



# *Ten Forward*

**The Theta Fleet Newsletter**

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# Ten Forward

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August - November 2021 / issue 11

## OUR LITTLE PIECE OF PIE

Since 2009, Theta Fleet has opened its doors to the downtrodden folk who had a rough go elsewhere, and to new writers seeking a more "Mayberry" like community, where having fun matters and respecting one's *neighbor* is the law of the land. When you choose Theta Fleet, you are choosing to be part of something bigger than all of us.



2018 SIMMING PRIZE LAUREATE

### Building a Better Neighborhood?

Theta Fleet was established in 2009 as more than simply a simming fleet; Theta Fleet was built upon and prides itself in being a community, fostering creativity and providing a neighborhood feel to writers and game managers (Commanding Officers).

We are the "Mayberry" of the simming community which means we are open and accepting to anyone looking to settle down, or to someone who just needs a fresh start, an escape from high octane fleet politics.

### Why Mayberry and What Does it Mean?

We often refer to Theta Fleet as the "Mayberry" of the simming community, but many don't understand the reference.

It comes from "The Andy Griffith Show," a TV series that ran in the US from 1960-1968. It centered around Sheriff Andy Taylor and the inhabitants of a fictional town in North Carolina called "Mayberry." Other iconic characters included Barney Fife, Opie, Aunt Bee, Gomer Pyle, Goober, Floyd, and Otis.

The residents of the community had their quirks, but they were friendly and generally willing to help, or to chat for a spell. Everyone knew everyone else, and newcomers was welcome.

That's what we strive for in Theta Fleet. We want to be a community where you can come in to chat or to ask for help. The admiralty handles the paperwork (and often the cleanup), but otherwise they're members of the community, like everyone else. As long as you don't abuse the rules, you're welcome to hang out.

We strive to be more like that small community than a fleet where rank and position matter more than good character and good writing. Like the Mayberry of the TV show, we're not perfect, but we try to do our best, and we welcome you to come sit on the porch and enjoy what we have to offer.

**From the Offices of Admiral Kathryn Burke, Vice Admiral, Aric Barclay & Vice Admiral Veruka Kitan  
Theta Fleet Commander and Deputy Fleet Commanders**



Since its founding on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December in 2009 and its launchdate of 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2010, Theta Fleet has become the home to several dozen writers (simmers) and a plethora of games from Star Trek and beyond. We continue to a community built upon the foundation of creativity, respect, and inclusivity. We stand fostering in the Vulcan expression of *infinite diversity in infinite combinations*.

Perhaps, there is no better time than these past few months that show the pieces of the puzzle that is *community*. With players from all around the globe, in different timezones, of a great span of ages, and a variety of experience, those who join Theta Fleet are becoming part of a worldly community. Players have celebrated Diwali, Samhain, Halloween, Dias de los Muertos, and we are now entering into Hannukah, Christmas, Yule, Kwanza, and more as 2022 approaches.

Theta Fleet's Admiralty and Support Staff would like to wish everyone truly happy holidays as we continue to endure the challenges and obstacles that have faced us collectively and independently. Each and every person brings a uniqueness to Theta Fleet whether they are a member on a sim, a CO of their own, or just a friendly guest on our Discord server. We appreciate you, and you all helps make our community better each and every day.

**From the Office of Recruitment & Community Engagement**

We encourage the simming community regardless of what fleets you are a part of or even if you are an independent simmer to stop by The Babel Conference of 2022, the second annual "BaCon" where individuals from across the simming universe can learn different perspective and participate in discussion about our shared craft/hobby of building characters and worlds through our simming and writing.

The Babel Conference takes its namesake from Star Trek, a diplomatic conference held on a neutral planet with delegates from dozens of worlds. This Babel Conference is also *neutral*, it is not about fleets. It is about our shared passion and community. Take the opportunity to learn new techniques or share your own. There is a [schedule of presenters](#) located on the Babel Conference website. It will be Saturday, January 16, 2022, on Discord and organizers are still seeking presentations. Do you want to present? [Contact the organizers!](#)



## Task Force Treasures Highlighted Sims of the Month

### Task Force 23

Theta Fleet welcomes the USS Brunel to Task Force 23 and is happy to announce that this brand new sim is looking for some brave and creative souls to join in on the fun on this well traveled Excelsior class starship. Having undergone several refits during her long service, the USS Brunel is under the command of Captain Ritsu Tainaka, a young Captain with years of engineering and starship design experience.

Named after Isambard Kingdom Brunel, one of the greatest engineers in British history, the Excelsior class USS Brunel is on a journey to honor its great namesake. The starship is a specimen of fine engineering, and her continuing missions will be focused on engineering aspects and behind the scenes in the Star Trek universe. If you enjoy being part of Starfleet's backbone and have a sense for adventure, and enjoy a good bit of technobabble, join the USS Brunel and pave the way for history in the making.

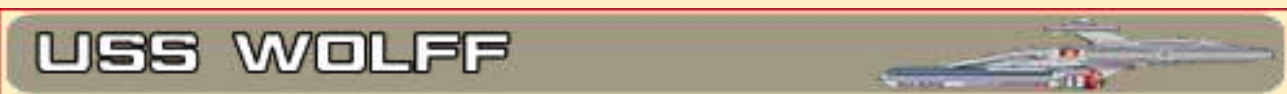


### Area 51

The USS Wolff has had a long history, first beginning as part of Obsidian Fleet in late 2010 under and continues steadily to this day despite a hiatus of a few years and a change of command. Joining Theta Fleet in 2014, the current iteration of the USS Wolff is lead by Captain Tigran, a steadfast woman who has a long service history with the starship, but has found herself in the Captain's seat over the years. Though she's a somewhat eccentric Captain, Taliserra Tigran is up for any and every challenge ahead of her and the USS Wolff.

While primarily a scientific explorer, the Luna class ship has had its fair share of scrapes and calamities including multiple encounters with the Mirror Universe and spending so long trapped in a vast time dilation temporal anomaly, of which the crew had no idea they had entered meant that they were listed as presumed dead, all gave the crew something to get their teeth into. Presently, the USS Wolff has found itself snagged in a sort of spacial snare that has brought it into what science officers Lieutenants Anthony Edwards and Helena (H.G.) Wells have determined is 'null space.'

Adding to the Wolff's motely crew is the flirtatious Ship's Counsellor Summer Wyse, the bombastic and often prickly Chief Engineer Aiko Kiroshi, her young inexperienced engineer Ensign Zachary Chandler, and the Wolff's newly appointed unapologeticly cheeky First Officer Tyrus Acevedo from Ardana's cloud city of Stratos.



## FROM THE GALLEY



## Peanut Butter Nebula Cookies

With Four Simple Ingredients

### Ingredients:

- 1 Cup of peanut butter (smooth/creamy)
- 1 Cup light brown sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ Teaspoon vanilla extract

### Directions:

#### Step 1

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Line baking sheets with parchment paper.

#### Step 2

Combine the peanut butter, brown sugar, vanilla extract, and egg. Mix until smooth.

#### Step 3

Drop spoonfuls of dough onto the prepared baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 6 to 8 minutes. Lightly press down in a crisscross pattern with a fork.

#### Step 4

Take rack out and let cookies cool for several minutes before transferring to a wire cooling rack.

### NOTE:

Be careful not to overbake these, you will want slightly brown bottoms. These cookies often 'harden' when they cool. Also, the peanut butter is often like molten lava when the cookies immediately come out of the oven...don't try to move them onto a cooling rack until they have cooled and set up. You will risk second degree burns (I have experience).