



BISMARCK'S REMARKS

October 2008



George O'Bryan - one of our many *Smoothies*

Ohio Renaissance Festival 2008

From the Guest Editor

Hello everyone!

September was a “Whirl Wind” month with the beginning of the Ohio Renaissance Festival and a huge windstorm thanks to Hurricane Ike (more on that in another article). The first weekend of The Ohio Renaissance Festival was highly attended, but as for our booth, “The Peasant’s Orchard”, we started off with a very short crew as opposed to the last several years where it seemed that the first weekend is usually staffed rather nicely. Our local Masons have done a terrific job by coming out and helping us. Had it not been for their help, we would have been lucky to have four people out there working. I would also like to extend a big thank you to our food wenches and Lisa (behind the scenes food wench queen) for supplying the RenFair workers with lunch every day, making it more affordable for all to eat without spending an arm and a (turkey) leg for the other food vendor’s out there. Lisa, your Chicken Noodle Soup was a BIG hit for those who were able to enjoy it during the RenFair school day. Thanks again for doing that and for taking the time to make something special like that for us.

Thank you,
Jennifer Fish
Chief of Communications



Bismarck Remarks is published monthly. Submissions and comments should be sent to the following address:

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Or emailed to newsletter@ussbismarck.org



From the Captain:

I hope everyone has recovered from Ike and the mid-September storms. To all of you who had power and were able to help out others, thank you. And thank you goes out to Lisa for taking the initiative and leading a *Bismarck* Damage Control Team. We really worked as a family to make sure everyone was taken care of. See the article on the storm for more details.

RenFair has finally finished! There was a lot of competition for the Top Five slots and their bonus BisBucks. The Top Five changed on weekly basis! See the article on RenFair for the final results.

Bismarck-E jackets are in, and they look sweet! Please see our Quartermaster, Rick Pinsky, if you want to try on one of our samples. The jackets do tend to run small, so you may need a larger size. The price is \$75 for sizes S-XL. 2X and up will run you an additional \$3-6 or so. If you want your name on the front, it will cost you an additional \$7.50.

We're planning several ship activities in November including Family Fun Day, an Away Team Missions to EnterTrainMent (in West Chester), and an Away Team Mission to Vulkon's Starbase Indy (in Indianapolis). The SFC Annual Meeting will be at Starbase Indy at 8 AM on Saturday. You do not need to purchase a Starbase Indy membership to attend. We expect to take home several awards again this year! I encourage you to attend in your *Bismarck* black uniforms with pips and name badge. (If you need anything from the Quartermaster, please order it now!)

Nominations for Starship Captain will be accepted at November's General Meeting. If you are interested in running or in nominating someone else, I encourage you to talk to Kevin, Richard, or Lisa as soon as possible. This way we can provide all potential candidates with as much information and training as possible prior to the election.

Elections will be at the January General Meeting. You must attend either the September, October, or November General Meeting (or any Sr Staff meeting held between now and January) to be eligible to vote. No absentee ballots will be accepted, so please plan on attending the January meeting.

Most cities are having Beggars' Night on Thursday, Oct 30, so please keep your eyes open, and your candy bowl filled, for the little trick-or-treaters. Happy Halloween!

Serving you,
Fleet Captain Kevin Johnson

Ohio Experiences Hurricane Winds

“Just sit right back and you’ll hear a tale, a tale of a fateful trip, that started from this Midwest port aboard this tiny ship...”

It was Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008 around one o’clock in the afternoon, when the winds from Hurricane Ike made its appearance. The trees started swaying due to the wind that we experienced that day, but that was just the start. It really got rough around two o’clock that afternoon. The blowing of the wind got a lot heavier, making the trees bend every which way they could, some of them splitting in half and others uprooting. Thankfully, the heavy winds started to abate about six o’clock in the evening, but that wasn’t the end of Ike. Due to trees coming down on top of power, cable and phone lines, there were hundreds of thousands left in the dark. No computers, no phones.

“Not a single luxury, just like Robinson Crusoe as primitive as can be.”



Damaged tents at RenFair

A tree crashed into Peasants Orchard 15 minutes after the team left

“If it weren’t for the courage of the fearless crew, the Bismarck would be lost, the Bismarck would be lost...”

Commendations go to Lisa Johnson, our Senior Captain Emeritus. Though her own house didn’t have power, she led a Damage Control Team (consisting of herself, Anthony, Rick, and Kevin) who contacted or got a report

from, every *Bismarck* family. Carefully dodging tree-limbed covered streets and broken stoplights, Lisa and the team made it to the store successfully to purchase the necessities that the crew needed: food, grills, charcoal, ice, coolers, etc. The supplies were paid for by the USS *Bismarck*. To all of you who were able to help, thank you!

“Join us here each month my friend, you’re sure to get a smile, from all the stranded castaways, here on Bismarck Isle.”



Kettering, Ohio
Photos courtesy of Cox Publishing

RenFair Finished!

It's over! After 8 weekends, Labor Day, and one Student Day, RenFair 2008 is over. We had 14 *Bismarck* members work at RenFair (or behind the scenes). The average Bismarck worker put in about 66 hours, or over 7 days.

No matter how many hours you work, you will receive 0.3 promotion points for every hour worked and B\$3 for every 7 hours worked. This meant that almost every worker earned enough BisBucks to pay their 2009 dues. (BisBucks earned don't have to go to dues if you'd rather them go to something else.) The Top Five will receive additional BisBucks. BisBucks may be applied towards local and national dues, items from the ship's stores, Away Team Missions (like Starbase Indy), 501(c)3 charities, and gas cards. See Kevin for details. As a reminder, local and national dues are now due January 1st.

I'd also like to thank the Masons. We could not have had a successful year without them. George O'Bryan and Ire Saxton both worked over 90 hours! The Masons are already asking about RenFair 2009.

The Top Five *Bismarck* workers are as follows:

Rick	164 hrs
Jen	120 hrs
Dennis	96 hrs
Robert	75 hrs
Chewy	74 hrs



**One of the Sunday teams (not all workers pictured)
Photo courtesy of George O'Bryan**

October 2008

12 th	Liz Wegner's birthday
13 th	Mike Stanley's birthday
13 th	Columbus Day
19 th	Last day of RenFair
25 th	General Meeting 7:00 PM, Bethlehem Lutheran Church Science has refreshments
30 th	Beggars Night 5:30-7:00 PM (may vary by community)
31 st	Halloween

November 2008

11 th	Veterans' Day
15 th	Away Team Mission to EnterTrainMent Junction West Chester, Ohio (Exit 22 on I-75) Meet at Middletown Meijer at 10 AM
22 nd	Family Fun Day 1 PM, Bethlehem Lutheran Church Bring your own favorite games and snacks 7PM, General Meeting Command has refreshments
27 th	Thanksgiving
27 th	Suzanne Barr's Birthday
28 th	Rebecca Johnson's Birthday
30 th	Isabella Crespo's Birthday
28 th – 30 th	Vulkon's Starbase Indy Marriott East, Indianapolis (SFC Annual Meeting at 8 AM Saturday) www.vulkon.com



Scott Fish - USS *Bismarck* Engineer
All Aboard to EnterTrainMent Junction!

