



# THE WRIGHT STUFF

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

## A VIEW FROM THE CATBIRD SEAT

By J.R. Fisher

### PAY YOUR DUES NOW!

Unless you have talked to me or do talk to me in the next week about your outstanding dues you will be dropped from the role and will no longer receive The Wright Stuff! It is the end of April and many members have not come forward to share the financial responsibility to which they agreed several months ago.

Along the same lines: STARFLEET has sent me an updated membership roster which does not have the names of several of our members on it. Check your renewal date on your last Communiqué. Our membership is dropping and we all need to stay current in STARFLEET to keep the Kitty Hawk afloat.

We have ordered twenty (20) membership packets for the convention on May 19th. We all need to recruit diligently this month if we are to get our crew back up to the levels we are used to, which enables us to do the projects we choose. Everyone should have as a goal this year of recruiting one new member for STARFLEET and the Kitty Hawk.

Speaking of the convention; do you know about it? William Shatner and George Takei will be at the Jim Graham Building on the N.C. State Fairgrounds on May 19th from 12 - 7 p.m. The Kitty Hawk has been asked to recruit and work security for this Trek-A-Rama. We are asking for volunteers from the crew to work these details. You are requested to be current on your STARFLEET membership (if you are not working, a current membership card gets you a discount at the door and some dealers may give a discount as well) and on your Kitty Hawk dues (see first paragraph). If

you wish to volunteer for this convention, you need to contact me or Tara Weaver, our chief of security. She will choose her teams and make the job assignments to those working. Uniforms are preferred, but if it is as hot as it can be in May, duty shirts (Kitty Hawk T-shirts) will do.

This will be a long day, with some arriving early that morning and staying until after dark with little or no relief. Also, a large crowd is expected and everyone will have their hands full. Shatner will not do autographs but Takei most definitely will. There is likely to be a third guest of the scientist variety who may require additional assistance as well. This will be a difficult con which will require maximum restraint and patience from all of us. Please co-operate!

We are giving up income by not working the Jazz & Art Festival (which is the same weekend) that usually nets us about \$150.00 for the kitty. This is the first con in over a year to come to Raleigh and we need to make very favorable impressions on everyone involved with this convention. Don't let us down.

The T-shirts have been ordered and should be at the May 4th meeting! The price for each shirt is \$7.50. Please make every effort to attend the May 4th meeting and if you ordered shirts, please bring the money to pay for them.

The May 4th meeting is a pot luck or share-a-dish occasion. Please bring your favorite dish you would like to share with your fellow crew members. The time of the meeting is 4 p.m. at the Fisher's house on Glen Forest Drive. If the weather is nice, we will meet

outside.

Also, on May 4th, at 10 a.m., we will hold our final (probably) highway cleanup on our section of Leesville Road. Come early - stay late - let's make it fun one more time!

As always if you have stamps for Larry please bring them to the meeting, along with any aluminum you have to donate towards the Duke Children's Hospital. Which by the way, the telethon is usually the first weekend in June (Saturday night [when we work] and Sunday). Don't forget to sign up for that occasion also.

Now to the last major request in this newsletter (Nah, don't believe it); your science fiction books. So far we have collected approximately 250 books to be donated to the high school library in Rocky Mount. That is half-way to our goal and this is the last regular meeting we have scheduled before we will have to deliver these books. Please try to donate some number of science fiction books to the cause, particularly Star Trek. We have a good selection of classic trek and some next-generation volumes, but no DS-9 or Voyager books have showed up yet. To those of you who have made donations, a hearty "thank you" and "well done".

I would encourage as many of you as can to come to the meeting. We need to plan out the rest of our year and the best plans will be those in which the most people have a say in what happens.

Well, enough of my pontificating. It is time to end this newsletter. Keep the faith and do the wright thing.

ESSE QUAM VIDERI





# THE WRIGHT STUFF

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# THE WRIGHT STUFF

VOLUME 7

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## CREDITS

PUBLISHER.....J.R. FISHER

EDITOR .....JANE FISHER

ASSISTANTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.....J.R. FISHER  
 JOHN MILLER  
 CAREY MUSE  
 ELAINE PISCHKE  
 LARRY PISCHKE  
 LIZ READ  
 AUDRA TAYLOR  
 TARA WEAVER



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# KITTY HAWK CHRONICLES II TO EACH HIS OWN

By Audra Taylor

## Goddess 6: Possibilities

"I know that here reality is different. Our minds will have to adjust to that. But exactly how different that reality will become, I can't say. And exactly how the other will adjust to it, is even harder to predict. Life here has been difficult. Perhaps it would have been different if we had all been colonist, ready and prepared for that battle ahead. We are not. True we have survived, probably better than most. But all of us crave a reunion with our friends and old ways of life. I know that will not happen. As much as I wished it, as much as I dreamed it, that will not be reality. These thoughts can drain the hope from life making us give in to despair. That despair can be like a darkness, swallowing each person as it travels. Now, I no longer feel the darkness as much as I do the radiating warmth of light. Hope. This creature in human form, who as of yet has no human name, has given me knowledge that will make survival easier. He has also filled my head with a dream of possibilities, that maybe we can send out a signal, a type of beacon to attract a starship of some kind. We may all die here from old age, looking up into the sky and waiting, praying for the sight of others. At least we will have tried and done more than we thought possible to return hope. I hope this, and some of the other knowledge will give a new spirit to the others.

I have spent many days learning, working, and studying so that I can return and teach others. I'll have a difficult time ahead, especially convincing them that the only way to keep the children alive is to encase them in a shell made of the flesh of another creature. Our reality is about to change, drastically. We have no choice, we can accept the changes or suffer a slow death, from the inside out.

It's time for me to return to the others. I will ask my new friend, once more to return with me. If he refuses, I will be totally on my own.

He says the others are not ready. I am inclined to agree with him. But I have come to rely on him so much these days, that I don't want to face the challenge alone. He's asked me to give him a human name. Since I cannot even attempt to pronounce it in his language. I haven't decided yet. I've gotten attached to his presence. He told me that he will watch over me in his other form. That he will whisper to me if I need help.

The truth is I'm scared. I left in a mental state that was at best dangerous and now, to return with knowledge, that at best will be difficult to explain. They might think I am still dangerous, still delusional and not listen to the help I offer. He says to have faith. Faith, I have. Perhaps that will be enough. It was for my father, who at even the worst of times could smile and manage to give me the strength I needed. I wonder if that's why he chose a human form that resembled my father. Because, of all the memories, his was the one that always gave me strength."

She turned the recorder off and placed it on the ground. Her hand rubbed the surface of the rock. This area had become a sacred place. She took a deep breath, trying to absorb the strength she needed. She picked up the recorder and her small sack and walked away.

## Silent Killer

Grun awoke with his head pounding from the blow. A quick glance around and he knew he was alone. His jaw cringed tightly as the green Romulan blood began to boil. Someone will pay for this, he thought. Someone will pay, I PROMISE! The anger that swelled inside him burst with a loud roar. He got up and ran at the door. His fists hammered on it. The blows echoing loudly in the shuttle bay. He wanted to hurt something! To hear the cries of mercy. Grun's fists were folded so tightly his palms began to bleed. He

panted like a wild animal. The bay was once again silent. It wasn't enough, he wanted her to pay, to hear her cries of mercy. And she would pay.

He punched his security code into the door. Nothing happened. He swung at the square below it. Nothing happened. He pressed the intercom.

"I am locked in a shuttle bay and my security code won't let me out. Now what THE HELL IS GOING ON."

"Grun, I've been looking for you. All systems are down at the moment. It's like the system got overloaded. I'm coming down to get you." The line went silent.

Sava knew better than to push Grun. She also knew how to say what needed to be said, quickly and efficiently.

Well, at least he would be out of here. And once all lines were operational he would have the whole crew turn the ship upside down looking for her. And once he found her...

A smile hit Grun's face. It was an unusual sight for he never smiled. That would be something that would be worth the wait.

It was only a moment before the door slid open. Sava stood in the doorway, her usual militant posture. "I have a full report prepared."

"Move and I'll listen on the way to the bridge."

"There something you should know right now. The Captain is on the bridge."

"What?! This is not good. Why can't the lazy..." The look on Grun's face said it all. It spoke of loathing and repulsion. "Well, what else."

Sava knew of the growing hatred Grun had for the Captain. Everything he did said in some way that this was his ship, therefore he should command it. The Captain was a minor obstacle. Sava knew and understood Grun all too well. She was also wise enough to know that someday Grun would be the Captain

*(Continued on page 7)*



# FIRST OFFICER'S LOG

By Carey Muse

This will be a short report due to upcoming exams.

When I mentioned in my last column that it was my hope we would have a convention in Raleigh for the 30th Anniversary of Star Trek, I never imagined that it would be this big! We have a golden opportunity to recruit more people into our group. It is my hope we will

do this and have more people know of us and our good works for the community. I hope we are successful in our recruiting on May 19th. It is going to be our biggest yet and security will need to be tight, but I am confident in our department heads and in our security team and I know they will do their very best.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION: THANKS TO ALL WHO WORKED THE TWO WEEKENDS AT THE PBS TELETHON, YOU DID A GOOD JOB!

Hopefully, the COLLECTOR'S CORNER will return in the next issue when I have more time to devote to a full column.

# SCIENCE REPORT

By Elaine Pischke

I hope by the time this makes print we will all be over our winter blahs and spring will have blown some fresh air into our musty old ship. (I know, there's no fresh air in space - maybe that's our problem - we are all in dire need of shore leave on some tropical pleasure planet... sounds good to me!) Anyway, Sciences has been quiet because the

CSO has been wiped out for the past month and a half by some Unknown Alien Virus - bronchitis, pneumonia, or something similar but nobody knows for sure. Anyway, it seems to be gradually going away, so maybe I'll be more-or-less back to normal soon. At least, as normal as one can be when expecting. Yes, once again the Pischke's will be adding to the

Kitty Hawk roster. Seems to be the only way we can get new members these days, but it's not very cost efficient. So how about you guys doing some recruiting? Also, if any of you have any Heinz baby food labels, please turn them in to me before the Duke Children's Miracle Network Telethon, which is coming up soon.

# OPERATIONS REPORT

By Larry Pischke

Yes, I'm still alive. Real life once again interferes with a good time. With this wacky weather, everybody keeps getting sick. Work has been keeping me hopping; there never seems to be enough time to sit down and write a report (as a matter of fact, I'm ignoring customers right now so that I can put finger to keyboard). But enough excuse making; let's continue.

I want to thank everybody that came out for the second night of the PBS telethon. We made an excellent showing and had a great time. As usual, we got free food (always a plus), then some of us

went out to IHOP for a nightcap. By the way, if anyone knows how much money was made on our shift, please let me know.

In other news, there has been several setbacks in the experimental high speed shuttle program. The prototype has been grounded for close to three months (I don't recall exactly; you'll have to ask the people who I have been bumming rides off of) when it was deemed unstable and unsafe to fly after a test flight. Testing revealed a basic weakness in the airframes suspension; this is due to the extreme age and decrepitness of the

vehicle. Repairs are underway following an unexpected windfall from the appropriations committee, forestalling a hiatus in the program. At the present, large monetary projectiles are being hurled at vehicle in the form of parts shipments from around the North American continent. When asked to comment, chief test engineer Dr. Tiberius Rasputin said, "We can make it better than it was before. Better, stronger, faster..." Further comments were unintelligible due to manic laughter from Dr. Rasputin. I will keep everyone apprised of information as it becomes available.



# MODELER'S CORNER

By Larry Pischke

Beware, model collectors! Kits are busting out all over the place in 1996 for both Star Trek and Star Wars aficionados. Some of them are already on the shelves, but the best is yet to come.

Available now from AMT is the 30th Anniversary *USS Enterprise* kit. This model is a cutaway kit- half of the saucer can be pulled off, as well as half of one nacelle, and parts of the engineering hull. What remains is an interior cross section of the original series ship, which looks reasonably accurate from the pictures that I have seen. The length is a fairly impressive 22 1/2" long. The retail price is \$31.50.

Also listed as a 30th Anniversary kit is the *Star Trek Legendary Space Encounter*. Mounted to a black base with a space background are three ships. The original *Enterprise* is faced off against two Klingon ships (D7's to those who use the designations). What makes this vignette really nice is that all three ships are fiber optically lit, and there is a space battle sound chip included. Retail price will be \$52.50, but I have no release date yet.

For the Deep Space Nine fans, AMT is finally releasing a model of the *USS Defiant*. This is listed as a snap together kit, but so was the *Reliant* last year, and it was a regular model. No release date is available, but the price will be \$20.75.

Monogram was granted the licensing for all Voyager models. There are three currently available: *Voyager*, a Maquis ship, and a Kazon ship. There are several new releases planned for this year. Unfortunately, Monogram did not put these in their catalog. Through my vast information network, I was able to get a list. Again, there are no release dates, but I do have prices.

Three of the releases are going to be snap together versions of the

three kits already available. The price of \$2.50, however, makes me think that they are much smaller than the current kits.

Also listed for release is something called a Kazon Torpedo. I don't have the faintest clue what this is going to be. The only thing that I can think of is this is a misprint, and this is going to be the Cardassian Torpedo that the Maquis commandeered. The price of this will be \$17.95.

The final release is labeled a Star Trek Gift Set. Since they have no other kits available, my guess is that this will be a three piece kit of *Voyager*, the Maquis ship, and the Kazon; don't quote me on this, though. The price will be \$20.00.

On the Star Wars front, things get much easier. I still don't have release dates on those things not out.

Two new dioramas have been released in addition to the Rebel Base Action Scene and the Battle on Hoth Action Scene. First off is the Encounter with Yoda Action Scene. This kit recreates Yoda's hovel on Dagobah. He and Luke are sitting on the floor with a meal sitting in front of them. This is enclosed in a removable cave. Looking through the window is R2-D2. The price is \$15.75.

The second diorama is the Jabba and his Throne Room Action Scene. Reclining in all of his slugginess, is Jabba the Hut, surrounded by assorted hangers-on. Included are Boba Fett and Sy Snootle and his band. Princess Leia is also supposed to be in there, but I can't seem to find her (and those of you who remember the outfit that she wore know how hard that I am looking!). The price on this kit is also \$15.75.

AMT is doing another flight display kit to go along with last year's X-Wing display. This one is listed as just a TIE Fighter Flight Display, but those who know better can tell that this is in fact Darth Vader's TIE Fighter, which

is different from the normal TIE from the first movie. In any case, this ship is put halfway through a clear Plexiglas disc, so the TIE Fighter is "seemingly suspended in space." The price on this will be \$22.75.

There are two new vinyl figure kits due out from AMT this year. Those already out are Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Darth Vader. The new figures are going to come out under the heading "Shadows of the Empire." I'm not quite sure what this line is going to be about, but the figures are of some not nice people.

The picture of the first figure in the catalog is a drawing, so I don't know exactly what the finished product will look like. I also do not know who this is supposed to be; the drawing makes me think that perhaps this is a comic character. At any rate, the character's name is Xizor, and he is described as the "evil henchman of the Emperor." There is no scale listed, nor is there a release date. The cost, however, will be \$22.75.

The second figure is evil incarnate. At last, AMT will release an unstated scale kit of Emperor Palpatine himself. The blurb in the catalog says that "he is captured in a suitable menacing pose." Whatever that means; the picture in the catalog is a still from *Return of the Jedi*. The price also will be \$22.75.

I have been saving the best Star Wars release for last. In the same vein as the cutaway *Enterprise*, we will soon see a cutaway *Millennium Falcon*. Several top panels can be removed to reveal the lounge area, cockpit, weapons bays (including the never-used missile racks), and other things. The catalog only shows a drawing, so I don't expect this anytime soon; there aren't even any dimensions listed. The price still match that of the *Enterprise* Cutaway, \$31.50.



# THE LETTER BOX

Thank you for continuing to send the Wright Stuff. Hard to believe it's been 7 months since we moved up here. I'm working for a home health care company, and for all the sins I ever have or will commit, I was promoted in October. I manage a team of 4 nurses, 2 nursing assistants and 40 patients. From October til after Christmas, I worked 10 to 12 hour days. I still have the same amount of work, but have decided not to die for this job. I really like it, though. The worst day in this office is still better than a day in the hospital.

Dave is now 15 and 3/4 years old; he's up to 6'6. He has settled in very well at Hermitage High School though he doesn't see much use for classes except as a way to pass the time until basketball practice. He was a starter on the varsity, in the position of power forward. I now know what a power forward is! David tutors me in basketball lore. His coaches are great and really spend a lot of time with the kids. There is also an academic advisor for the team, who comes to all the games and hands out water, towels, and gum. She also keeps track of their academic progress, or lack thereof. The season is over, but if you think for one minute that basketball is over, you're not with it. Now we are in the midst of AAU tryouts. That season runs from March through August. Then comes conditioning for varsity, then the season, then AAU, and you can see the cyclical nature of this, can't you? Don't think that I'm complaining because I really love it. I am so grateful my son picked an indoor sport to get passionate about. I could be freezing/roasting on a soccer or football field.

I went to a one-day con here in Richmond a couple of weeks ago. James Dohan was the guest. I had seen him before, and he was just as terrific as I remembered. He was so funny, and just plain nice. I think he would have stayed up there all day if the promoter hadn't gently eased him off and into signing autographs. Scotty had many funny stories, but I think my favorite was this: "I always get asked how come there are no bathrooms on the Enterprise." (He held up a copy of the tech manual.) "Well, it's true, there's not one bathroom. But — we had phasers!"

He also ran through just about any accent you can possible imagine. He hugged all the ladies who went up to ask questions, had just about anyone in costume come up, and was just really great. It's been a long time since I had a dose of my favorite addiction (Star Trek).

And—there were people there from a local ship. They

meet once a month at the Science Museum of Virginia. So naturally I went and of course I joined. It's the USS Chesapeake. We have a lady captain a la Mulgrew. Actually, Kris has captained her ship longer than Janeway. There's an Air and Space Museum in Norfolk or Newport News or someplace near the water that currently has a ST exhibit. We are planning to go in April. There are various service projects going on, too, one of which is to volunteer at the Museum. Pinch me, I think I'm dreaming. The Museum rents us space for our meetings, but forgives it in exchange for volunteer hours. Is that a deal or what. We will have to plan to exchange crew now and then.

Needless to say, please share this with everyone. I am planning to send books to Martha for the library. And tell Pat the his description of the con that was so bad "it sucked matter out of black holes" was GREAT. I wish I'd said that. (Don't worry — I will!) Happy Birthday to Benjamin Cohn. Can't believe he's had his second birthday already. I think the real theory of relativity is that under-21 year old people have birthdays every 365 days but people over 45 don't have to if they don't want to. For my fortieth birthday, my beloved son and my brother blew up 150 black balloons. My living room floor was completely covered. It would have served them right if they had both passed out cold. We had to pop them a couple at a time, because it sounded like small arms fire, and I was afraid the neighbors would call the cops.

The latest excitement around here is that we're ON LINE. My brother Hans upgraded his stuff and long-term loaned us his 386. So we promptly joined AOL. My address is EReadRn@aol.com. Call, write or come and stay with us. Snail-mail is

4717 A Cardinal Court East  
Richmond, VA 23228

Home 804-672-3964  
Work 804-527-0488  
Fax 804-527-0948

I've been typing this with my right hand in a splint because I have tendinitis, so excuse all typos and mistakes. Not that they wouldn't be there even if I wasn't in a splint, but it sounds better.

Love to everyone. We miss our NC connections.

Liz Read

## SECURITY REPORT

By Tara Weaver

Well, spring is in full swing, and the Kitty Hawk is gearing up for what promises to be a beautiful season. Just be sure to play it safe out there as the weather heats up: get plenty of water, and watch out for all those snakes and other

critters beginning to come out.

Topping our list of things to do this season is Trek-A-Rama on May 19th. As always, I'm looking for volunteers to work that day (which is Sunday). A list will be passed around at the May 4th meeting, but

if you cannot make it to the meeting, feel free to call me at 851-3080. Remember, if you are new, experience is not required.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful season, and I hope you all are, too. For now, All's clear.



# ENGINEERING REPORT

By John Miller

**STARDATE: 9604.26** - Well, after a brief absence from the Kitty Hawk scene, I have returned like a bad check to continue the mayhem that is known as *Kitty Hawk*.

Over the last few weeks, I've been keeping up with **Babylon 5** both on TV and on the internet. During the month of April and into early May, the local television stations will be deciding whether or not to continue running B5 for a fourth season. One matter of concern is the fact that PTEN has been dissolved and after this season, will no longer exist. This has raised some concern over PTEN shows being picked up individually. To this end, the creators of B5 and supporters of the show are urging everyone to write your local TV station and tell them to support the show. Email and phone calls don't do much, but since by FCC law, they must keep all written letters on file, a letter can have a large impact on their decisions. A good

letter should begin by thanking the station for showing B5, and then encouraging them to continue to do so. You may also want to tell them a little about yourself. Above all, make sure your letter is polite. Anyone wishing to write the local B5 station (WRDC 28), address your letters to:

Melanie Gerig, Programming Director  
WRDC 28  
3012 Highwoods Boulevard  
Raleigh, NC 27604

Considering that each letter is assumed to count for almost a full percent of the viewership, you could have a substantial impact on the continued success of **Babylon 5** in the triangle.

## MEDICAL REPORT

By Diana Waldier

You could be the one to save a life! CPR recertification and new CPR training will take place soon. Anyone interested please contact Diana at 832-0686.

Sun block is very important at this time of year. Use it generously and often. We have drinking water in abundance on this ship, so everyone should be drinking 6 - 8 glasses a day!

*(Continued from page 3)*  
of Masters Play.

"Follow me to sick bay, Grun and I'll explain on the way."

She looked at him and studied his movement as he walked.

"Why are you looking at me and what's in sick bay?" Grun peered at her as if to say she was walking a fine line.

"About 3/4 of the crew. They been inflicted with a strange illness. Two are already dead from it. There are only three of us that don't seem effected. Me, you and the Captain." They walked in through the medical bay doors. "Even, doc is sick."

All the beds in the room were full,

and people were laying on the floor. "About half are in comas and the other are suffering from dehydration. There's nothing in the computer like this at all. The computer does predict that in less than 12 hours we'll be the only ones of the crew left alive."

"When did all this happen. And why wasn't I notified."

"It all happened within about two hours. You weren't notified because our system went down shortly thereafter and I couldn't find you."

"You woke the Captain, didn't you?" Grun's jaws bulged as he gritted his teeth.

"I didn't have a choice. I can't run this ship alone, and I couldn't find you."

"Well, I have a little correction for you. If you even think about betraying me, I will be the only one of the crew left alive."

### The Stranger Within

Taylor noticed the deep brown eyes of the woman examining her. She looked so completely human. Here was a woman on a planet billions of miles from earth, who could have easily been Taylor's neighbor back home. It was hard to imagine the terrain of the world below. It would have to be a class M planet, but each world is unique. What was unique about this woman's home world? Taylor had so many questions. The sudden rush of pain

made Taylor forget about her daydream. She groaned as the woman pressed on the right side of her chest.

"Looks like three broken ribs. At least the fractures are small."

Shelly looked at the woman sharply. "How could you possibly know that, even if you were a doctor, without equipment."

"Equipment, I don't understand."

"Shelly let's just take her word for it for right now. Okay?" Taylor tried to take a deep breath but the pain got worse. "It's hard to breath because of the pain."

"I want you to close you eyes and clear your mind."

The woman placed her hand on the ribs lightly and the other hand on Taylor's forehead. Taylor became calm and the pain disappeared. Her breathing became more regular as she drifted into a state of relaxation.

Taylor opened her eyes. "I don't know how you did that, but thank you."

"I am a doctor and this is what I do. It will take a few days for the ribs to heal."

"My friends call me Taylor, this is my son Johnathon and my friend Shelly."

"My friends call me Laquin." Laquin's smile was gentle and warming.

However gentle her personality, Laquin seem very distracted by

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(Continued from page 7)

Johnathon's presence. Johnathon sat there feeling awkward, watching everything that was happening and not saying a word.

Taylor took a good look at Johnathon. His hair needed to be brushed. His eyes made him look half asleep and he needed something she couldn't give him right now, security. Taylor's heart ached, what sort of life had this been for Johnathon. He was growing up in fear. She gave him as much freedom as was allowed, but his life had been so limited. No other children his own age, destructive aliens and too much danger. She looked at him and smiled, beckoning for a kiss. The boy leaned over and complied. "I love you" she whispered.

"Mommy, your hurt."

"I'm all right. Laquin helped me. Everything is fine." Taylor shifted her weight to the other arm and struggled to sit up. It still hurt a little when she moved. The pain was only a minor distraction to the thought that entered Taylor's mind. Taylor's eyes showed the seriousness of her thought.

"What is it?" Shelly asked. Taylor looked around, these poor women. Suddenly her eyes stopped at the larger Romulan guard laying on the floor.

"He's asleep." Laquins voice tried to be comforting.

"For how long?" Taylor's eye did not leave the guard. She wanted to ask how? But right now all she wanted to know was how long.

"He's been out for a little while, we have time. How much? I can extend his sleeping period if he starts to awaken, but I can not do it indefinitely." Laquin's tone resounded in the flat voice of a physician.

Then there is time, Taylor

thought. Her hands trembled. There's no choice. The thought rambled on, the plan was not very clear. The silence told Shelly everything. She'd been Taylor's friend long enough to understand that her face said more than any words could.

Taylor voice was low, but determined. "It's now. The time is now."

"Agreed. But I can't do anything without my computer board."

"You finished it?"

"Yeah, that last piece you got me did the trick. I have to admit the timing couldn't be more perfect."

"Where is it?" Taylor scanned the side of Shelly.

"Back at the room. I've got to go and get it. We'll never be able to leave without it."

"There's no other way?" Taylor asked. Shelly shook her head. "Damn. You have got to be careful, just remember I need you on this. I can't do it without you."

Shelly took a deep breath as she rose to her feet. "I gotcha. I'll be as quick as I can."

Johnathon rose with her. "Aunt Shelly?"

"Relax kid. I'll be right back."

"Johnathon, sweetheart. Come here. She'll be back. Right?" Taylor glanced at Shelly as she stood near the door.

"Right!" Shelly punched in her code and the door slid open.

"Where's she going?" Laquin asked.

"To get a very important piece of equipment. We can't leave without it."

"Leave?" Laquin face lit up. Home, she thought.

"Yes, if everything goes well." Taylor paused for a moment. She pulled Johnathon into her arms

giving only a minor groan. There were so many questions to ask, she looked at Laquin. There was not enough time to answer them all. But, Taylor thought, Laquin could answer at least one. "Why does everyone stare at Johnathon, like they've never seen a child before?"

Laquin sat back. Her face made no expression. Taylor's shadow was unshelled. But would Taylor understand that? "I've.." she stopped and took a deep breath "we don't.." She stopped again. This was difficult.

Finally she said, "Johnathon is your shadow. Right?"

"Shadow, do you mean son?"

"You gave birth to him, he is your shadow, your son. This is my shadow." She pointed to the large odd looking creature in the corner of the room.

Taylor was surprised. "That is your shadow?"

"Yes. That is it's shell. My shadow is inside."

"For how long?"

"Till it's mature. Not fully grown, but mature."

Taylor was so stunned she didn't know what to say. It did however, explain their strange reaction to Johnathon.

Laquin noticed the stunned look on Taylor's face. For the first time they appeared alien to each other.

"The shadow is fed mentally and physically. All of us were raised this way." Laquin gazed at Johnathon with envy. "You are very lucky, our shadows cannot survive without the shell. He is so little, so beautiful."

Now Taylor understood, she knew Johnathon's personality, all his little quirks, because she was watching him grow. Laquin shadow, would not truly be born until it was already grown.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 4:** 10:00 - Highway Cleanup  
4:00 - Kitty Hawk Meeting
- MAY 19:** 12:00 Noon - 7:00 p.m. - TREK-A-RAMA
- JUNE 1:** 4:00 - Kitty Hawk Meeting

## NEW ADDRESSES

Liz Read  
4717 A Cardinal Court East  
Richmond, VA 23228  
Home - 804-672-3964  
Work - 804-527-0488  
Fax - 804-527-0948



# WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO? I DON'T KNOW, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

By Elaine Pischke

Once again, we need your input - what do you want to get out of your Kitty Hawk membership? Please indicate below which activities you would be interested in attending, and how likely you would be to actually attend if we were to schedule such an activity. Feel free to add anything you can think of that would be of interest to you.

ACTIVITY	VERY INTERESTED	SOMEWHAT INTERESTED	NOT INTERESTED
NC Zoo			
USS NC			
Putt-Putt			
Laser Tag			
Board Games			
Beach Trip			
Rocky Horror			
Bowling			
A day at Falls Lake			
Visits from local authors			
Flea Market			
30th Anniversary party ideas			

General Comments, Gripes, Complaints, Ideas, Etc.

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn in this survey to Elaine or Larry Pischke or J.R. Fisher by the next meeting. Thanks.