the time, an actor by the name of Ronald Reagan, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., and innumerable others joined the fight against evil.

Roddenberry's dream of a brighter future did not go down on a hijacked airliner, or in the fires of the collapsing buildings they struck.

No it didn't.

If anything, it was made even stronger.

Yes, we are looking forward to a better future, to that great adventure. People like the cowards who send others to die while promising them the first seat in heaven will not get in the way of that dream. They will not kill it. They will not stop it. That sleeping giant that they have slapped awake will see to that. And Big Ted and his friends is just one of the Big Sticks the Giant is carrying.

Every week, no matter what happened the week before, every episode of Roddenberry's first look at that future began with the same idealistic, hopeful speech. During the episode, somebody might die, a madman might try to hijack a starship, an evil menace would raise its head to challenge them, but by the end of the hour, they returned to that vision, that goal.

Real life is not as simple as a 'one hour morality play'. But it can be a model for life.

Evil has reared up in our face, madmen have struck, people have died. We must defeat it. Defeat them. Then and only then, however long it takes, can we return to that vision and pursue that goal.



"Space...the final frontier. These are the voyages of the Starship Enterprise, its five-year mission

...to explore strange new worlds  
...to seek out new life and new civilizations  
...to boldly go where no man has gone before."

Gene Roddenberry, 1966

Selah

# The Technology Corner

By: Ensign Michael Allen

## MAJOR SCAMS:

On September 11<sup>th</sup> this country experienced a horrific tragedy when we witnessed two commercial planes crash into the World Trade Towers. With great sorrow, I pray that those that were affected can find the strength to continue the American way of life. As I thought of the pain, I could never conceive what would happen next. I found the scum of the earth taking advantage of the Internet and email to propagate the fear of terrorism. Be smart by staying informed. These scams are 100% false.

SCAM 1: An email from a woman who claims that a friend of a friend had an Afghani boyfriend who disappeared shortly before the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. She received a letter from him on September 10 begging her not to fly on any commercial airliners on September 11th and to stay away from shopping malls on Halloween, October 31st.

SCAM 2: Do Not Open Blue Envelopes in your U.S. Mail ONCE YOU HAVE READ THIS PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL YOU KNOW. This is from Schwab corporate headquarters-so it's no joke. Very scary. Be careful Just when you thought you were safe, now we have the following to deal with...please read, it definitely is a serious threat to our lives and health. This is an alert about a virus in the original sense of the word...one that affects your body, not your hard drive. There have been 23 confirmed cases of people attacked by the Kingerman Virus, a virus that arrives in your real mailbox, not your e-mail box.

Please check out these credible resources:

Sophos Virus Hoaxes: [www.sophos.com/virusinfo/hoaxes](http://www.sophos.com/virusinfo/hoaxes)  
Norton AntiVirus Center: [www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html](http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html)  
Department of Energy: [HoaxBusters.ciac.org/](http://HoaxBusters.ciac.org/)  
The Virus List: [www.viruslist.com/eng/default.asp](http://www.viruslist.com/eng/default.asp)

## ATA-100 RAID

As computer users add more hard drive space to their systems and collect numerous pictures, music or data files. It has become harder to maintain and duplicate these files for safekeeping due to the massive size. In the past many users found they could inexpensively backup selective important information by using floppy disc, DAC tape backup, Zip drives, optical drives, compact disc and DVD writer systems. But these systems were never able to fully backup system file in order to fully restore a home computer without rebuilding the operating system. Recently a new, inexpensive product has come onto the market that will do just that for the home user. The ATA-100 PCI RAID card can provide superior means to backup data without the lost of a single data cluster. RAID stands for Redundant Array of Independent.

RAID technology is not exactly new to the computer industry, as SCSI RAID systems first came out in the early 80's allowing the first backup capability for a very expensive price tag. Most SCSI RAID systems run around \$4,000 to \$5,000 which included three (3) 10 gigabyte SCSI hard drives within a hot swappable bay and a controller card. These systems gave excellent capability for those the could afford the price range with was out of reach of the average home user.

A RAID system functions by stripping or duplicating bits of data clusters from one hard drive to one of the other hard drives within the unit. When a hard drive dies, the user would pull the bad drive and replace with another. In many cases the system senses the new drive and begins to rebuild the new to original state without shutting down the system. Sound pretty simple but exactly when such a system demands certified matched drives. This made SCSI RAID systems very expensive to maintain because the operator would be forced to keep spare drives on the shelf or replaced all the drives with newer technology.

So what makes ATA-100 RAID a vast improvement over its big brother SCSI RAID? For starters the controller card and swab bay cost are a quarter the price of SCSI. Secondly, the ATA-100 hard drive cost is much lower, while giving almost the same performance as the SCSI. Third, the ATA-100 drive does not need to be even matched or even the same size in order to make stripping or RAID to function. Lastly, ATA-100 RAID can be setup in a manner to make all installed hard drives appear as one drive within the operating system. Overall a 120-gigabyte ATA-100 RAID system will cost the average home user around \$500 - \$750 to provide the best, reliable, and efficient backup system.

I found a few companies that provide this product a varying prices and capabilities as a stand-alone PCI Card or installed on the motherboard.

Adaptec – ATA RAID 2400A PCI Controller Card, avg. price: \$189.00

Web site: <http://www.adaptec.com/worldwide/product/proddetail.html?prodkey=AAR-2400A&cat=%2fTechnology%2fRAID%2fRAID+for+Entry-Level+Servers+or+Workstations>

Promise Technologies – Ultra ATA/100 RAID PCI Controller Card, avg. price: \$109.00

Web Site: <http://www.promise.com/ATARaid/>

Highpoint – HPT370 PCI Dual Ch UDMA/ATA 100 RAID Controller Card, avg. price: \$112.00

Web Site: <http://www.highpoint-tech.com/hpt370.htm>

Abit – ATA-100 RAID on Motherboard, avg. price: \$150-250.00

Web Site: <http://www.abit.com.tw/>

Iwill - ATA 100 IDE RAID PCI Controller Card (High Point HPT370), avg. price: \$89.00

Web Site: [http://www.neoseeker.com/Articles/Hardware/Reviews/iwill\\_ata100/](http://www.neoseeker.com/Articles/Hardware/Reviews/iwill_ata100/)

**USS RAVEN TENTATIVE  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p>“Voyager Farewell Party” Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. Captain’s House</p> <p><b>JUNE</b></p> <p>Dover Downs Race Fundraiser Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dover Downs Raceway</p> <p>USS Raven Yard Sale – Fundraiser - Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - Dover, DE 7 a.m. – 12 noon</p> <p>Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Golden Corral 6 p.m.</p> <p>Relay for Life – American Cancer Society – Poly Tech High School, Woodside, DE Friday &amp; Saturday – June 15 &amp; 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>JULY</b></p> <p>Meetings: July 11<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> - Saturday</p> <p>Shoreleave – Hunt Valley, MD Fri, Sat, &amp; Sun. – July 13-15th</p> <p align="center"><b>AUGUST</b></p> <p>Meetings: August 8<sup>th</sup> -Wednesday August 18<sup>th</sup> - Saturday</p> <p>PA. Renaissance Fair – PA. Saturday, August 18th</p> <p>USS Raven Birthday – Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> Captain’s House</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p> <p>Meetings: September 12<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup> - Saturday</p> <p>American Heart Walk – Saturday, September, Dover, DE</p> <p>Thunder n Dover Parade – Thursday, September 20, Dover, DE</p> <p>Dover Downs Fundraiser – Saturday Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dover , DE</p> <p><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p>Meetings: October 10<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday October 20<sup>th</sup> – Saturday Game Night</p> <p>Halloween – Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>NOVEMBER</b></p> <p>Meetings: November 14<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday November 17<sup>th</sup> - Saturday</p> <p>Slanted Fedora – Nov. 16,17,18<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p>Meetings: December 12<sup>th</sup>- Wednesday December 1st - Saturday</p> <p>USS RAVEN Christmas Party – Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – Captain’s House</p>
<p>Charities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	<p>Note Changes</p>