



# On The Horizon

USS Horizon

Volume I, Issue I

July, 2007



## Inside this issue:

XO's log	2
Horizon Eats	2
USS Horizon Calendar	3
St. Louis Ren. Fest.	3
Holy Hogsmead, Harry!	3

## Will Battlestar Gallactica find Earth?

The producers of SCI FI Channel's *Battlestar Galactica* confirmed that the upcoming fourth season will be the show's last. Executive producers Ronald Moore and David Eick said that it was a creative decision to end the acclaimed series with the upcoming 22-episode season. This show was always meant to have a beginning, a middle and, finally, an end," Eick and Moore said in a statement on May 31. "Over the course of the last year, the story and the characters have been moving strongly toward that end, and we've decided to listen

to those internal voices and conclude the show on our own terms. And while we know our fans will be saddened to know the end is coming, they should brace themselves for a wild ride getting there: We're going out with a bang."

In November, a special two-hour *Battlestar* episode, "Razor," will air. The fourth season kicks off in early 2008.

At last month's Saturn Awards, Edward James Olmos said that the upcoming season would be the show's last, prompting Eick to say at the time that no deci-

## Tapping Eager To Join Atlantis



*Stargate SG-1* star Amanda Tapping, who joins SCI FI Channel's spinoff series *Stargate Atlantis* next season, told SCI FI Wire she's still enthusiastic about playing Col. Samantha Carter even after 10 seasons.

"It's been great," Tapping said last week during a spate of publicity in Vancouver, Canada. "It's kind of an embarrassment of riches for me at the moment. The fact that my character moved over to *Atlantis* [makes her] a completely different character for me now. Carter being in charge, having her own command, changes her character so much that it's not at all boring. It doesn't feel like I'm playing the same Carter.

## USS Horizon Member: Mike Watkins

Recently member Mike Watkins and his wife Debbie, members of the Shire of the Eagle, assisted in a Renaissance period living history demonstration. Mike was one of the knights in combat (dressed in dark blue) demonstrating good sportsmanship and the ability to accept honor rather the contest is won or lost. The demonstration was put on by the Auburn, Alabama Public Library system and the event was free to the public. The event included music, demonstrations of calligraphy, and of course the ladies in beautiful dresses. Mike has been a member of the SCA for six years. Another Horizon member with one foot in the past and one in the future. Good job Mike.





## Carter joins Stargate Atlantis

In *Atlantis'* upcoming fourth season (spoilers ahead!), Carter takes over the multinational team, replacing Torri Higginson's Dr. Elizabeth Weir, whose fate is uncertain. (The season finale of *Atlantis*, "First Strike," airs June 22 at 9 p.m. ET/PT.)

Carter's new assignment is unlike any other she's ever taken, Tapping said. "She's in command now, as opposed to being in Sam's comfort zone, which was being part of the hierarchy of the military and being in a subordinate position," she said.

Known as the brainiac of SG-1, Carter will now need to rely more on the expertise around her, including Lt. Col. John Sheppard (Joe Flanigan). "She understands Sheppard's military expertise, and even though she may have the same amount of military expertise, it's not in this galaxy. She's never fought the

Wraith before, so she defers to him a lot. She defers to [Dr. Rodney] McKay [played by David Hewlett] and his scientific expertise in the Pegasus galaxy. And then Teyla [Rachel Luttrell] and Ronon [Jason Momoa] are complete unknowns to her, so she really has to make her way with them."

After more than a decade in the *Stargate SG-1* universe, it didn't take Tapping long to nail down the differences between the two shows. "SG-1 is a bit more irreverent, I think," Tapping said. "SG-1 has a certain sense of humor to it, and even though we're stuck on Earth on a military base, ... we're more accessible because we're present-day human beings on Earth. Whereas *Atlantis* has a bit more otherworldly feel to it, and it's a bit darker, in a lot of ways."

The series finale of *Stargate SG-1*, "Unending," airs June 22 at 8 p.m. ET/PT. *Stargate Atlantis* returns with all-new episodes later this year. —**Melissa J. Peterson -SFI Wire**

## Battlestar Galactica (Cont.)

sion had been made. "I promise you that when Ron and I make a decision about *Galactica's* future, we'll let you know," he said then.

***Battlestar Galactica*** is a science fiction television program created by Ronald D. Moore that first aired on October 18, 2004 in the United Kingdom and Ireland on Sky One,

and January 14, 2005 in the United States on the Sci Fi Channel

The introduction to the television series is a three-hour miniseries that aired from December 8-9, 2003, on the Sci Fi Channel. The series has gained a wide range of critical acclaim and has won Peabody, Hugo, and Saturn awards

This will be the final season for *Battlestar Galactica*. After a very successful run on Sci Fi Channel the decision was made to end the series. The question remains, Will they finally find earth and will it be the Cylons or the humans who prevail?



Fleet Captain,  
Khane Williams  
Executive Officer,  
USS Horizon  
Khane@sbcglobal.net

June was a busy month for the members of the Horizon, and July is stacking up to be just as busy. We have had several outings and meetings outside of our normal meeting day.

Some of the member of the Horizon attended the St. Louis Renaissance Festival and then partook of the wonderfulness of the offerings at the Ruiz-Castillo Mexican Restaurant in Wright City.

Several members went to the movies to see *The*

## XO's Log

*Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*. After the movie the group went to dinner at the China Garden.

For the regular meeting we all met at Culver's restaurant for a short meeting and bite to eat and then went to see *Live Free or Die Hard*, the new Bruce Willis movie. The group then went to another movie of *Ratatouille*, the animated film about a mouse who wanted to be a chef and a chef who

could not cook.

Many of us are looking forward to the opening of the new Harry Potter movie, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, which will open July 11th. An evening at the movies has been planned for July 14th. We will let all the parents and children have the first three days and then hopefully the theater will not be so crowded. June also brought a sad

## Horizon Calendar - June 2007

### July 7 (Horizon Event)

Allen Family BBQ. RSVP to Eddie Allen. This function will begin at noon and continue until day's end.

### July 14 (Mission)

We will meet at the first movie after 4 pm for Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix at Hollywood theaters. After the movie we will Eat at CiCi's Pizza at 2609 E. Broadway, Suite 216, 573-814-1230.

### July 28 (Mission)

Monthly Meeting at 1:30 pm at the new George's, 5695 East Clark Lane, Lake of the Woods exit, 573-214-2080. The host will be Eddie Allen. After the meeting we will go to the first movie after 4pm at Hollywood of "No Reservations."

## A belly dancers, edible cannon balls, and a bit of sword play are all part of the St. Louis Renaissance Festival

The Horizon traveled to the Greater St. Louis Renaissance Festival held in Wentzville, MO. The weather started out a bit rainy, but thanks to ponchos, hats and umbrellas the crew stayed mostly dry. The rain let up after a while and the sun peeked out occasionally. As always the crafts were interesting and some of us got a lesson in medieval blacksmithing and an instrument called a foon which is an eating utensil with a fork on one end of the metal shaft and a spoon on the other. The smith gave a demo of how to light a fire with flint, steel, and charcloth.

At the joust we met up with several members of the USS Discovery and as one we cheered for our champion and vehemently booed the bad guy at the final battle of the day. As with all good stories, the villain was vanquished by the hero.

Snack time gave us the opportunity to sample the food of the faire. Edible cannon balls were on the menu and were a must try, at least once. These little delicacies were Oreo



*"To shine like a beacon on the horizon that others may follow."  
Motto of the USS Horizon*

## Hey, Harry! Let's Play 20 Questions

**BURBANK, Calif., May 22, 2007** - Warner Bros. Consumer Products has teamed up with 20Q.net, Inc. and Radica USA Ltd., a subsidiary of Mattel, to introduce the newest version of the popular 20Q™ handheld game - 20Q™ Harry Potter, based on the popular movie and book series.

20Q™ is an artificial intelligence engine, website, company and phenomenon. Originally available only online, the game had players simply think of an animal, vegetable, mineral or other item, and 20Q™ attempted to guess what they were thinking of in twenty questions or less. Each time the online training game is played, 20Q™ "learns."

20Q™ Harry Potter is the most recent edition to the popular handheld game that has been described as "spooky" and "deceptively addictive." Based on the original 20Q™ game that won over millions of players from around the world, 20Q™ Harry Potter asks fans to

## ST. Louis Ren Fest.

cookies dipped in funnel cake batter and deep fried. They were presented, five in a basket, with powdered sugar over the top. They were very tasty, but very rich.

The performers were some of the familiar faces and some new ones. There was a young woman who was performing acrobatics akin to the Circ du Soleil, balancing on a hoop suspended high above the ground and doing acrobatics on, in and through the hoop. To add to the awe of the performance she then scaled two long suspended cloth strips and proceeded to hang by her legs and ankles in many different positions. One could not help but admire not only her agility and body strength, but also her nerve to be several feet above the ground and relying on a bit of cloth wrapped around her feet and ankles to suspend her body as she moved into many different positions, both right side up and upside down. A truly amazing performance by this young athlete.

The music and performance of *3 Pints Gone* at the pub was, as usual, very entertaining. They invited the members of other groups to sing and play with them, which really enhanced their performance and increased the fun for the audience.

After a full after noon we departed the faire and headed for dinner at Ruiz-Castillo and then home. All in all a wonderful outing.



## Harry and 20 Questions

think of people, places, and things from the books and films. The goal? Try to stump the game's remarkably clever and precise artificial intelligence with knowledge of Harry's wizarding world.

In an effort to develop the game and help "teach" 20Q™ about the world of Harry Potter, Warner Bros. Consumer Products, 20Q.net and Radica are encouraging Harry Potter fans to visit <http://20Q.net> and "train" this timeless game of Twenty Questions. Radica will manufacture and distribute the new 20Q™ Harry Potter game later this year.  
<http://www.harrypotter.warnerbros.com/web/hogwarts/dailyprofit>

## XO's Log

day on June 22 with the end of *Stargate SG1*, even though we knew it was coming. The series had a very successful 10 season run, but the producer's finally decided to call it quits. However the end left it open for further adventures. The Ori are not yet defeated and although Bal is supposed to be dead, there was mention of another clone being seen. Hmmm....dare we think movie op?

