

THE WRIGHT STUFF

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S.S. KITTY HAWK NCC 1659

CONVENTIONS

PRO
OR
CON

A VIEW FROM THE CATBIRD'S SEAT

By J. R. Fisher

If you haven't already heard, FAN OUT has been cancelled! NO MORE! GONE!

Such is the life of conventions. If you have been attending cons for 10 or more years, then you have probably noticed a great deal of change in their flavor. This will vary according to the type of con (science fiction, Star Trek, gaming, fantasy, etc.), where it is located and if it is a professional con or a fan con. Which brings us to our topic.

We have a Creation Con here in Raleigh on March 15th. Our participation is limited to a recruiting table and maybe a couple of security people. The cost at the door will be \$16.00. If you want a table in the dealers' room, one table is \$225.00. All this for a six hour con in which you will hear the guest speak, get an autograph (maybe), see some bloopers, get the latest Trek news, and spend your money with the dealers or at an auction.

The con in December was roundly criticized for not having any entertainment other than bloopers, our auction, our beloved fleet admiral doing trivia, and the opportunity to spend your money. These same complaints were in great evidence at the con in January of '91, and at the Creation Con last spring.

Our question is: Do you want to continue our limited participation in these professional cons (sorry, I don't think they were professionally done, just totally profit motivated) or do we want to 1) stay away from them as a group; or 2) become major players in these cons by providing the entertainment for some sort of compensation? Do we want to do a con ourselves? These are questions to the crew as a crew. It is not STARFLEET's position, the Kitty Hawk's position, or my position to ever say to you that you as an individual should or should not support someone else's convention. But if we choose to do a con as a ship then every one of us needs to get behind it 100%. Not

because it will make it easier to do, which it will; but because then we will all have fun.

This is one of the few major cities in the east to not have a Star Trek convention done by fandom. We can change that. By starting small and growing at a steady pace, we can become a good con, a fun con, and a popular con. Trek is not going away. Those of us on the Kitty Hawk may drift away from all of this over the coming years. But we will be replaced by new people discovering what you and I already know about Trek.

Whether we do a con in part or independently, we do need to get the message of Trek back to the people in this area. They have been burned repeatedly by the conventions and that has hurt the image of all organized and unorganized Star Trek fans. We need to show these people that we are not money grabbing profiteers with a dog and pony show. But that we see a future that is bright and desirable and more importantly obtainable. Obtainable, if we start now to fashion that world we want for our descendants, by changing one person at a time until the whole world sees the dream.

Now, I know that all of the above sounds mighty pompous and supercilious and maybe it is considering our meager efforts thus far. We could devote most of our time and energy this year to this endeavor and it may well fall on its face as far as public response and monies raised for charities. But we will have done something, and we will have had fun doing it.

After all, isn't that why we meet as a group? Surely, all of you are not my fan club who come to these meetings just to hear me talk. Not everyone is going to want to do the same things and that is the way it should be. If there is something you want to participate in, but maybe not direct it, volunteer yourself to the person who is directing it. If you

have an idea for an activity we haven't thought of, speak up. This is an opportunity for everyone on the ship to learn something and have a good time.

Enough on that for now.

I would remind you that you need to check your Communique for the expiration date on your STARFLEET membership. Also, it will be March when you read this, so it is time to pay your dues on the Kitty Hawk. We haven't mentioned them before now because everyone seems to be spent out from Christmas. Hopefully everyone has recovered by now, but if you find yourself still in a bind, please contact me privately and we will see if arrangements can be made; otherwise, we assume you don't wish to maintain your membership.

Our dues are \$24.00 per year with new members joining later than January getting a prorated fee. If you have been attending meetings, you are exercising a privilege for which you are expected to pay. Please make checks payable to U.S.S. Kitty Hawk and we would like them before the end of March.

If you attend M.O.C., we may be launching a shuttle there with Steve Cox as the C.O.

Please be on time for the P.B.S. telethon and if you have not signed up I am sure we could use you and it is always a lot of fun.

It has been suggested by the N.C. Department of Transportation that we have a highway clean-up on or about April 4th, O.K.?



FIRST OFFICER'S LOG

By Teresa Tuel

Star Trek is coming to the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C. The exhibit will open February 28, 1992, and run to September, 1992. The exhibit examines in retrospect the historical, political, social, and cultural issues and themes of the 1960's that were incorporated into the weekly shows. Free admission. The museums are open from 10:00 A.M. to

5:30 P.M. daily. For more information call (9 A.M. - 5 P.M. daily) (202) 357-2700.

It takes approximately 5 hours to drive from Durham, N.C. to Washington (traveling with traffic which may be doing warp 7-8). The exhibit is free, leaving the major cost to be food. I would suggest a packed breakfast/lunch and have dinner outside of the D.C.

area. Good, comfortable walking shoes are a must for this trip.

STAMPEDE

We are still collecting postage stamps for charity. Please leave a 1/2 - 1 inch border around the stamps. I am collecting and sorting the stamps for the ship. We have collected over 500 stamps already. Thank you for all the donations.

SECOND OFFICER'S LOG

By Carey Muse

First of all I would like to join Captain Fisher and First Officer Tuel in thanking everyone for coming out and being a part of Trek-A-Rama. We may experience some fallout because of the convention, but I think on the whole everybody who worked the convention had a good time and enjoyed themselves.

One thing to note in this column, in March Paramount will be releasing a new series of movies called Director's

Choice. They have done this before with the GODFATHER PART III which was a director's cut and it showed new scenes from the GODFATHER. They will be continuing this in March with two directors, one of which I have forgotten, but the other one will be STAR TREK IV, director's cut by Leonard Nimoy. This will include some behind the scenes footage as well as added footage from the movie that was

never seen. Again, the release date on this is in March. If you are that much a fan of Star Trek you will probably want to buy it.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Pat Heinske on his recent award and promotion. Pat has been an active and involved crew member since coming aboard the USS Kitty Hawk.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S LOG

By Pat Heinske

Stardate 9201.19 - 2:00 A.M. - Teresa Tuel, Larry Pischke, Elaine Royal and I took off from Raleigh, N.C. to a place where some of the most monumental, world-shaping decisions are made every single day - (no, not Al Bundy's bathroom) - Washington, D.C.

We arrived about 7:00 A.M. and located a parking garage near the Smithsonian Institution, then ate breakfast in the hotel above. Then we walked over to the mall (the park that divides the buildings of the Smithsonian

and stretches from the capitol building to the Lincoln Memorial) and walked around and took some pictures. The weather was a bit cool - 90 degrees below with a wind chill factor of absolute zero (I guess Congress wasn't in session that morning) so we waited by the entrance to the Air and Space Museum until they let us in. We spent the day looking around, taking pictures, and spending money - almost like a con, except without all the weird people that show up at those things - you know, like

us. Then we headed over to the Museum of Natural History and looked around 'til they booted us out.

It was time for supper then, so I suggested the Hard Rock Cafe. Everyone agreed, and so we took the Metro (the D.C. subway system - very clean) to that side of town (rather scary) and ate supper and libated ourselves with hurricanes (except for Teresa - she volunteered to drive). Then, after 58 groups in the cafe had celebrated their birthdays (continued on page 3)

JUST ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE?

A BOOK REVIEW

By Jeff Habrych

Robert Asprin, who brought us the "Thieve's World", the adventures of the Great Skeeve and Aahz (no relation) in the MYTH Adventures, now brings us the next great adventure of Captain Jester and the Omega Mob in, "Phule's Paradise".

A little background for those unfamiliar with the first book, "Phule's Company". Captain Jester, aka. Willard Phule, the youngest megamultimillionaire in the known universe, son of Victor Phule owner and CEO of Phule-Proof Munitions, and probably the only Space Legionnaire to start off his military career with his first court-martial.

As punishment Captain Jester along with his gentleman's gentleman, Beeker, are sent to Haskin's Planet to be company commander of the biggest bunch of miscreants and misfits in the Space Legion.

Through a combination of trust, encouragement, a little butt kicking, and not to mention money, Captain Jester is able to lead the Omega Mob through an encounter with the army's crack Red Eagles, their own self doubt, several "small" personality conflicts, an encounter with a new alien intelligence and come out of his second court-martial smelling like a rose, with what the public perceives as the Space Legion's most elite military company, but we know better.

In this newest installment, "Phule's Paradise", (Phule = Fool) the Omega Mob is reassigned to what is described as, "A really sweet job" and "Easy duty in paradise". But as we soon learn, "Sweet" and "Easy", like space are terms relative to ones position in the universe.

As with the first book, the story is narrated by Mr. Phule's butler, Beeker, who is keeping a journal about his employer's activities and subsequently

introduces each chapter giving the reader an insight into things to come. (This is similar to the way Mr. Asprin intro's each chapter in the MYTH Adventures.) Since Beeker is not formally in the Space Legion and not in the chain of command he is able to narrate the story from differing points of view.

The mission: They have been hired by a naive young Gunther Rafael to act as security guards in his soon to open casino, The FAT CHANCE, on the gambling world, Lorelei.

As usual, it is up to Captain Jester and his band of military misfits to figure "What's wrong with this picture", while fighting off a takeover of the casino, entertaining beautiful women, not blowing their cover, smoozing the casino entertainment, and not blowing up everything in sight and killing everyone.

From the get go this story keeps you riveted page after page with a plot that has a tendency to make sharp right turns when you least expect it. I had a hard time putting the book down because of this. Every time you think you have someone or something figured out or think you know what is going to happen next, <BUZZZZZZ> wrong-o.

Mr. Asprin has again shown that he is a master at creating a fresh, exciting and imaginative story full of characters you can love, admire, envy, and despise all at the same time. I highly recommend this book, and its predecessor "Phule's Company", to Science Fiction readers who, like myself, love when writers break the bonds of normalcy and drive on the shoulder for a couple of miles.



(CHIEF ENGINEER continued from page 2) and a banana split was devoured by us for dessert, we headed back to Larry's shuttle to leave, and found that the warp drive coils were shorted out. So Elaine called AAA (Alphacentauri Automotive Assistance) and they regenerated the warp field for us, and with Teresa at the helm (pretty scary) we made our way homeward.

AIR AND SPACE FORAY

By Larry Pischke

Date: Sunday, January 19, 1992.

Time: 2:30 a.m. (UGH!).

Destination: The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C.

The shuttle departed at the above ungodly hour. The crew consisted of First Officer Teresa (it was her idea; we'll get her later), Chief Engineer Pat, Ensign Elaine, and myself. After driving through the wee hours, we arrived in D.C. (Darn Cold!) at about 7:30 a.m., when, of course, NOTHING is open. We consoled ourselves with a \$3.00 a glass orange juice breakfast, then headed for the Mall.

Fortunately for us, a kindly guard took pity on us as we developed hypothermia in a doorway and let us into the museum. We proceeded to spend the next 8 hours or so wandering through the history of aviation and spaceflight. The primary reason we went to the museum - the Star Trek exhibit - was not scheduled to open until the end of February (Teresa was told that it ended in February - we'll get her mis-informant later, too). I guess we'll have to go back.

After a brief stop at the museum of Natural History (we'll have to go there again too) we closed our trip with dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe (good idea, Pat).

All in all it was a very satisfying - if exhausting - excursion.

ERIN GO BRAGH

By Deborah Herndon

Between the ideas of green beer and the chaos of national fighting is where the true spirit of St. Patrick's Day lies. Ireland is a country that is rich in history, culture, and heritage and unfortunately is the only country that actually gets a U.S. day celebrating it.

We could all dedicate a day to each country and celebrate it on March 17th. Hey, why not! I've discovered that it's St. Patrick's Day not Ireland Day we celebrate. So what we really should be celebrating is one man's faith and courage and the undying spirit of all men

to overcome odds most believe are insurmountable. Yes, indeed Patrick (a monk in Ireland) was Irish, but more than that he was a man who fought and won. That is what we are really celebrating. This idea is what makes STARFLEET what it is also.

DOIN' THE CON THING AGAIN

By Pat Heinske

STARDATE: 9112.08.

The Place: Trek-A-Rama at the Mission Valley Inn.

The guest: Denise Crosby.

About a dozen members of the Kitty Hawk crew worked security for the con, including myself, and few hassles were found, so a good time was had by most, if not all of the group.

The event actually started the night before with a party in our con suite, and continued the next morning with a hospitality suite for Miss Crosby, who barely made it there in time. But she did, so we had a quick photo and autograph session, and then we escorted her down to the auditorium. She spoke (nothing we haven't heard before) and then signed autographs. Then, since she had an early flight out, she left early in the day, which left STARFLEET and the dealers to keep the crowd happy until 5:00 P.M. Somehow, we managed to do it, but hopefully, we won't have to again (at least not that part of it).

I enjoyed working this con, whether or not people in general thought it was a good or bad con, but it was a good experience, and I'm definitely going to do it again.

10-FORWARD SPECIALS

By Deborah Herndon

MIND/BODY CHANGER

- 1 Shot Everclear
- 1 Shot Rum
- 1 Shot Vodka
- 1 Shot Whiskey
- 1 Shot Tequila

MATTER- ANTIMATTER IT DON'T MATTER

- 1 Tall chilled glass or short hot glass
- 7 Oz Pepsi, or Coke, or 7-Up, or Apple juice, or ...
- 3 Oz Gin, or Rum, or Vodka, or Whiskey

"THE GAME"

- One pair dark sunglasses
- 4 Glasses Vodka
- One tall wall

ONE SINGULAR SENSATION

- 1 Shot Clorox
- 1 Tbsp. Comet
- 2 Cups Tide
- 4 Oz. Pepsi
- Never tried twice.

DON'T OPEN THE HATCH FOR FEAR OF...

- 4 Cups scalding water
- 2 Shots Vodka with Paprika (a pinch)
- 4 Large Jalapenos
- 1 Alien's eyeball

THE WESLEY WETTER

- 1 6 Oz. Glass
- 2 Oz. Grape Juice
- 2 Oz. Cranberry Juice
- 1 Oz. Papaya Juice
- 20 "I know the answer to the universe" statements.



BE SURE TO NOTE OTHER 10-FORWARD SPECIALS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE!

AWAY TEAM REPORT

By Elaine Royal

Stardate 1/19/92. It began in typical fashion - various crew members were wandering aimlessly through another weekend, when suddenly, our fearless first officer devised a plan to relieve the boredom. After rounding up several unsuspecting volunteers (Lt. Cmdr. Heinske, Ltjg. Pischke and Ensign Royal), Cmdr. Tuel briefed us on our mission - a factfinding trip to Washington, D.C. She had heard rumors of Star Trek related activities at the Smithsonian Institute and our assignment was to verify and assess the nature of these activities. So, in the dead of the night we left Raleigh in Mr. Pischke's newly refitted shuttlecraft, arriving in the Capital city just after dawn, only to find that the city was still closed for the night. We managed to obtain food and warmth in the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel restaurant, then ventured forth into the freezing morning air. Upon arrival at the Air and Space Museum, we discovered we still had a while to wait until it opened, but a kindly security guard took pity on us and ushered us into the lobby, where we soon thawed out. Our team then spent the next 7 hours or so in close examination of every exhibit in the museum, including our ship's namesake, the Kitty Hawk, or Wright Flyer. However, the Star Trek rumors turned out to be somewhat inaccurate. (For those of you interested in following up on our initial foray, the exhibit is scheduled to begin February 26th and run until sometime in September.) Our mission now accomplished, we ventured across the mall to the Museum of Natural History where we saw Bones (dinosaur, that is) and Stones (the Hope Diamond, for example. I was not impressed.) Finally, we decided to end our excursion with dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe, where the three junior members of the away team were hit by Hurricanes, leaving our first officer to

shuttle us all home. Except for some problems with the shuttle and the disappointment at not seeing the Star Trek exhibit, and almost freezing to death, we had a great time. Really. Honest.

LOVE IS

By Deborah Herndon

Cards, flowers, candy, etc... These are all items we traditionally give on February 14th.



In 1992, the new year of world peace and intergalactic get-togetherness let us remember what love really means when we express it.

Giving a stranger a smile, helping Mother Nature by keeping her streets and parks clean, volunteering time to read to the elderly, or being a big brother/sister are only some ways love is given. And when we give of ourselves and our love, we are bound to receive it back. So remember on February 14th that today we as a nation celebrate the gift of love, but as people we must remember there are 364 more days and no matter who you are you can give AND receive love with or without the flowers, cards, candy, etc.



CLASSIFIED!!!! TOP SECRET

By Lynette Crowley

Identify the serial numbers below by giving the name, rank, and position.
(i.e. E 342 413 - LT. SINGH, ENGINEERING OFFICER)

SC 937-0176 CEC
EC 948-885
FC 420-158 CEC
CHC 173-950
NC 987-879
OC 247-276
CCE 540-621
S 179-276 SP
ST 113-414
M 324-004
SM 357-977
CME 013-461
SE 197-514
CTE 080-495
CSE 650-749

TRIVIA TEST

By Deborah Herndon

1. Where did the U.S.S. Enterprise land in Star Trek IV when they traveled back in time?
2. What was the form changers name (Character and star)?
3. What was Spock's response to Scotty on his statement "We're going to die" in Star Trek VI movie?
4. What should Spock have done instead of volunteering them for the mission?
5. What is the name of the Vulcan sister planet?
6. What is Spock's mother's last name?
7. What were Kirk's brother's and nephew's names?
8. Who was Kirk's academy nemesis?
9. What is McCoy's daughter's name?

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ENGINEERING

By Pat Heinske

At the January meeting, I was the thrilled recipient of two surprising honors - first, a promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Commander; and second, the distinction of being named the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk's 1991 Crewman of the Year. I was shocked, which says a lot, because those that know me best know that nothing shocks me.

I want to thank everyone in STARFLEET that makes it such a fun place to be, because if I didn't enjoy myself and the group, I probably wouldn't have done all the things I have over the past year. The conventions, the meetings, the road trips, the V-ball games, the parties, yes, even the highway clean-ups - none of these would be as much fun without the deranged bunch of psychos that make up our crew. Thank you, again.

I would also like to congratulate everyone else who was promoted at the January meeting, with special attention to Larry Pischke, who has become our new Chief of Operations, and Debbie Herndon, who has become our new Recreations Officer.

REUNIFICATOR

- 1 Cup Pepsi
- 1/2 Cup Schnapps
- 1 Tbsp. Feathers
- 2 Shots of Super Glue

BLAST IN THE HOLD

- 4 Shots Everclear
- 2 Tbsp. Tabasco
- 2 Jalapeno Peppers
- 1 Ice Cube

MEDICAL HEALTH CARE - YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

By Liz Read

In 1980, the Surgeon General stated that half of the deaths in the US each year are from unhealthy lifestyles. I don't think much has changed in the past 12 years; it may even be worse, now that we have AIDS to worry about. (And AIDS is preventable!)

Take care of someone who is important to all of us on the Kitty Hawk - YOU! Take the responsibility to perform some preventive maintenance on yourself (like you do on your car). Eat sensibly, exercise, sleep enough to be rested. Have regular check-ups and don't forget your teeth and eyes (the vision test at DMV doesn't count). If you take medicines, take them correctly, and don't take other drugs (including alcohol) without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

Ladies - annual Pap tests and monthly self-breast exams. Gentlemen - monthly self-testicular exams. Everyone - hearing tests and glaucoma screening as you get a little older. Prevention, prevention, prevention.

Same thing applies to accidents: It is much easier to not have them than to put you back together again after one. So be careful. Sure, nobody gets out of this world alive (except Mr. Spock) but don't cheat yourself out of one single moment. Live long and prosper.

HOW'S YOUR LATIN?

Thanks to Liz Read's uncle who is a linguist. He sent her a translation of the Latin exchange between Picard and Wesley in the episode "The Game".

Picard: "Duo modo tua Latinatos est?"

("How is your Latin?")

Wesley: "Praestat quam prius."

("Better than before.")

Picard: "Oppido bonum."

("Well done.")

SECURITY

By Carey Muse

The Security Department would like to thank all members of the Kitty Hawk who came out to Trek-A-Rama and worked the convention both at the table and as part of the security team for the convention. Commendations go to Jeff Habrych, Larry Pischke, Andy Sink, John Troan, Tara Weaver, and Pat Heinske and special thanks to Kevin for his undercover work at breakfast. These people did an excellent job of providing security to the convention. Should we provide security for more conventions, I will pick different teams and ask for different volunteers.

Since we are beginning talks with the Klingons toward a Peace Treaty, I see no harm in allowing Klingon spies to be allowed on ship; however, some of the more radical factions of the crew will be continually monitored. I am, however, concerned about Romulans; I am not convinced of the First Officer's claim that the Romulan we have been seeing is a twin cousin. I am more and more convinced by the First Officer's actions at Trek-A-Rama. I found her talking in some sort of code to guest Denise Crosby. Could Ms. Crosby be a Romulan or spy? Hmm?

DOUBLE DIRTY FERENGI

- 2 Shots of Rum
- 2 Shots of Vodka
- 2 Shots of Cranberry Juice
- 2 Seconds for Ferengi to steal it.

QUANDARY

- 1 Box of Trivia Questions
- 4 Shots of Gin
- 12 Shots of Vodka
- 1 Muddled mind

COMING EVENTS:

MARCH 14 - PBS TELETHON
15 - CREATION CON
21 - ST. PATTY'S PARTY
22 - DUKE PHONE-A-THON
26 - 29 - M.O.C.

APRIL 04 - KITTY HAWK - HIGHWAY CLEANUP
11 - HORSEBACK RIDING
26 - NATURE TREK

MAY 02 - KITTY HAWK MEETING
29 - 31 - LANDING PARTY
30, 31 - DUKE CHILDREN'S TELETHON

THE WRIGHT STUFF
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