

The Good News



The official newsletter
Of the USS Bethel
A member of Starfleet: the international
star trek fan association.



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"The Good News" is produced by the Communications Department of the U.S.S. Bethel. Any material should be forwarded to the following address.

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USS Bethel Home Page
<http://uss.bethel.iwarp.com/>

From the Command Chair

I would like to thank the crew of the Bethel for doing such a great job at the Sci-Fi Expo. You should all give yourselves a pat on the back.

The most interesting thing that happened that weekend was on the Friday night before the show when we arrived at Robyn's house. I showed Robyn a bag with a card game in it & said, "look what I brought", and she said "that's nice what is it". I replied "it's Fizzbin", I nearly went into shock when she asked, "what's Fizzbin". So if you want to see our VRCN blush & try to hide just ask her "what's Fizzbin".

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest members (those that have been with us less than 6 Months) Jan & Allen Agee & Deborah Winters. Vaughn Armstrong who plays the Admiral on Enterprise also agreed to join the Bethel.

FCapt. Joy Flynt
CO U.S.S. Bethel



Upcoming Events

Submitted by
Joy Flynt

March 16-17th Reptile Expo - Irving, TX - Wilson World Hotel - 183 & Valley View.

Thursday the 21st - Sunday the 24th: AggieCon 33 - Presented by MSC Cepheid Variable in the Memorial Student Center at Texas A&M University since 1969, AggieCon is the oldest and largest student run science fiction convention in the U.S.A.

April 14th Fan appreciation day for the Sci-Fi Toy Expo, Plano Convention center Join us for a very special show at the Plano Center in April when admission for this event will be free honoring you, our customers! [Special guests](#) have been invited, we will have movie freebies to distribute, and as always great exhibitors selling and trading collectibles. Make plans now to attend.

Guests include:

James Best - Sheriff Rosco P. Coltrane from Dukes of Hazzard TV Show. First EVER Texas Appearance

Michael Jantze - The Norm comic strip- www.thenorm.com

Jim Toomey - Sherman's Lagoon comic strip - www.slagoon.com

Scott Kurtz - PVP Online comic strip - www.pvponline.com

May 17-19 Sci-Fi Toy Expo, Plano Convention Center The Sci-Fi Expo celebrates 25 years of Star Wars during the release of "Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones"

Guests include:

JANGO FETT ...We are very pleased to announce that Temuera Morrison will be appearing at the 25th Anniversary show in May! A truly great guest for fans of the upcoming Episode II

The Movie Fight Xperience!

We are proud to announce that we will be hosting a very special event at the May 2002 Show. **MFx** features Star Wars/X-Men actor **Ray Park** and Ewan McGregor's stunt double from Episode I, **Andreas Petrides**. They will be performing fights from various movies including the final duel. Lights, music, the works! Don't miss this one!

May 31 – June 3 A-Kon - A-Kon 13 will be held at the Hyatt Regency DFW. Located at the DFW International Airport. Guest: Taliesin Jaffe - Yes, he really is the cute little kid in *Mr. Mom* and *Dr.*

Forrester's son from 2010: *The Year we make contact*. His latest works are those wild performances in *Amazing Nurse Nanako*

June Friday the 7th - Sunday the 9th: Region Three's Summit '02 will be held in Ft Worth, Texas at the Holiday Inn - South. Come enjoy this weekend where the members of Region Three will gather together for this Annual day of panels and social events. The weekend will include a social reception, opening & closing ceremonies, various interactive social events, informative meetings and a variety of educational panels. Site for the presentation of the Annual Region Three Awards and a Congress of Commanding Officers meeting where regional issues will be addressed and resolved, if possible.



HOTEL INFORMATION

The Holiday Inn - South is located at I-35 W and Alta Mesa (100 block) in Fort Worth, Texas. Summit Room rates are \$69/night (plus tax), for Singles and Doubles (1-4 people per room).

Starting 01 July 2001 reservations can be made by calling 1-817-293-3088, must be made by May 01, 2002 to guarantee the Summit 2002 room rate. Reservations made after 01 May 2002 are on a availability only basis at The summit rate.

June 14th Newsletter Articles Due: The newsletter will be published on June 16th, so all articles are due on this date

July 20-21 Reptile Expo - Irving, TX - Wilson World Hotel - 183 & Valley View.

Aug 23-25 Sci-Fi Toy Expo, Plano Convention Center The Sci-Fi Expo presents a Trek Celebration Details Soon

Sept 14-15 Reptile Expo - Irving, TX - Wilson World Hotel - 183 & Valley View.

Oct 11-13 Sci-Fi Toy Expo, Plano Convention Center DallasComicon Electronic Game Expo Horror Expo Fantasy Guests of Honor...

Boris Vallejo - www.borisjulia.com

Julie Bell - www.borisjulia.com

Greg & Tim Hildebrandt - www.brothershildebrandt.com

Media Guests of Honor...

Linda Blair - "The Exorcist" & author of "Going Vegan" - www.lindablair.com

David Carradine- "Kung Fu" - www.davidcarradine.org

Cynthia Rothrock - "China O'Brian" - www.cynthiarothrock.org

Wendee Lee - Voice over actress - www.wendeelee.com

Ben Chapman- "Creature from the Black Lagoon"- [Ben's website](#)

Comic Guests of Honor...

Jimmy Palmiotti

Dan Brereton - www.nocturnals.com

Frank Cho - www.libertymeadows.com

Peter David

Devin Grayson - www.devingrayson.com

Mike Huddleston

Cam Kennedy - www.hollywoodcomics.com/veitch.html

Andy Kuhn

Scott Morse - www.crazyfish.net

Kevin Nowlan

Craig Rousseau - www.craigrousseau.com

John Staton - www.statonidentification.freesevers.com

Tom Veitch - www.hollywoodcomics.com/veitch.html

Mark Wheatley - www.InsightStudiosGroup.com

Amanda Conner

Kurt Busiek

Ernie Colon

Todd Dezago - www.tellos.com

Phil Hester

Tony Isabella - www.wfcomics.com/tony

Karl Kesel

Jim Mahfood - www.40ozcomics.com

Jai Nitz - www.jungleboypress.com

Ande Parks

Beau Smith - www.flyingfistranch.com

Team Red Star - www.theredstar.com

Mark Waid

Mike Wieringo - www.tellos.com

Dec 7-8 Reptile Expo - Irving, TX - Wilson World Hotel - 183 & Valley View.



Science Officer's Report Recent Space Discoveries For the 21st Century

The recent Columbia Space Shuttle mission (STS-109) landed safely in Florida March 12th after successfully completing the mission's objective of servicing the Hubble Space Telescope. This was Columbia's 27th flight and its first since 1999 after undergoing modifications. Columbia's journey marks the fourth shuttle mission to service the Hubble.

The Hubble was designed so astronauts could routinely service it. It has a visionary, modular design which allows the astronauts to take it apart, replace worn parts and upgrade it. The astronauts added upgrades which leaves the Hubble with a new Power Control Unit, a Reaction Wheel Assembly, a new camera, an experimental cooling system and new solar arrays.

The Hubble Space Telescope was launched in 1990 and orbits 600 kilometers above Earth. It works 24/7 to unlock the secrets of the Universe. Without the distortion of our atmosphere and lights, it brings us remarkable views of the Universe that enlightens us to new theories about what's out there.

So, for the first time in history, the search for signs of life is a doable proposition. Only 6 years ago, the first planet around another Sun-like Star was discovered using Doppler Detection – a method that reveals Saturn-sized or larger planets close to their parent suns. Today, we are aware of more than 80 such worlds and more is being found all the time.

Last year, the Hubble detected sodium in the atmosphere of a large alien world orbiting the star HD 209458. The data not only revealed that exo-planets have atmospheres, but also that we can analyze them from a distance.

There have been numerous discoveries lately from Hubble and the Chandra X-Ray Telescope about Brown Dwarfs, failed stars. For example the presence of lithium on some of them. The list is getting longer by the day! In 2006, NASA will launch the Kepler, a telescope capable of detecting earth size planets. Called the Terrestrial Planet Finder (TPF), this space telescope will use a technique called "interferometry" to dramatically reduce the obscuring glare from the planet's parent star, allowing scientists to see the planet itself.

In 2009 The Next Generation telescope (NGST) will be launched. It will replace the Hubble when it retires at the end of this decade. It will weigh but a fraction of the Hubble's weight. The mirror will be collapsed like a flower petal at launch and open up when it reaches its destination, a point in orbit nearly one million miles away from Earth, a place at which the gravity of the Sun, Moon and Earth balance each other but well beyond the reach of the shuttle. So, there won't be any handyman specials for the NGST. IT has to work right from day one. The telescope will carry cameras and spectrographs sensitive to infrared radiation. Over the telescope's 5-10 year lifetime astronomers hope to observe the farthest reaches of the universe.

Some recent discoveries from the Hubble, the Chandra X-Ray telescope and other missions like the Mariner include:

- Jupiter's pulsing x-ray beacon emitting from its North Pole
- Black hole in center of our solar system
- Saturn's "thin" rings
- Water on Mars
- Galaxies M82 and M81 collision

As Frank Drake's equation puts the probability of intelligent life beyond Earth as: $N = N^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_i \times f_c \times L$ This equation is explained on Scientific American Frontiers internet site. Mr. Drake and the late Carl Sagan estimated there might be as many as one million communicative civilizations in the Milky Way alone! That figure, rough as it is, still compels researchers at leading institutes around the world to search for planetary needles in the galactic haystack.

Here are a few suggestions you can do to help with our scientific exploration of space:

- Setup SETI@home on your computer. Computer helps in the search for extraterrestrials
- Write NASA your views of the Space Program or lack thereof at www.popsoci.com/exclusive
- Read *Don't Know Much About the Universe* by Kenneth C. Davis
- Look up <http://www.stsci.edu> for more information on the Hubble
- Tune in KERA T.V. on Mondays April 14-28 at 7:00 PM when PBS will air three one-hour programs entitled, "Mysteries of Deep Space"
 - April 14, "To the Edge of the Universe"
 - April 21, "Exploding Stars and Black Holes"
 - April 28, "The Search for Alien World"

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Winters, Science Officer, U.S.S. Bethel



The Deconstruction of Voyager

Submitted by
Byron Flynt

With the end of the series in sight, in March-April 2001 the standing sets were demolished. Sometimes they were replaced by sets for the show's two-part finale [Endgame].

Thursday 22 March Voyager's science lab was being demolished: big dumpsters were parked outside Stage 9 and the (de-) construction crew busily dumped in armfuls of plywood and Plexiglas. This was to make space on the stage for the show's two-part finale [Endgame].

Monday 26 March This was the last day of shooting on the mess-hall set. This set may have been

	<p>torn down on this day, although the Star Trek official site says the mess-hall set was the first standing set to be struck, on 1 April - the Star Trek website says this, although the science lab (see 22 March entry) was a standing set and the mess hall's demolition began on 29 March (see below) - maybe the website means the final part of the mess-hall set was struck on 1 April and also that it considers the science lab not to be a major standing set</p>
Wednesday 28	<p>March The last scene was shot in Janeway's quarters, presumably for [Endgame] in which Janeway talks with her future self. The set was then redressed as the ready room of USS Rhode Island for [Endgame], a set which included Geoffrey Mandel's large backlit graphic of the galaxy.</p>
Thursday 29	<p>March On Stage 8 the (de-) construction crew demolished the mess-hall and Janeway's quarters>Kim's quarters on USS Rhode Island. The (de-) construction crew also dismantled a turbolift and the section of Voyager's corridor which linked them.</p> <p>The star backdrop (the cloth with thousands of tiny sequined stars) was put away, as was the 'greenscreen', the bright emerald-green backdrop which is lowered outside the windows for special effects shots. Also dismantled was the lighting grid i.e. the metal scaffolding which hung above the set and provided a working platform for the lighting crew and their stage lights.</p> <p>Next door, on Stage 9, a hospital room set was constructed, which in [Endgame] represents Tuvok's room in Starfleet Medical on Earth in an alternate future. This set was built in the gaping hole left by the extraction of the science lab.</p> <p>On Stage 9, all the backlit control panels and monitors were now missing from Voyager's engineering set.</p>
Friday 30 March	<p>Another swing set, a section of the bridge of USS Rhode Island was constructed next to the rubble of the mess-hall. It was Geoffrey Mandel's first Starfleet bridge set and he says he was "unreasonably proud of the colorful, blinking graphics." He adds, "As I step onto the stage, the lighting seems a little too bright, and I suddenly realize that the big doors of Stage 8 are open to the sunlight. For the first time in 14 years, you can actually stand at one side of the stage and see all the way to the other side!"</p>
Tuesday 3 April	<p>The mess-hall and Janeway's quarters have completely gone - even the carpets and floorboards have been ripped out of the stage. The construction crew re-laid and repainted the stage floor.</p> <p>Voyager's dedication plaque (mounted on a wall on the bridge - it's location and existence are seen/mentioned in [Equinox, Part Two]) has gone. Mandel remarks, "Not surprising, considering what a nifty souvenir it would make."</p> <p>A group of Paramount executives posed for pictures in the captain's chair.</p> <p>On Stage 9 the construction crew applied crowbars and screw guns to the upper level of engineering. As they tossed loads of painted wood and metal trim onto the floor below, they listened to oldies on the radio. The warp core remained for a time, but gaping open - a hollow tube - so that you could see straight through to the other side. The two-control panels behind the warp core were the last remaining Polarmotion panels on Voyager: backlit graphics which used a rotating polarized filter to simulate the flow of energy.</p>
Thursday 5 April	<p>Voyager's engineering set was now a bare wooden framework. Demolition began on the cargo bay/hangar deck/holodeck (formed one set). That was a set which had been largely left intact from [Star Trek: The Next Generation]. The Borg regeneration alcoves in cargo bay 2 were packed up and put in warehouse storage, some of the few items to be kept for possible future re-use.</p>
Friday 6 April	<p>A surprise party was held for the retiring members of the Voyager production staff e.g. Richard James the production designer. To add to the feeling of unreality the set dressing crew placed oversize props around the brightly-lit</p>

bridge set - a giant roulette wheel, an Egyptian sarcophagus, golf club and Martini glass. The whole cast and crew turn out and sit at folding tables lavishly set with gold or silver tablecloths. The fully costumed Borg (who appears in [Endgame]) is there, and Alice Krige (the Borg Queen) sat in full costume and make-up next to Jeri Ryan and Robert Beltran.

Monday 9 April

This was the last official day of shooting. The second unit crew still had a couple of scenes to finish shortly afterward, but otherwise it was the last day for many of the crew including most of the actors. Some of the production team, including scenic artists Michael Okuda and Jim Van Over had already started work on the new series [Enterprise]. Some of the production team would move onto new jobs completely, while a few would take a holiday before taking up their next jobs. On Stage 8 the last scenes ever aboard Voyager's bridge were shot, but as they were being shot already the skeleton of a new ship Enterprise was rising from where Voyager's mess-hall and Janeway's quarters once stood - bulkheads and doorways for the corridors were already in place.

Magazine reporters and film crews were following Voyager's actors around, chronicling their last day although they seemed indifferent to the fate of the sets.

Wednesday 11 April

The 'wrap party' was held at 'W', a trendy Los Angeles hotel. One of the concoctions served in a glass was bright green and called a 'Borg Blaster'. Some Star Trek alumni attended, including John de Lancie (Q), Majel Barrett Roddenberry (Federation computer voice on [Star Trek: Voyager] with acting roles in other Star Trek series), Armin Shimerman (Quark), Chase Masterson (Leeta), Brent Spiner (Data). The latter two appeared briefly in/were mentioned on [Star Trek: Voyager] respectively.

Wednesday 23 May

[Endgame], the show's finale was aired in the USA. The Mayor of Los Angeles officially declared the day Star Trek Voyager Day.

It would be 25 February 2002 before Britons would be able to see [Endgame], by buying the Paramount video, while on the BBC as at 25 February [Nightingale], from rather earlier in Season 7, had just been aired for the first time following a delay of four weeks due to the airing of the Winter Olympics. *(I traveled a long distance home from holiday specially to buy and watch [Endgame], before going back to my holiday - I was there when the shop opened and 10 minutes later I was watching it.)* The Paramount video of [Endgame] was issued in certain other parts of the world at about the same date; the future date of [Endgame]'s video release in the USA is unknown.



Doctor's Notes

Submitted by
Jan Agee

Hello, allow me to introduce myself, my name is Jan Agee. I am originally from Branson, Missouri. I now live in Allen, TX with my husband, Allen, and two cats, Kuni and Cookie. My daughter, Heather goes to college in California. My first and continuing career as wife and mother goes with my second career as a people greeter at Wal-Mart.

I am currently wearing a jacket from the USS Jamestown of Norfolk, VA. The USS Jamestown was a Next Generation ship. My husband's career as an Army Officer may have taken me away from the club scene, but not from my passionate love affair with Star Trek. I joined the USS Sagittarius upon my husband's retirement to Texas in 1996. I then transferred briefly to the USS Orbit Jet until its untimely demise. So for now I am with the USS Bethel as Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

As for my future columns, I will add personal touches with stories about my cats and family. As well as my passions and sanity savers I've learned over the years. From time to time I will also cover pertinent and necessary medical information for surviving the curves that life give you. As you know the USS Bethel is an Intrepid class ship set in the Voyager series Universe. I will try my hand at some novice writing as to my alter ego's long journey to her current status about the USS Bethel.

Communications Report

Submitted By
Elizabeth Weber

The following report was found on the internet, it is basic information on the internet.

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY LIBRARIES

A Basic Guide to the Internet

May 2001

The Internet is a computer network made up of thousands of networks worldwide. No one knows exactly how many computers are connected to the Internet. It is certain, however, that these number in the millions and are increasing at a rapid rate.

No one is in charge of the Internet. There are organizations which develop technical aspects of this network and set standards for creating applications on it, but no governing body is in control. The Internet backbone, through which Internet traffic flows, is owned by private companies.

All computers on the Internet communicate with one another using the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol suite, abbreviated to TCP/IP. Computers on the Internet use a client/server architecture. This means that the remote server machine provides files and services to the user's local client machine. Software can be installed on a client computer to take advantage of the latest access technology.

An Internet user has access to a wide variety of services: electronic mail, file transfer, vast information resources, interest group membership, interactive collaboration, multimedia displays, real-time broadcasting, shopping opportunities, breaking news, and much more.

The Internet consists primarily of a variety of access protocols. Many of these protocols feature programs that allow users to search for and retrieve material made available by the protocol.

COMPONENTS OF THE INTERNET WORLD WIDE WEB

The World Wide Web (abbreviated as the Web or WWW) is a system of Internet servers that supports hypertext to access several Internet protocols on a single interface. Almost every protocol type available on the Internet is accessible on the Web.

This includes e-mail, FTP, Telnet, and Usenet News. In addition to these, the World Wide Web has its own protocol: HyperText Transfer Protocol, or HTTP.

These protocols will be explained later in this

interface for accessing all these protocols. This creates a convenient and user-friendly environment. It is no longer necessary to be conversant in these protocols within separate, command-level environments. The Web gathers together these protocols into a single system. Because of this feature, and because of the Web's ability to work with multimedia and advanced programming languages, the World Wide Web is the fastest-growing component of the Internet.

The operation of the Web relies primarily on hypertext as its means of information retrieval.

HyperText is a document containing words that connect to other documents. These words are called links and are selectable by the user. A single hypertext document can contain links to many documents. In the context of the Web, words or graphics may serve as links to other documents, images, video, and sound. Links may or may not follow a logical path, as each connection is programmed by the creator of the source document. Overall, the WWW contains a complex virtual web of connections among a vast number of documents, graphics, videos, and sounds.

Producing hypertext for the Web is accomplished by creating documents with a language called HyperText Markup Language, or HTML. With HTML, tags are placed within the text to accomplish document formatting, visual features such as font size, italics and bold, and the creation of hypertext links. Graphics may also be incorporated into an HTML document. HTML is an evolving language, with new tags being added as each upgrade of the language is developed and released. The World Wide Web Consortium, led by Web founder Tim Berners-Lee, coordinates the efforts of standardizing HTML.

The World Wide Web consists of files, called pages or home pages, containing links to documents and resources throughout the Internet.

The Web provides a vast array of experiences including multimedia presentations, real-time collaboration, interactive pages, radio and television broadcasts, and the automatic "push" of information to a client computer. Programming languages such as Java, java-script and Visual Basic are extending the capabilities of the Web. An increasing amount of information on the Web is served dynamically from content stored in databases. The Web is therefore not a fixed entity, but one that is in a constant state of flux. For more complete information about the World Wide Web, see [Understanding The World Wide Web](#).

E-MAIL

Electronic mail, or e-mail, allows computer users locally and worldwide to exchange messages. Each user of e-mail has a mailbox address to which messages are sent. Messages sent through e-mail can arrive within a matter of seconds.

A powerful aspect of e-mail is the option to send electronic files to a person's e-mail address. Non-ASCII files, known as binary files, may be attached to e-mail messages. These files are referred to as MIME attachments. MIME stands for Multimedia Internet Mail Extension, and was developed to help e-mail software handle a variety of file types. For example, a document created in Microsoft Word can be attached to an e-mail message and retrieved by the recipient with the appropriate e-mail program. Many e-mail programs, including Eudora, Netscape Messenger, and Microsoft Outlook Express, offer the ability to read files written in HTML, which is itself a MIME type.

TELNET

Telnet is a program that allows you to log into computers on the Internet and use online databases, library catalogs, chat services, and more. To Telnet to a computer, you must know its address. This can consist of words (locis.loc.gov) or numbers (140.147.254.3).

Some services require you to connect to a specific port on the remote computer. In this case, type the port number after the Internet address. Example: telnet nri.reston.va.us 185.

Telnet is available on the World Wide Web. Probably the most common Web-based resources available through Telnet are library catalogs.

A link to a Telnet resource may look like any other link, but it will launch a Telnet session to make the connection. A Telnet program must be installed on your local computer and configured to your Web browser in order to work.

FTP

FTP stands for File Transfer Protocol. This is both a program and the method used to transfer files between computers. Anonymous FTP is an option that allows users to transfer files from thousands of host computers on the Internet to their personal computer account. FTP sites contain books, articles, software, games, images, sounds, multimedia, course work, data sets, and more.

If your computer is directly connected to the Internet via an Ethernet cable, you can use one of several PC software programs, such as WS_FTP for Windows, to conduct a file transfer.

FTP transfers can be performed on the World Wide Web without the need for special software. In this case, the Web browser will suffice. Whenever you download software from a Web site to your local machine, you are using FTP. You can also retrieve FTP files via search engines such as FtpFind, located at <http://www.ftpfind.com/>. This option is easiest because you do not need to know FTP program commands.

E-MAIL DISCUSSION GROUPS

One of the benefits of the Internet is the opportunity it offers to people worldwide to communicate via e-mail. The Internet is home to a large community of individuals who carry out active discussions organized around topic-oriented forums distributed by e-mail. These are administered by software programs. Probably the most common program is the listserv.

A great variety of topics are covered by listservs, many of them academic in nature. When you subscribe to a listserv, messages from other subscribers are automatically sent to your electronic mailbox. You subscribe to a listserv by sending an e-mail message to a computer program called a listserver.

Listservers are located on computer networks throughout the world. This program handles subscription information and distributes messages to and from subscribers. You must have a e-mail account to participate in a listserv discussion group. Visit Liszt at <http://www.liszt.com/> to see an example of a site that offers a searchable collection of e-mail discussion groups.

Majordomo and Listproc are two other programs that administer e-mail discussion groups. The commands for subscribing to and managing your list memberships are similar to those of listserv.

USENET NEWS

Usenet News is a global electronic bulletin board system in which millions of computer users exchange information on a vast range of topics. The major difference between Usenet News and e-mail discussion groups is the fact that Usenet messages are stored on central computers, and users must connect to these computers to read or download the messages posted to these groups. This is distinct from e-mail distribution, in which messages arrive in the electronic mailboxes of each list member.

Usenet itself is a set of machines that exchanges messages, or articles, from Usenet discussion forums, called newsgroups. Usenet administrators control their own sites, and decide which (if any) newsgroups to sponsor and which remote newsgroups to allow into the system.

There are thousands of Usenet newsgroups in existence. While many are academic in nature, numerous newsgroups are organized around recreational topics. Much serious computer-related work takes place in Usenet discussions. A small number of e-mail discussion groups also exist as Usenet newsgroups.

The Usenet newfeed can be read by a variety of newsreader software programs. For example, the Netscape Communicator suite comes with a newsreader program called Messenger. Newsreaders are also available as standalone products.

FAQ, RFC, FYI

FAQ stands for Frequently Asked Questions. These are periodic postings to Usenet newsgroups that contain a wealth of information related to the topic of the newsgroup. Many FAQs are quite extensive. FAQs are available by subscribing to individual Usenet newsgroups. A Web-based collection of FAQ resources has been collected by The Internet FAQ Consortium and is available at <http://www.faqs.org/>.

RFC stands for Request for Comments. These are documents created by and distributed to the Internet community to help define the nuts and bolts of the Internet. They contain both technical specifications

and general information.

FYI stands for For Your Information. These notes are a subset of RFCs and contain information of interest to new Internet users.

Links to indexes of all three of these information resources are available on the University Libraries Home Page at library.albany.edu/reference/faqs.html.

CHAT & INSTANT MESSAGING

Chat programs allow users on the Internet to communicate with each other by typing in real time. They are sometimes included as a feature of a Web site, where users can log into the "chat room" to exchange comments and information about the topics addressed on the site. Chat may take other, more wide-ranging forms. For example, America Online is well known for sponsoring a number of topical chat rooms.

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) is a service through which participants can communicate to each other on hundreds of channels. These channels are usually based on specific topics. While many topics are frivolous, substantive conversations are also taking place. To access IRC, you must use an IRC software program.

A variation of chat is the phenomenon of instant messaging. With instant messaging, a user on the Web can contact another user currently logged in and type a conversation. Most famous is America Online's Instant Messenger. ICQ is another commonly-used chat program.

Other types of real-time communication are addressed in the tutorial [Understanding the World Wide Web](#).

MUD/MUSH/MOO/MUCK/DUM/MUSE

MUD stands for Multi User Dimension. MUDs, and their variations listed above, are multi-user virtual reality games based on simulated worlds. Traditionally text based, graphical MUDs now exist. There are MUDs of all kinds on the Internet, and many can be joined free of charge. For more information, read one of the FAQs devoted to MUDs available at the FAQ site at <http://www.faqs.org/>.

Laura Cohen lcohen@albany.edu





Sculpture by: Darlene Racicot

Keep The Candle Going

I asked God for water, he gave me an ocean.
 I asked God for a flower, he gave me a garden.
 I asked God for a tree, he gave me a forest.
 I asked God for a friend, he gave me YOU.

"There is not enough darkness in the world to put
 out the light of one candle."

The Candle of Love, Hope and Friendship



This candle was lit on the 11th of September, 2001.
 Someone who loves you has helped keep it alive by
 sending it to you.

Don't let The Candle Of Love, Hope and Friendship die!

"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle"
 John & Carol

From: "john hallum"
 JHALLUM@bak.rr.com



Two thousand one, nine eleven

Two thousand one, nine eleven
Five thousand plus arrive in heaven
As they pass through the gate,
Thousands more appear in wait

A bearded man with stovepipe hat
Steps forward saying, "Lets sit, lets chat"
They settle down in seats of clouds
A man named Martin shouts out proud
"I have a dream!" and once he did
The Newcomer said, "Your dream still lives."



Groups of soldiers in blue and gray
Others in khaki, and green then say
"We're from Bull Run, Yorktown, the Maine"
The Newcomer said, "You died not in vain."

From a man on sticks one could hear
"The only thing we have to fear....."
The Newcomer said, "We know the rest,
Trust us sir, we've passed that test."



"Courage doesn't hide in caves
You can't bury freedom, in a grave,"
The Newcomers had heard this voice before
A distinct Yankees twang from Hyannis port shores

A silence fell within the mist
Somehow the Newcomer knew that this
Meant time had come for her to say
What was in the hearts of the five thousand plus that day

"Back on Earth, we wrote reports,
Watched our children play in sports
Worked our gardens, sang our songs
Went to church and clipped coupons
We smiled, we laughed, we cried, we fought
Unlike you, great we're not"

The tall man in the stovepipe hat
Stood and said, "don't talk like that!
Look at your country, look and see
You died for freedom, just like me"

Then, before them all appeared a scene
Of rubble streets and twisted beams
Death, destruction, smoke and dust
And people working just 'cause they must

Hauling ash, lifting stones,
Knee deep in hell But not alone

"Look! Black man, white man, brown man, yellow man
Side by side helping their fellow man!"
So said Martin, as he watched the scene
"Even from nightmares, can be born a dream."



Down below three firemen raised
The colors high into ashen haze
The soldiers above had seen it before
On Iwo Jima back in '44

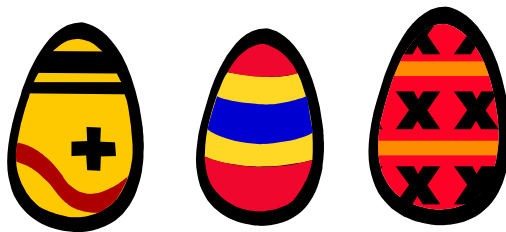
The man on sticks studied everything closely
Then shared his perceptions on what he saw mostly
"I see pain, I see tears, I see sorrow - but I don't see fear.

"You left behind husbands and wives
Daughters and sons and so many lives
Are suffering now because of this wrong
But look very closely. You're not really gone

All of those people, even those who've never met you
All of their lives, they'll never forget you
Don't you see what has happened?
Don't you see what you've done?
You've brought them together, together as one.

With that the man in the stovepipe hat said
"Take my hand," and from there he led
Five thousand plus heroes, Newcomers to heaven
On this day, two thousand one, nine eleven.

--Author Unknown



Where was God on Sept. 11th

Submitted by "john hallum" (non-member)
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WHERE WAS GOD? How many of us have heard that question "Where was GOD when the World Trade Center and the Pentagon was attacked?"



Well I know where GOD was the morning of September 11, 2001 and He was very busy! He was trying to discourage anyone from taking these flights. Those four flights together held over 1000 passengers and there were only 266 aboard.

He was on 4 commercial flights giving terrified passengers the ability to stay calm. Not one of the family members who were called by a loved one on one of the high-jacked planes said that passengers were screaming in the background.

On one of the flights he was giving strength to passengers try to overtake the high-jackers. He was busy trying to create obstacles for employees at the World Trade Center. After all, only around 20,000 were at the towers when the first jet hit. Since the buildings held over 50,000 workers, this was a Miracle in itself. How many of the people who were employed at the World Trade Center told the media that they were late for work or they had traffic delays.

He was holding up 2-110 story buildings so that 2/3 of the workers could get out. I was so amazed that the top of the towers didn't topple when the jets impacted. And when they did fall, they fell inward. GOD didn't allow them to topple over, as many more lives would have been lost.

And when the buildings went down, GOD picked up almost 6,000 of his children and carried them home with him. Reassuring his frightened children that the worst was over and the best was yet to come.

He sat down and cried that 19 of his children could have so much hate in their hearts.

He sent his children that are best trained for this disaster and had them save the few that were still alive, but unable to help themselves. And then sent many others to help in anyway they were needed.

He still isn't finished though, he held the love ones that were left behind in his arms. He comforts them daily. His other children are given the strength to reach out to them and help them in any way they can. And I believe he will continue to help us in what is to come.

He will give the people in charge of this great nation the strength and the wisdom to do the right thing. He would never leave us in our time of need.

So when anyone asks, "Where was GOD on September 11?" you can say "Everywhere!" And yes, although this is without a doubt the worst thing I have seen in my life, I see God's miracles in every bit of it.

