



Volume 13 Issue 03

March 2016

Crew Meetings & Activities 2016

- Apr 16 Klingon Dinner Thing in Bridgeport (see Klingon Report)
- May 21 regular meeting
- Jun 18 regular meeting
- Jun 24-26 Summit at Odesa
- Jul 16 regular meeting
- Aug 20 regular meeting
- Sept 17 regular meeting
- Oct 15 regular meeting
- Nov 19 regular meeting
- Dec 17?

All above meeting are subject to change. Normally we meet at Shady Oaks BBQ at 3:00 p.m. on the dates above (unless otherwise mentioned.)

From the Ready Room

March! What a month. Tank took care of the regular meeting at Shady Oaks while Roon and I were away at All-Con. What a great time it was! All-Con is 4 days of Cosplay, Gameshows, Movies, Vendors and just a little madness. I highly recommend checking it out next year if you have a chance. The 501st is very active with this Con as is the USS Joshua. I think Starfleet should be looking at making an appearance. There are a lot of Star Trek fans out there who are not part of a group and I am sure some of them would enjoy it.

Looks like you guys were busy with an idea to restructure the ship. From what I have looked at it looks great. We will be sure to discuss it at the Klingon Dinner Thing.

I loved the pictures from the Visit to C.A.R.E. I so wish I could have attended. Fingers crossed I should only have one more weekend and then will be free to join in activities.

Thank you all as usual for being the best crew in the fleet.

LLAP,
Captain Michael Cross

First Officer Report

The March meeting was small, as the Captain & the Chief Engineer were on a Landing Party, and CWO Wilkerson was on a completely different Landing Party, and some others were unable to attend due to Real World things, but we had a good time. It's always good to see everyone – it's one of my favorite things about the *Regulator* and STARFLEET.

There were a couple of pretty interesting things that we discussed, though. First, Rear Admiral Goulet came up with a great way of raising some funds for the ship (and our charity/charities). About 3-4 times a year, we will be holding an auction for contributed items. These items may be made, purchased, or simply a collectible that will be donated to the ship. Pictures will be taken, and the item will be view-able on our web site, on our Facebook page, and other social media, and we'll take bids from anyone – not only within the ship, but within the region, and from friendly non-STARFLEET organizations. If you have any questions, aim 'em at Liz, at least for this first round.

It has been observed that if you do something once, it's an occurrence. If, however, you do it twice (or more often) at a fairly regular interval, it becomes a tradition. (This may mean that our chapter changes ships every decade or so... it remains to be seen.) One such unintentional "tradition" is that in the run-up to Ship Elections (held every two years, in odd-numbered years, in April), we review and revise our Ship's Articles: the Handbook, General Orders, and Constitution. For your very own copy (if you don't have one, yet), point your web browser to <http://ussregulator.weebly.com>, and follow the link – or you might go directly to http://ussregulator.weebly.com/uploads/1/3/0/5/13055239/regulator_articles_2015.pdf. There haven't been many changes over the years, and most of them have been fairly minor – with the exception of the pretty-pretty pictures and formatting, it's about the same one I received when I joined the ship back in 2009.

One of the important changes was when we added term limits to the Captaincy. Before 2011, once someone was elected Captain

he could continue to run every two years, and stay until either he burnt out or until he was tossed out. Now, one may serve no more than two two-year terms sequentially – so, after four years, he has to step down, and can't stand for Captain again until the next election. In other words, he's got to take a break.

In March, it was suggested that maybe we should start looking at the Articles again (we have about a year until Elections), and that one of the changes that we might want to make is adding term limits to department heads (DH). The conversation evolved, and by the end of it we were looking at maybe dropping the department heads as the “leadership” of the ship (we have nine DH s, and 18 National members – too many chiefs, not enough Indians), replacing the Department structure with a Division structure. Three Divisions (Gold, Blue, Red) plus the CO & XO to form the “Leadership Committee”, as well as maybe serve as a permanent Promotion Board. There would still be a need for members to perform “real-world” jobs, like writing the newsletter, coordinating charitable efforts, fundraising, and so on; these positions would have their own titles and would report to the appropriate Division Leader – the job titles may change from what we have now.

There's a lot to discuss, and there's nothing keeping us from changing anything – except, of course, we have to follow the procedures in the Articles to change the Articles.

I would like to have an open committee, of anyone who's interested in working on this project, get together periodically and work on this project. Perhaps we could meet after the monthly ship's meeting, or maybe have separate meetings elsewhere – that's up to whoever wants to work on this with me. I have a lot of notes written down (because I can't remember things unless I write 'em down) on my Google Drive, and I've shared them with some of you already. If you want to work on this, let me know, and I'll share what I have.

I don't know if we'll get into this discussion in April at the Klingon Dinner Thing or not; if not, we'll chat about it in May.

Respectfully,
Commodore Tank Clark, SFMD
First Officer, *USS Regulator*, NCC-2009

Communications

I have come up with an idea for a fundraiser. The CO, XO and Chief Engineering thing it is a good idea so I am bringing it to the crew. The idea is very easy and simple. A member of the crew (anyone can contribute) donates something to the ship. We will do these donations near one of our annual events – i.e. Mirror, Mirror Meeting; near Christmas/New Years, etc. The first ship and anyone in the Region can bid on the item. I will put a picture of it in the newsletter approximately two months before the final bidding. That way everyone gets a chance to see what they are bidding on and can decide if it is something they are interested in. The first item that will be auctioned off will be an afghan that I have made. I will have a picture of it in next month's newsletter and also in the May addition. We will do the auction for it at the June meeting. We will basically only do one

item unless someone wants to donate multiple items. We can entertain all ideas. Once the item is purchased that money will go into a separate account (envelope) and be set aside till the end of the year. At that time we will donate it to our charity of choice. Just another way of raising funds for a good cause since we don't have an official fundraising event at this time. Let me know what you think either through email or at one of the meetings.

Liz Goulet, R.Admiral
Communications Officer, *USS Regulator*, NCC 2009

MEDICAL ALERT:

Due to time constraints with making all kinds of uniforms for the Exec, the Chief Medical Officer was unable to provide this newsletter with an article. But since she has been consistent in the past with providing informative ones; she gets a pass this month.

Commander Tracy “Gleek” Clark, SFMD
Chief Medical Officer, *USS Regulator*, NCC-2009

HELM



I am still looking for a Helm Department Assistant DH. We are a busy, busy ship, and it would be good to have someone help me in planning and research.

After Action Reports:

Stardate 11603.26 (26 Mar 2016)

The Science Department once more took the lead, as we sent a Landing Party to the Center for Animal Research and Education (C.A.R.E.) in Bridgeport, TX (33°10'36” N, 97°45'39” W) The Landing Party consisted of Commodore Clark, Commander Clark, Lieutenant Commander Brulotte, Petty Officer Brulotte, and Chief Warrant Officer Wilkerson. The weather was beautiful, the animals amazing, and the tour was wonderful. We could not have asked for a more informative, entertaining, or enjoyable day. I've posted images on our Facebook group, and I look forward to seeing images that the other members of the Party took.

The people we talked to were excited to hear that C.A.R.E. may become the charity for the ship, and possibly again as the charity for the (2018?) Region Three Summit. I've given them

the ship's email address, and I'm hoping to hear from them. Meanwhile, please visit their web site at <http://carerescuetexas.com/>.

Stay tuned for more, but if you have suggestions for future Landing Parties, feel free to fire 'em at me!

Commodore Tank Clark, SFMD
Helmsman, USS *Regulator*, NCC-2009

Navigation Department

"Second star to the right, and straight on 'till morning..."



The *Regulator's* newest passenger, Jack!

Sean Washburn, LCDR
Navigation, USS *Regulator*, NCC 2009

BOSUN (Chief in Charge)

Special Note: Please put your name and what group you want your flip tops to be counted for on your bag with the tops. If you **do not** put your name on it, you won't get credit- I will.

BONUS: For those who recruit somebody whether you are an individual or family, they may assist you this year only in the flip top contest. This is to encourage you to get somebody to join the ship.

Alan Goulet, MCPO

From the Flight Deck: OIC, VMA-333 "Phoenix Squadron"

Take a knee, Marines.

Not much going on this month – I've been so busy in other areas.

Muster 2016 will be in Odessa, 24-26 June. The Brigade is attempting to bring the SFMC Commandant (the "Dant") to the Dress Mess and Muster, and with that in mind, the Brigade is soliciting donations. The estimated cost is around \$680, and if this cost is spread out among the 19 units in Third Brigade, it's

not that bad. How do you donate? You send money to paypal@3bde.org, and be sure you check that you are sending money to friends or family (not paying for services, as they will charge us for that) and add a comment that this is for the Dant visit, and that you're in the 333rd.

With Muster fast approaching, I have a couple of big responsibilities: First, I would like to nominate our Marines for ribbons. Take a look at the most recent edition of the MFM and tell me which one of your fellow Marines deserves recognition, and for what reason.

Secondly, as the Brigade's S-1 officer, I'm running the Awards Committee for the Brigade. Yes, that means I'm pretty much hip deep in the Awards process... and that's why I need your help on nominating our guys (**YOU** guys!)



Finally, I'd still like to do a bar crawl, but (due to busy-busy weekends) I haven't been able to do a recon trip. I have a route planned out, but without a pre-mission scouting trip, I won't be happy about announcing it.

If anyone has any other idea for a Phoenix Squadron-hosted mission,

please let me know!

Thank you all, and Carry on!

Brigadier General Tank Clark, SFMC, SFMD
Officer-in-Charge, VMFA-333, "Phoenix Squadron"
Never Give Up, Never Surrender!

From the Deck 15 Horde: (the Klingon Krew)

The Annual Klingon Dinner Thing will be held on Sat 16 Apr 2016, beginning at 2:00 pm. As usual, it's a Potluck, Promotions/Awards meal, celebrating All Things Klingon. This time around, it will be at Ascension & St. Mark's Episcopal Church 5094 US-380, Bridgeport, TX 76426.



Dress in your favorite Klingon clothes, or Klingon-inspired clothes, or Starfleet clothes... well, basically, please wear clothes. Bring a dish to share; if you want to bring drinks, please do. (Alcohol is okay, but remember not to share it with a minor.)

The next Good Day to Dine, organized by the Lone Star Warrior's Association, a group of Klingons and Klingon-friendly people from KAG, STARFLEET, and other fan clubs,

will be on Sunday, 1400 hrs, 29 May 2016. This GdtD will be at Catfish Plantation, 814 Water St, Waxahachie, TX 75165. I am unlikely to attend, as we usually don't get out of church until 1230, and it's about 90 min away... and I don't really want to go to church in my Klingon garb.

For the Empire!

Klark, son of Konald

Have Phaser, Will Travel!



I say this every month, and I'll say it again: You should, when and as possible, be taking Ranger courses from STARFLEET Academy. You can get the lists of what you should take for each Grade (1 through 10) from the Publications page of the SFSO web site:

<https://sfisfso.wordpress.com/publications/>

There's a lot of stuff to learn, and it's fun. Do it! When you complete a grade, notify me, letting me know the dates you completed each course within the grade. I'll send it up through my chain of command, and get you certified. Easy-peasy. Completing Grade Two earns you the Major Hayes ribbon.

The SFSO Uniform Manual has been updated. It now includes as an official option for all SFSO members, the "garrison cap" – also called an "overseas cap" (and derisively called a rather rude word beginning with the letter "C" - cap). This is because of an effort by yours truly, and a prototype made by the Assistant Team Leader of the 33rd STARFLEET Rangers, Commander Tracy Clark. Also in the new Uniform Manual is an option for wearing a kilt with dress uniforms. The SFMC does NOT permit wearing of the kilt, according to the SFMC Marine Force Manual. I'm very pleased – and, since Tracy is planning to make me an SFMC TOS Dress Uniform (in Hunter Green), I eagerly anticipate wearing it with my kilt.

Now, on with the game stuff...

As I have said before, I have a lot of roleplaying games (RPGs) in my horde. (Not a collection: "collections" are organized, while a horde isn't.) I love reading them, and seeing how they work – and how they don't. I eagerly seek out RPGs that I don't own. However, I don't have an unlimited amount of money, so I concentrate my search for physical RPG books at used book stores, like Half-Price Books and Recycled Books. After the March ship's meeting, we visited the Half-Price in Watauga, where I found a copy of "*Hackmaster Basic*", as well as the setting book for "*Shadowforce: Archer*" (for the first edition of *Spycraft*, a d20 spy RPG.)

Once upon a time, Wizards of the Coast (WoTC) decided to introduce a new version of Advanced Dungeons & Dragons (AD&D). The game was, at that time, in its second edition, and was very successful, but as there were an over-abundance of supplemental rule books – some of which were *very* unbalanced, WoTC was probably very smart to bring out a third edition. The Third Edition (3E) D&D rules were even released as Open Source material, and the proliferation of d20 games began.

Meanwhile, there was a very popular (and still ongoing) series of Web comics, entitled "*Knights of the Dinner Table*" (<http://www.kenzerco.com/Operiodicals/kodt/kodt%20webstrips/phpslideshow.php>) in which the characters played a very complicated, arcane RPG called "*Hackmaster*" which was quite obviously a fictional version of AD&D (2nd Ed.) In the run-up to the release of 3E, some old-school gamers over-reacted, and the characters in *Knights of the Dinner Table* (KoDT) did, too... only, in the strip, they were complaining about the release of *Hackmaster* Fourth Edition.

The owners of KoDT did something amazingly smart. They purchased the rights to AD&D 2nd Edition, added a HUGE amount of craziness (from the KoDT strip), and released it, as "*Hackmaster*, Fourth Edition." It was entertaining to read, but I personally found it a hassle to play. At the time, I was playing in a 2nd Ed game, and the Dungeon Master (DM) forbade us players to have a copy of the DM Guide out during play. During one session, at which I had a copy of the *Hackmaster* DM Guide, I looked up something in it and read it out loud – after which, I was forbidden to have that book open at the game. Too close to 2nd Ed... in many cases, word-for-word.

Regardless, I have known people who've played *Hackmaster* and enjoyed it. Kenzer, the publisher, is a very strong company, and they've released some great products, both within and without the *Hackmaster* line. (One of which is sitting on my shelf, *Aces & Eights*, a Western RPG.)

Which brings me back to *Hackmaster Basic*, the game I bought in March. I initially believed it to be a variant of the "Red Box" *Dungeons and Dragons* I first played in the late 1970s & early 1980s. Upon further review, however, it is in fact its own system. I see elements from *D&D*, and from *AD&D*, and from *Hackmaster*, but it stands alone in its own right. In the forward and introduction to the book, it states that this represents a new version of *Hackmaster* (either second edition, or "fifth", depending on your viewpoint). This book only takes characters from first through fifth levels, with the 6th through 20th levels available in "Advanced Hackmaster", three separate books (Players Handbook, Gamemasters Guide, and a book of monsters).

Each of those books costs \$59.99 at the Kenzer web site.

** Shudder **

"Tank, you crazy son-of-a-<dirty word>, there ain't no way I'm payin' a hundred 'n' eighty bucks for a..."

Relax, friends. Although I'd purchased the soft-back, physical version of *Hackmaster Basic*, you can get the same stuff for free at the Kenzer web site. Go here:

<http://www.kenzerco.com/hackmaster/downloads.php> and download stuff. Don't download the adventures, unless you want to run the game. Print off the blank character sheets. Grab some dice, and then follow the directions in the "Hackmaster Basic Free RPG" PDF to roll up a character.

Then, let me know. Let us schedule a time and place to get together and play.

Sum non Satis?

Commodore Tank Clark, SFMD
Team Leader, 33rd STARFLEET Rangers ("The Paladins")
"Have Phaser, Will Travel"

Ship's Services

April birthdays : Perry Brulotte Apr 13

Upcoming Movies:

- Paradox Apr 15
 - Huntsman Winter's War Apr 22
 - Ratchet & Clank Apr 29
 - Capt America: Civil War May 6
 - X Men: Apocalypse May 27
 - Alice in Wonderland Through the Looking Glass May 27
 - Star Trek Beyond Jul 22
-

Engineering Department

I am working on a new mode of transportation. Don't worry, I won't blow up the engines. But there may be some strange noises coming from the Engine Room in the coming months. If this works, you'll be the first to know. No parts of the ship will be damaged in these experiments.

Roon Marchant, LTC
Chief of Engineering, *USS Regulator*, NCC 2009

Science Department

The trip to C.A.R.E. was a great success! The weather was amazing, the company was great, and the facilities were top notch. Plus, our tour group included some children, and their reactions to the animals (and to Perry's jokes) are always entertaining.

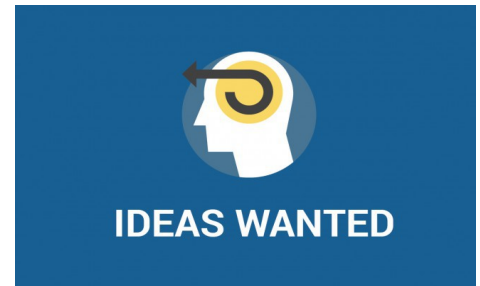
I go on and on about how great C.A.R.E. is, but I will keep it as brief as possible. Since I'm a Millennial, I have a short attention span, so I won't expect you to have a longer one! The thing I liked best about C.A.R.E. was their commitment to not only caring for their own animals, but also their commitment to the animals they use to feed the big cats. They take livestock donations to give the cats fresh eat, but they only accept wounded or diseased animals so livestock is not sacrificed without reason. If they don't have livestock donated, they feed the cats chicken. This commitment to caring about other animals

as well as their own really sets them apart from other zoos and rescue centers.

I also liked seeing the size of the cat's enclosures! The intern who gave us the 1.5 hour tour explained the size of the enclosures for many of the cats, letting us know the reason some of them were in smaller shelters – mostly due to needing medical attention or being scared of large spaces. If you know me well enough, you know I love babies, and C.A.R.E. was no exception! There were three groups of cats that stuck out for me. First was not a baby : they have a cat who was born seemingly female, but she had a testicle removed from her behind when she was older! She is an intersexual cat who confuses her two female house-mates with her hormones when they are in heat.

The other two groups are two "toddler" tigers, Boomer and Slade, and two "toddler" lions, Araali and Zuberi. Boomer and Slade are just 1.5 years old, though they look full grown. Slade was hilarious as we approached his enclosure: he crouched down behind one of his huts, and playfully "stalked" us – just like a house kitten! Araali and Zuberi are miracle lions: they both have a bone disorder called Wobbler's syndrome, but they were saved by an electromagnetic collar that stimulated their bone growth. It was the first time such a device has been used on big cats!

Really, you have to go to C.A.R.E. to experience it! In the meantime, check out their website:



<http://carerescuetexas.com/>

Email your Chief Science Officer at melissa@brulotte.us to share your ideas.

Melissa Brulotte, PO3
Science, *USS Regulator*, NCC 2009

SECURITY! SECURITY!!

Update – got the new laser rifles and they are now ready to be used. A word of warning: do not shoot them on board the ship. They can take out a bulkhead and engineering has advised me we don't have replacements if this happens. The simulator can be used to practice with these as it has been programmed with the specifications. I recommend everyone practice using them before we take them planet-side.

Scott Cornatzer, CDR
Security, *USS Regulator*, NCC 2009

ADVERTISEMENTS

It has been suggested that we might help our fellow crew members by posting ads for their personal business. This day and age starting a business isn't easy and they can use all the free help we can give them.



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Go to:

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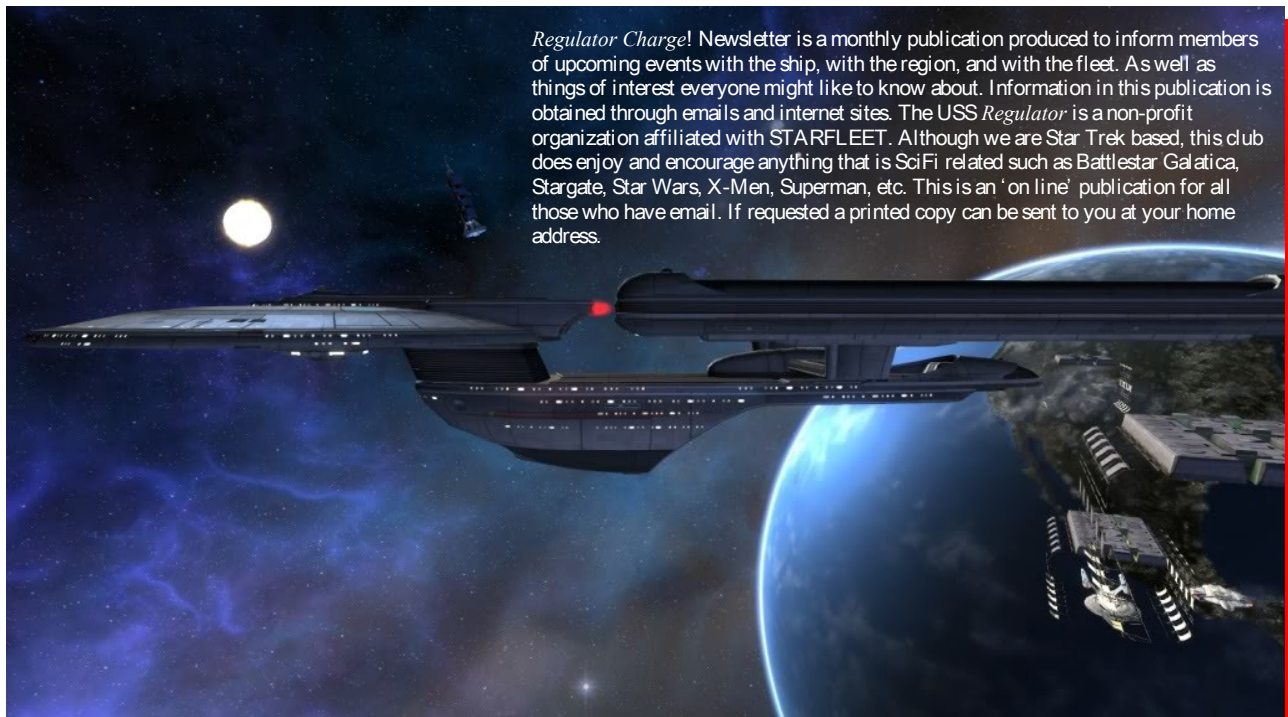


Meetings for the USS *Regulator* are held every month at 1500hrs at Shady Oaks BBQ, 6364 Sandshell Dr, Ft Worth, near Western Center and I-35W, usually on the third Saturday of every month. For information contact our Commanding Officer, Captain Michael Cross at

regulator@region3.org

or visit our web site

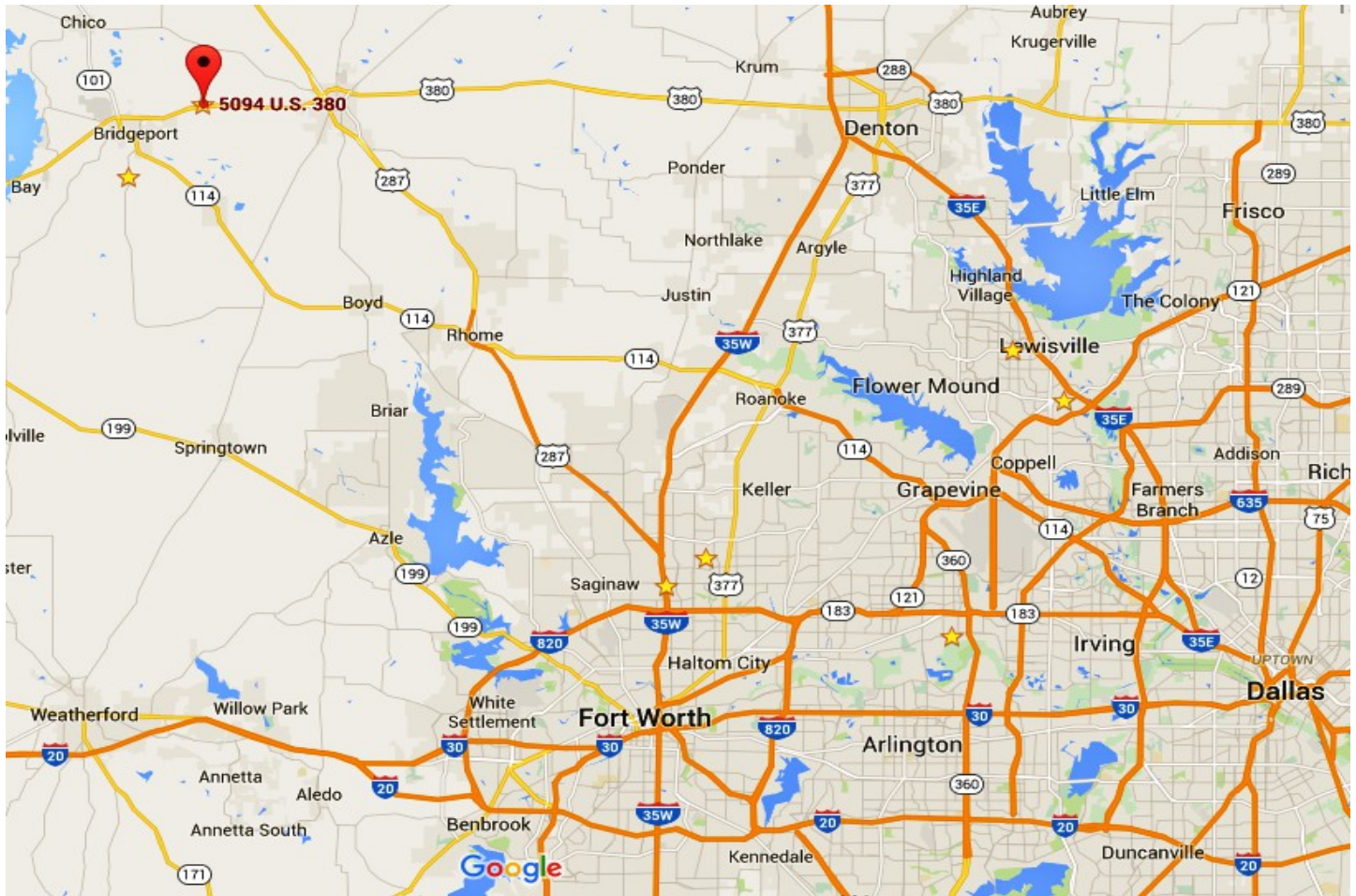
<http://ussregulator.weebly.com/>



Regulator Charge! Newsletter is a monthly publication produced to inform members of upcoming events with the ship, with the region, and with the fleet. As well as things of interest everyone might like to know about. Information in this publication is obtained through emails and internet sites. The USS *Regulator* is a non-profit organization affiliated with STARFLEET. Although we are Star Trek based, this club does enjoy and encourage anything that is SciFi related such as Battlestar Galatica, Stargate, Star Wars, X-Men, Superman, etc. This is an 'on line' publication for all those who have email. If requested a printed copy can be sent to you at your home address.

Map to Ascension & St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Bridgeport, TX. (Address is 5094 US-380, Bridgeport, TX 76426)

(This is as big as it gets. If I try to enlarge the map, I gradually lose markings. Hope it isn't too small for everyone. It at least gives you the general idea as to where you need to go.)



Once you are on US-380, between Bridgeport and Decatur, look to the north side of the highway. The church has a very big sign out in front, and we'll try to put up a Klingon banner as well. The parking lot is gravel. Walk in the first door you come to, and then turn immediately to the right.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all there!