



JUST KIDDING

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

FROM THE READY ROOM

Just a reminder:

Ship's Meetings occur on the first Saturday of the month at 10:30am. (September's will be Physically, we'll be at the Decatur (TX) Public Library. Online, we'll be in our ISS Kidd Discord Server – if you need an invite, drop an email to us at STARSHIPKIDD@GMAIL.COM.

Everyone is welcome either physically or electronically.

Meeting schedule for the rest of the year:

	October 1
	November 5
	December 3
	January 7

I would like to have our **ship's annual awards** at either the December or the January meeting. At the same time, I'd like to have the 340th to give their annual awards.

By the way, if you're NOT a STARFLEET Marine, and you'd like to be, please let us know. (By "us," I mean Kelly, Sarah, or myself.) You'll have to change something in your member entry in the Database.

We're looking for a new First Officer. Sarah decided to surrender her role as my Exec, because of Reasons.

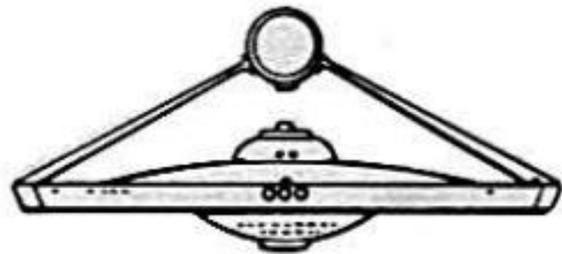
To qualify as First Officer, STARFLEET requires you to be at least eighteen years of age and to take (and pass) OTS and OTC from STARFLEET Academy (log in at <https://es.sfi.org/academy/login/index.php>)

I can promise that I will try not to overtax anyone who becomes my Executive Officer.

JOIN STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL

Membership Application: <http://join.sfi.org>

- Individual: \$5 per year
- Family (2): \$9 per year
- Family (3): \$12 per year
- Family (4): \$14 per year



EXPERIENCE POINTS

As of Stardate 2208.22...

- | | |
|---|---|
|  | Col Kelly Hays has 27xp |
|  | MGN Tank Clark has 20xp |
|  | Col. Sarah Hays has 19xp |
|  | CMDR Perry Brulotte & CMDR Tracy Clark have 14xp (each) |
|  | Col. Noble Hays has 4xp |
|  | MID Robert Hill & PO2 Lora Weems each have 2xp |
|  | ... and everyone else has 1xp or fewer. |

"What's a Stardate?"

In Star Trek, a stardate was a date in a variety of systems employed by the United Federation of Planets and other societies. It was usually expressed as a number of digits with a decimal separator, e.g., 5928.5 or 2263.02

Stardates were first portrayed in the Original Series (TOS) episode: "Where No Man Has Gone Before", the second pilot for the series. Dave Eversole notes that the first draft of the teleplay (dated May 27, 1965) includes "Captain's Log, Report 197." In addition, Star Trek Fact Check shows a scripted narration from the same draft containing "star date 1312.6". This became "star date 1312.4" by the final revised draft (July 8, 1965), which also asks for "C-1277.1 to 1313.7" to appear on Kirk's gravestone.

By the time Star Trek fandom got seriously under way, fans were making their own version of stardates, using the last two digits of the year, the two-digit month, a decimal point, and the day of the month. For example, December 5, 1967 would be written as 6712.05.

In the first Star Trek roleplaying game produced by FASA, in the early 1980s used "reference stardates". However, they prefixed a digit and a slash to represent the century, starting with the year 2000, so January 1, 2000, was 0/0001.01 and the Organian Peace Treaty was signed on 2/0801.24, or January 24, 2208, according to Star Trek Spaceflight Chronology. Preceding centuries are negative, so the first episode of TOS aired -1/6609.08.

This is the system I use, so today as I type this it is 0/2208.22.

For the series that would come to be known as Star Trek: The Next Generation, Gene Roddenberry was intent on demystifying stardates, joking in his notes of May 14, 1986 that "In the original series, Stardates were determined by a complex formula

based on the distance from Earth multiplied by the Producer's birthday."

In the Star Trek: The Next Generation Writer's/Director's Guide of March 23, 1987 (p. 13): "A stardate is a five-digit number followed by a decimal point and one more digit. Example: "41254.7." The first two digits of the stardate are always "41." The 4 stands for 24th century, the 1 indicates first season. The additional three leading digits will progress

unevenly during the course of the season from 000 to 999. The digit following the decimal point is generally regarded as a day counter."

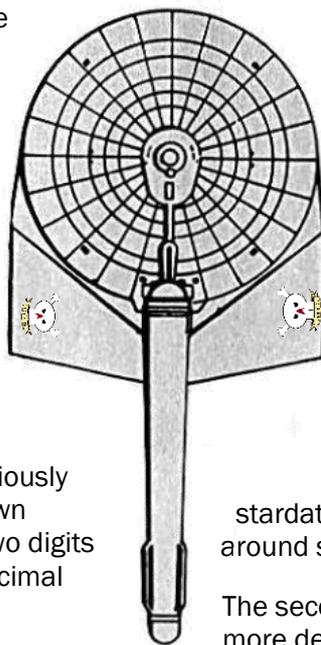
As in TOS, stardates from the first season of TNG would sometimes decrease with time. In one noticeable example Tasha Yar's death occurs around 41601.3 (TNG: "Skin of Evil"), but she was alive in episodes with greater stardates such as "The Big Goodbye", set around stardate 41997.7.

The second season revision included more detailed text regarding the decimal place, reiterating The Original Series rule:

"A Stardate is a five-digit number followed by a decimal point and one more digit. Example: "42254.7". The first two digits of the Stardate are always "42." The 4 stands for 24th Century, the 2 indicates second season. The additional three leading digits will progress unevenly during the course of the season from 000 to 999. The digit preceding the decimal point counts days, and the digit following the decimal point counts one-tenth of a day." [7]

By the sixth season, "consecutively" had replaced "unevenly" from the above quote, consistent with the lack of decreasing stardates in later seasons of TNG.

This dating scheme is consistent through DS9, Voyager, and Lower Decks, and even in Discovery's future time.



UNIFORMS

During the last couple of meetings, we discussed uniforms. ISS Kidd does NOT require uniforms, nor does the ship require any certain type of uniform. If you want to wear a jumpsuit from *Star Trek: Enterprise*, or a uniform from *The Next Generation*, *Voyager*, *Deep Space Nine*, *Lower Decks*, *Star Trek: Prodigy*, *Picard*, or even *Discovery*, go for it!

However, in the interest of (*ahem*) uniformity, we decided that our “official” ship’s uniform is the Mirror universe style from TOS, or from Strange New Worlds.¹

The standard Duty Uniform is comprised of the Tunic and Trousers, and accessories and *accoutrements* as discussed below.

Trousers

Original Series Trousers are black in color and a high waist. The trousers have a high, flared hem, and are normally worn unbloused and over the top of the boot.² In the Mirror,



Figure 1: Original Series trousers



Figure 2: SNW Trousers

instead worn with knee high boots – specifically, “Pirate Boots” worn with the cuff turned up.

Strange New Worlds Trousers are black, with two black stripes running down the

outside seam. They are worn tucked into the



boots, both in the Prime universe and in the Mirror.

Option: normally hemmed black dress trousers, which may be worn bloused over boots, tucked into high boots, or unbloused over dress shoes.

Option: normally hemmed black tactical trousers, which may be worn bloused over boots, tucked into high boots, or unbloused over dress shoes.

Option: a kilt, with proper accoutrements (kilt hose with flashes, sporran, etc.) If a kilt is worn, the tunic may be tucked in (Scotty is only seen wearing his kilt with his dress uniform, with the tunic untucked.)

Belt

If there’s a belt worn with the pants, it’s not seen.

¹ By common consensus, the uniforms from Strange New Worlds are considered to be an “upgraded” version of the uniforms worn on the Original Series. In my judgement, the shipboard

uniforms from the Kelvin Timeline movies would also qualify.



Headgear (Cover)

Nothing is shown on the show, and nothing's required. SFMC members may wear the black SFMC beret. A black garrison cap may be worn. A ship's ballcap may also be worn.

Tunic

The tunic (or shirt) is the standard uniform shirt seen in episodes of Star Trek (the Original Series). It is gold, blue, or red in color, as appropriate for one's Division. (In SNW, it's gold (command), red (operations), dark blue (sciences), light blue (medical) or white (also medical, but for nurses). The shirt is worn outside the trousers, not tucked into the waistband. Note: SFMC has a charcoal gray tunic of this style, refer to the current SFMC Uniform Manual for details.

Wear whatever color you want. It's your uniform, after all.

This shirt is available from a variety of vendors. It's also easy to make using a 'pajama top' pattern. The thing that makes it different from most shirts is the way the sleeves attach to the front and the back; that's why the pajama pattern works well.

Spock, in the TOS episode "Mirror, Mirror," wears something different – it looks like he's wearing Dr McCoy's dress uniform shirt with a scarf, or over another tunic... so that's an option, too. (See page 5, below)

The captain is always special, so in that same episode (See pg 3, above) Kirk wore essentially a vest – it looks like the costumers made one of his green wraparound shirts without the sleeves, in sparkly gold, with additional braid on his shoulders. My version is in red, with some nice trim... this is a work in progress!

The Strange New Worlds uniform shirts are also available from a wide variety of vendors, in an equally wide variety of quality. My favorite vendor is "Cosermart", who sells

on eBay as besxiojin³.⁴ The SNW shirts they sell have wonderful quality, but only the gold tunic has rank insignia – and it's for a Captain or Colonel. (The yellow dress has Commander/Lieutenant Colonel) If you want one of their blue or red shirts, you'll have to attach your own rank bands.

Ladies, feel free to wear either the standard tunic/trouser combo or a dress. If you're willing, you can even wear the midriff-baring outfit worn by Uhura... but the dress Number One is wearing in this picture is available from Cosermart, too.

In TOS, the rank braid was a unique metallic gold braid. SNW uses the same insignia for



each grade, but each division seems to wear a different color braid – Operations wears red to match the red color of their shirt, whilst Science wears blue. Command wears gold.

³
https://www.ebay.com/usr/besxiojin? trksid=p2_047675.m3561.l2559

⁴ To see all the Star Trek stuff sold by Cosermart: <https://www.ebay.com/sch/besxiojin/m.html? nkw=& armrs=1& ipg=& from=>

In TOS, the braid should start about two inches from the cuff; SNW wears their braid on the cuff itself.

1. Insignia of grade - Worn on both sleeves, using same format as rank worn in Star Trek (The Original Series) (Next issue, we'll have an article on Starfleet rank insignia.) Gold Braid for Officers of Lieutenants (Junior Grade) and above, and no rank for Ensigns and Enlisted members. Braid is to begin 2" above the Sleeve cuff. Please consult the rank chart in this manual for exact rank to be worn. Non-metallic Braid may be used as long as it is substantially similar to the braid seen on Star Trek.

2. Chest Badge – Instead of the normal insignia worn on the left chest, a Terran Empire symbol – a vertical sword, point down, driven through the Earth – is worn on the right chest. I have several versions of this insignia, ranging from a pin of what was on the doors (see pg 3 above), to the QMX badge based on the TNG Mirror uniform (in comic books), to a magnetic pin from the Discovery Mirror episodes.⁵ On TOS, it was a patch with a plastic or metal pin through it.

3. Decorations – On the left chest, a dizzying array of pins were worn, presumably representing various and sundry awards and decorations. *(These appear to have been notions, brooches, and other assorted baubles unearthed by the costumers on the show.)* Exercise restraint – a person of lower rank and

status will have fewer, and smaller, (or none!) decorations than one of higher rank and status.

The best idea would be to wear the STARFLEET and STARFLEET Marine Corps awards that you've earned – ribbons, branch devices, etc. As is usual, don't wear ALL the branch devices you may be entitled to at once.

4. Sash – Over the waist, a gold sash is worn, "pirate-style." The captain wears his tied on the right side, others on the left. Attached to the sash is the Knife.

Personnel of lower status did not wear the sash. Instead, they wore a black utility belt with the Knife, phaser, and Agonizer attached. It seemed that they also tucked their tunic into their trousers.

Most members of the ship – excepting the senior officers – carried an agonizer. This device, when applied, would cause extreme pain

5. Knife – All members of the crew carried a standard-issue knife. On a female's uniform, the knife may be tucked into a boot top.

In TOS, many guards, followers, or henchmen wore the standard shipboard coveralls with the utility belt. It's not unlikely that a similar uniform is available on Pike's *Enterprise* in SNW, and therefore on a Mirror ship like the Starship *Kidd*.



⁵ <https://fansets.com/>



LET'S CHECK THE PADD...

My yeoman handed me a PADD (Personal Access Display Device), upon which I found the Bridge duty roster for Alpha Shift in September (Ref. Stardate 0/2209):

Officer of the Deck: Col S. Hays

Helm: MID C. Chaisson

Navigation: Ens Otter ^{*6}

Tactical: LT(jg) Solo *

Communications: Lt Cmdr T. Ursus *

Science: PO M. Brulotte

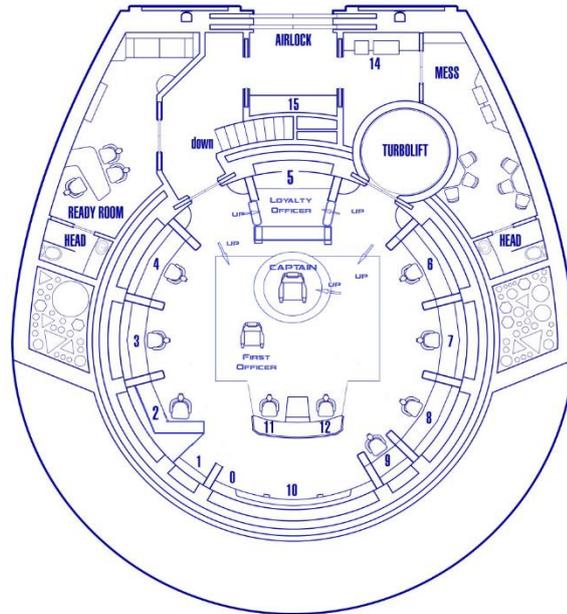
Engineering: MID Robert Hill

Security: Cmdr Tracy Clark

Loyalty Officer: Cmdr Perry Brulotte

Colonels Kelly and Noble Hays are ready pilots for CAP;

MID Drew Chaisson is assigned to Armory rotation;



- 0 DEDICATION PLAQUE
- 1 DAMAGE CONTROL
- 2 TACTICAL
- 3 SCIENCE
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS
- 5 MASTER SYSTEMS DISPLAY
- 6 ENGINEERING
- 7 PROPULSION SYSTEMS
- 8 INTERNAL SECURITY
- 9 AUXILIARY SYSTEMS
- 10 MAIN VIEWSCREEN
- 11 NAVIGATION
- 12 HELM
- 13 COMMANDING OFFICER
- 14 AIRLOCK CONTROL
- 15 SPACESUIT LOCKER

MID Andrew Chaisson and MID Carter Chaisson are on Engineering rotation.

FCAPT Pegues will act as Captain of Operations.

FCAPT Hazelwood will act as Captain of Engineering.



⁶ (Please note, persons labelled with a * are completely fictional. LCDR Ursus is a Star Trek Build-A-Bear, for instance)

IN THE HOLODECK – MOVIE REVIEW

ANNIHILATION

(Review by Commander Tracy Clark)

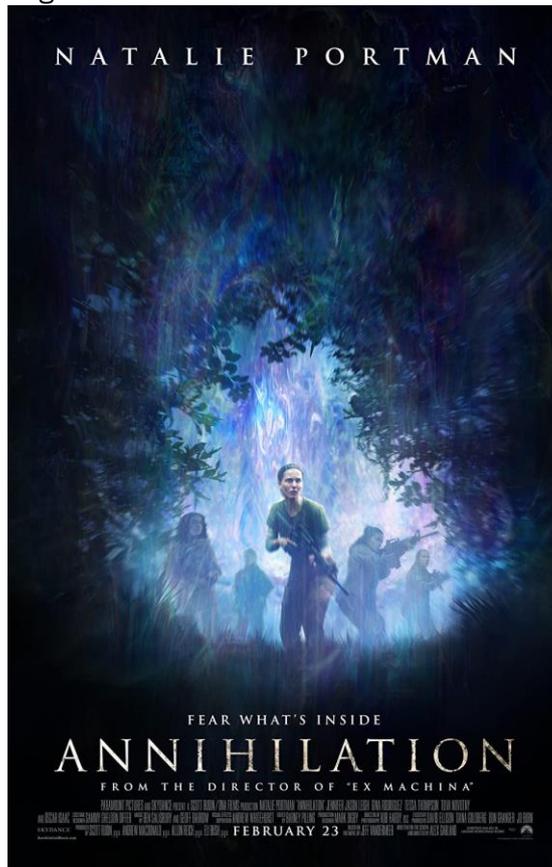
A science-fiction fantasy spiked with horror, “Annihilation” tells a tale of love, death and alien invasion. Set in a future that looks pretty much like today, it focuses on a biologist, Lena (Natalie Portman), who shortly after the movie opens reunites with her husband, who she thought was dead. As he sits in their kitchen, Lena’s surprise gives way to happiness and then to unease. To understand what has happened and why, Lena sets off on a heroic journey thru the “Shimmer”.

The setup turns on one of those alien stories that have come to Earth to wreak havoc and force humans to make bad choices. The foreign body here takes the form of what’s called the shimmer: a glistening, ever-growing force field that has descended on a portion of Florida marshland like an opalescent shower curtain. The shimmer’s whirling pinkish purples and blues suggests there’s something toxic about its beauty. Lena heads off on her own far-out trip soon after arriving at a government building at the edge of the

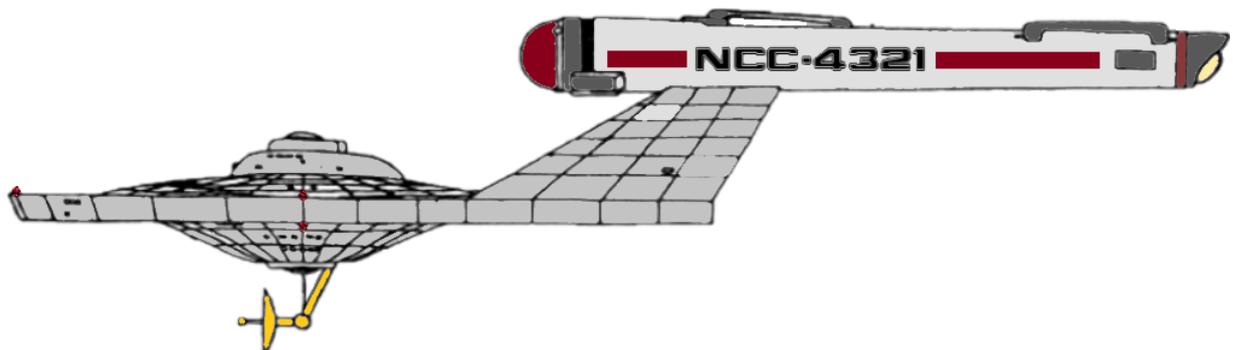
shimmer. There various types of peoples scurry around or stare into computers; some carry guns, others clipboards; still others wear Hazmat suits.

After a banging start the plot fumbles putting pieces in place. The greater, more intense realm in though, is the natural world inside the shimmer, a dense, verdant biosphere filled with animals and plants that are at once familiar and – with their extra bits and trippy hues – pleausably, at times spookily, foreign. In “Annihilation” it’s Lena emerges into a transfigured world filled with terrors, death, eccentric beauty and room for interpretive leeway. She and the other women have been tasked with understanding both the shimmer and why earlier expeditions failed so profoundly.

With Dr. Ventress riding herd, Lena and the others survey the terrain, take samples and fight off threats, including, in time, one another. They also discover a horrific video made by an earlier expedition, a scene that abruptly shifts the movie into a total freakout similar to Lovecraft’s “Color Out of Space”



Overall, I would give it 3 stars for Drama and weirdness.





NEW CREW REVUE

In which we introduce some of our newer members of the ISS Kidd and STARFLEET...

Midshipman Robert Hill

- ❖ Robert joined the ship at the recruiting function held at the Decatur Library on 2207.19. I enjoyed talking with Robert, and I hope to see him at our functions more often.

Midshipman Andrew Chaisson

Midshipman Andy Chaisson

Midshipman Carter Chaisson

Midshipman Cylinda Chaisson

- ❖ Cylinda is employed at Wise County Committee on Aging and has been subjected to Tank's excessive geekiness far too much. She joined the ship on 2207.22, enlisting her husband (Andy), son (Andrew, or Drew), and grandson (Carter) at the same time. The first ship's meeting after joining happened to be on Andy's birthday, so the Chaissons missed the meeting. *After all, Real Life™ takes priority over STARFLEET.*

Petty Officer Second Class Melissa Brulotte

- ❖ Melissa is the wife of our Loyalty Officer, and a *Real Life™* scientist! Her life schedule is such that she may or may not attend any given activity. She initially joined STARFLEET on the USS *Sea Tiger* on Stardate 1501.23 but

took some time away from STARFLEET in order to concentrate on her education and career.

Fleet Captain Amy Pegues

- ❖ In *Real Life™*, Amy is the director of the Wise County Committee on Aging. Amy first joined STARFLEET on Reference Stardate -1/9309.13, and has served on or commanded a plethora of ships over the years.

UPDATED SHIP'S ARTICLES

The ship's articles have been placed on the ship's website, for ease of perusal. Visit the website (starshipkidd.org) and look under the "ABOUT THE KIDD" tab to find the table of contents, or to just go to each individual article, appendix, or the General Orders.



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<http://starfleetkidd.org>



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