

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

The first thing I want to remind you about is the trip to the Maritime Museum in Beaufort, N.C. We have maps and directions for those of you who wish to go. Jim Bridges is our point person on this trip so be sure and talk to him about it. The trip is the weekend of September 12th and 13th.

For this weekend, the meeting is the usual 4 p.m. at the Fisher house and we are going to cook out. We will furnish hot dogs and buns, the rest of the crew can bring chips, dip, ice, drinks, salads, snacks, side dishes, deserts, etc. Come and have a good time!

We have a lot to discuss about what we are going to do for the next year as we have had so many good ideas presented to us. But before we decide about some of those things I need to tell you about a couple of things that have happened since our last meeting.

Shortly after the July meeting, Barry Jackson called from California and gave me the name and phone number of Slanted Fedora Productions. I called the producer, Dave Scott, and we talked at length about bringing a convention to Raleigh. The end result is that Dave said he would try it! The convention is set for the weekend of July 17th and 18th, at the North Raleigh Hilton. The guests will be the Fab Four! I confirmed this August 30th, at 8 p.m.

As if that is not good enough, I went to Novacon 8 in D.C. in July and one of the dealers I have known for years tells me that Vulkan is coming to Raleigh the last weekend in January 1999! No one knows about it because Joe Motes just told him by phone less than thirty minutes earlier! So, when I get home, I call Joe Motes. We play phone tag for a month. Friday, August 28th, we connect and, yes, the information is correct and the

major guest is Robert Beltran (Chakotay), with Henry Darrow (Chakotay's father) and Mary Kay Adams (Grilka). Time and place: January 29-31, 1999, at the North Raleigh Hilton.

Both of these producers are willing to work with us on these conventions. We will need to put together a team to help produce panels, shows, etc. We want to do more than security. It will mean we need to recruit more people and everyone will have to do his or her share of work.

As a possible bonus, eleven of the crew were recruited to work the N.C. Sci Fi Expo, August 15th in Greensboro. This was Mike Smith's first effort at a convention and it had some hitches in it. But, Mike was flexible and allowed the Kitty Hawk to have free reign in solutions and everything worked out well. Mike said of the Kitty Hawk crew: "Best job I have seen anywhere". Anyway, he will likely do it again next year and might consider moving it to Raleigh.

A side note to the Greensboro convention: here is evidence, again, that you don't have to have a big con to have a good con. Mike had a really good dealer's room with dealers we have not seen before that had good selections and some bargains were to be had. Programming did suffer some but there was only the main stage, so everything had to occur there. Having multiple guests also is a big plus, and when one of them is like Grace Lee Whitney and signs autographs **all** day, you will have happy con-goers.

By the way, those who worked the con were given the opportunity to attend the guest dinner at a discounted price. Eight of us did go and I must report that the meal was perhaps the finest I have had at that type of occasion. The company was definitely first rate and the

conversation interesting. There are always perks to be had at a good convention.

As for our choices of things to do for next year; we have several to discuss and I want everyone to think about them carefully.

It has been suggested that we work with the Special Olympics next summer as a crew.

We have talked about doing the Duke Radiothon for the entire 101.5 hours they are on the air.

Sponsoring a child to Space Camp has been discussed and has some possibilities for next year and succeeding years. Jack Hopkins can guide us on this one.

We have begun to plan a convention of our own, possibly for next year; and there is another convention on the planning stages for 1999 or 2000.

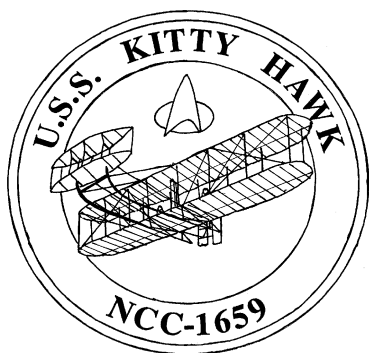
We have a wonderful web page up and running, thanks to Jeff Cohn, which need some fleshing out by department heads, and contributions from those of you who like to express yourselves.

Then you add in the usual conventions, parties, trips, summits, laser tag, etc, and you have a very full plate.

Think about all of these things and then express yourself at the upcoming meeting. Some of these can be done with less than the entire crew, but some will require **all** of us, and more, to be successful and fun.

We are entering a wonderful stage in the life of the Kitty Hawk. I hope each of you can participate to the fullest your lives will allow you and that you enjoy this period of growth and maturing. Please feel free to contact me or any senior officer with any concerns, suggestions, or questions you may have. We all have the Wright Stuff.

Esse Quam Videri
To Be Rather Than To Seem



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CONTENTS

NUMBER 4

A VIEW FROM THE CATBIRD SEAT 1

FIRST OFFICER'S LOG 3

SCIENCE REPORT 3

UPCOMING EVENTS 3

OPERATION'S REPORT 3

ENGINEERING REPORT 4

MEDICAL REPORT 4

COLLECTOR'S CORNER 5

CHARLESTON (WEST VIRGINIA) SCI-FI CELEBRATION 5

SECURITY REPORT 5

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FIRST OFFICER'S LOG

By Carey Muse

I am pleased that the CO has decided that we need to start making plans for our convention. I, too, am tired of having to wait and see what someone else is going to do and how they can help us. We have a talented group on board this ship that can pull a convention together. However, if we are going to pull this off, we need to be committed to the project. As some of you know I have worked on two Star Trek conventions, while I will not go into details about them here, let me say that the second one might have been more successful if we had had the commitment from our group that we needed. When you do a convention everybody has to be involved from planning to working on the convention to execution of the convention. You have to have a good enough group to be successful. I feel that the Kitty Hawk members are more than able to be successful at a project of this nature, however, you cannot have five people doing the work of fifty and you must follow through on the commitment you have toward the convention from the very beginning. I know that if we have a convention it will not be an easy undertaking but we are capable of doing one if everyone is committed to doing their share of the work. We can start small and build on each one until we have reached the peak of what we eventually want in a convention. All I want to really say is that it will take commitment from each of us - the CO can't do this without the commitment of every member of the Kitty Hawk and we shouldn't expect him to do more than his share!

On another note that is similar - I attended the convention in Greensboro on August 15th and I enjoyed the guest, the dealer's room left a little to be desired. It was good to finally see Grace Lee Whitney and Robert Picardo and Denise Crosby. Although Denise Crosby is suffering from amnesia, because she has been to North Carolina before, even to Raleigh before and the Kitty Hawk has the pictures to prove this, it was good to see her again. To those

SCIENCE REPORT

By Elaine Pischke

As we reflect on the passing of Alan Shepherd, the first American in space, it's a little sad to think that humans have not been back to the moon in a quarter of a century. Still, there is reason to hope that the exploration of space will continue. The International Space Station looks like it may become a reality. John Glenn will be returning to space in a month or so, after 30 years. There are many unmanned explorations in the works, and although they are perhaps not as spectacular or romantic as the manned flights, they are valuable small steps towards again sending humans into deep space. The renewed interest in going to Mars is encouraging. Our 4-year old, Graeme, is passionately interested in going to Mars. Maybe someday he will.

Here on the Kitty Hawk, things have been quiet. There is talk of us doing a convention, and I would love to see this happen. We have discussed this and started making preliminary plans for this for a long time. It will be a huge commitment of time and energy, so if we agree to give it a shot, we will need to all be involved and willing to do what it takes to make a great convention. We've all been to enough conventions to know what works and what doesn't. It's time to put our heads together and show Raleigh what a real convention looks like.

OPERATION'S REPORT

By Larry Pischke

As usual, there is NOTHING going on. So what else is new?

For those of you who care, the Babylon 5 station model has been once again postponed. The new release date is September 23rd. This means that Revell-Monogram is supposed to ship them to the distributors on that date. Don't expect them in the stores until later that week. That is, unless it is postponed again.

The only other new thing that showed up was another Star Trek roleplaying game. This one came out and surprised me; I didn't even know it was being made. A company by the name of Last Unicorn Games came out with Star Trek: The Next Generation Roleplaying Game. Right now, all that is out is a hardbound book, priced at \$35. That's a bit pricey, but it has lots of actual photographs from the series. I don't know a whole lot about the game yet, but I will let all know what I find out in another report.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept.	5:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	6:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	3-6:	Dragon Con: Atlanta, GA
	12:	Maritime Museum: Beaufort, NC
Oct.	3:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	4:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	9-11:	Rising Star Con 7: Salem, VA
	24:	U.S.S. N.C. Wilmington, NC
	31:	Halloween Party
Nov.	7:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	8:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	6-8:	Sci-Con 19: VA Beach, VA
Dec.	5:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	6:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	17:	Anniversary Party
	31:	1st Night Raleigh

ENGINEERING REPORT

By Brad McDonald

Greetings from Cary. Well, I'm almost over round two with the house construction work. Carpet goes in this weekend and then I can put the finishing touches on it and, DONE!

For those of you who missed out on the last convention in Greensboro, it was pretty good. There were some organizational problems, to be sure, but the guests more than made up for it. My personal favorite was Janice Rand, better known as Grace Lee Whitney. A wonderful lady, she premiered her new book in a limited edition. Saturday, she spent nearly the whole day autographing the books and chatting with the fans. Very dedicated to her public, she took the time to speak with everyone and was there from the time the doors opened to after closing, the last person to leave.

The other two guests were also delightful, but their time was a bit more limited. Here, Robert Picardo was at his best. In just a little over an hour, he packed a remarkable account of getting the part of the doctor, anecdotes of daily production and personal stories that were very funny and poignant. As part of his stage time, he auctioned off an autographed cast picture for a charity. It brought in \$750! As the Doctor on Voyager, Robert Picardo has little opportunity to display his wonderful sense of humor, although he says some of the one liners you

hear in the show are his ad-libs. Also, he admits to borrowing freely from the original Star Trek doctor, McCoy.

The third guest was Denise Crosby, a new mother, it was rather difficult for her to maintain a convention schedule. She did entertain the gang on stage for an hour or so, then returned to do autographs at a joint session with Picardo. Both she and Picardo did their best to be sure that everyone got a chance for autographs. However, the total time for the pair was just about two hours. The lines were fairly orderly and security was provided by your fellow Kitty Hawk crew members.

In a conversation carried out in a car later, we all agreed that the best location for a convention is not at a convention center, but at a hotel. And that's where we wound up. The evening concluded with a semi-private dinner with the guests at a very nice hotel. I sat at the table with Grace Lee Whitney and seven others. Since I was next to her, I was rewarded with lots of conversation about life, Trek, the future and many other topics. As I said earlier, a real nice lady very gracious and friendly with the fans. She really likes us Trekkies and is eager to be sure we got in our questions and comments.

In other news, if you're the one person who hasn't seen Titanic, it

will be out on video soon. You might want to wait until the special edition comes out. It will be a director's cut with added footage, interviews and such. If I do buy the movie, it will be that one, depending on price.

I saw the sneak preview of the new Trek movie on Entertainment Tonight. Since they are a Paramount company, they got first rights to show it. Looks pretty good, time will tell. I hope we all go as a group on opening night, haven't been to a movie with a group since Star Wars!

Since Kanki is done and my house is nearing completion, I hope to have more time for conventions and such. Speaking of which, we're getting one in the Raleigh area. See J.R.'s notes for details.

Finally, I sent off two more scripts to Paramount. So far I haven't heard anything. I suppose no news is good news. I'm keeping my fingers crossed, but I'm realistic. Only about a half dozen get picked each year out of thousands. With Deep Space Nine closing out production, that limits the possibilities even further. Anyway, if I do get a sale, you all will be the first to hear. (With or without the newsletter, just listen for loud YEEEEEEAAAAAYYYYYYYYYY!)

That's all for now. As always, live long and prosper.



MEDICAL REPORT

By Amy DeJongh

These days stress is everywhere - home, work, friends, family. While our physical health is important, many forget that so is mental health. While it is impossible to eliminate stress from our lives, there are many steps we can take to minimize it.

Correct nutrition is essential in dealing with stress. Getting the right nutrients in your body helps it work better to combat stress and tense situations. Drinking plenty of

fluids prevents dehydration, which can increase the demand on your systems.

Exercise is not only a way to "work off" stress, it also helps your body to be better prepared when pressure builds. It trains your body to work better with yourself, so it can function as a well tuned machine. Variety in your workout may help to eliminate the exercise boredom.

Rest is an important element in overall wellbeing. Having enough sleep along with good quality sleep is essential in conflict management and how you respond to everyday situations. Try to rise at the same time each day, even on your days off, to keep your internal clock ticking

correctly.

Relaxation techniques, including biofeedback and yoga, have been shown to help some people deal with stress and bring a feeling of well-being. Holodeck programs on these topics are available.

Everyone deals with stress in different manners. It's up to you to find out what works best for you. But remember, who would you rather have manning the torpedoes or working on the warp core - a frazzled shipmate or one who is controlled enough to handle the situation?

Be safe, be happy, be healthy.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

By Carey Muse

Not a lot to report. All of the calendars are available right now plus Peter David has written a sequel to his book *Imzadi*. This one is called *Imzadi II* and it explores the relationship of Troi and Worf toward the end of the last season of Next Generation. Also, *Star Log Magazine* has been publishing official magazines of *Voyager* and *Deep Space Nine*. These magazines

have always included episode synopsis, interviews and poster, etc. Well, they have announced that Issue 19 of *Star Trek Voyager* and Issue 25 of *Star Trek Deep Space Nine* will be their final issues. The editor's note in the *Voyager* just said that they were not going to be publishing whether someone else will publish them remains to be seen or it could be that Paramount has yanked the license from Star Log. A couple of other items - The Hallmark Ornaments for Star Trek and Star Wars are available now. Also, I am sure that our Star Wars fans have seen the recreations of scenes with figures box sets that Kenner has been producing for a couple of years.

These include the Cantina Showdown and the final Jedi Duel. These are window boxes with three figures (usually) recreating a scene from one of the Star Wars movies. Well, Playmates has decided to follow suit with their Star Trek line. The first two that are available are: (1) a two figure set in the window box of Captain Picard as Dixon Hill and Guinan as Gloria; (2) a three figure set in the window box from the episode The Corbomite Maneuver, this one features Captain Kirk, Balok and Balok's puppet. The other two will be from Star Trek The Next Generation from a Fist Full of Datas and from Star Trek Voyager's Scorpion that features Harry Kim

CHARLESTON (WEST VIRGINIA) SCI-FI CELEBRATION: June 27/28 1998

By Alastair Browne

The convention opened at 10:00 a.m., with a long line, waiting to get in. Scheduled to appear were the Fab Four, James Doohan, Nichelle Nichols, Walter Koenig, and George Takei. Unfortunately, Jimmy Doohan cancelled his appearance due to other obligations, but did leave an autographed picture for everyone. Other guests included Anne Lockhart (June's daughter) and Herbert Jefferson of *Battlestar Galactica*, Beverly Washburn who appeared in Star Trek's The Deadly Years (she died in the show, of an old age disease, incidentally, Beverly blossomed into a real beauty), and Stephen Furst of Babylon 5.

Stephen Furst put up a real

comedy act, reliving his days of *Animal House*, with John Belushi. Annie and Herbert were telling their stories of Galactica, and there were dealer and memorabilia rooms to buy all sort of souvenirs such as autographed pictures, videos, comic books, and badges. A stunt team performed a demonstration of sword fighting, including Klingon swords, and, of course there was an auction.

The climax was when the Terrific Trio came in, George, Nichelle, and Walter. They mostly talked about Pittsburgh, how they were stranded there after appearing at a convention there. One flight was cancelled, another flight was delayed, and they were stranded

there overnight. They met all sorts of characters, and were in all sorts of weird situations while waiting for their flight.

After signing autographs, the trio appeared at the dinner, going from table to table talking with us. They again appeared on stage, this time as a solo, where George and Nichelle sang, and Walter read from his book, *Warped Factors*.

The next day, Sunday, was a repeat of Saturday, except the convention closed at six. I will admit, I had a great time here, I got to meet all three of the stars and get their autographs, and I picked up a few souvenirs.

SECURITY REPORT

By Spring Brooks

This report will concern a few StarTrek webpages that I have browsed through lately:

The SciFi Channel's homepage THE DOMINION has a list of transcripts for their chats with SciFi stars. <http://www.scifi.com/>

From the chat with William Shatner

I found he had his own homepage: <http://www.williamshatner.com/> Still under construction. In it I discovered the NAME IN SPACE program. For \$29.95 you can have your name placed along side William Shatner's aboard a satellite. Videos of the launch and other items can also be purchased. 10% of your cost can be donated to your school. At the website is also a contest in which you can e-mail a registration form for a FREE name place alongside Shatner's.

To see artwork of the ships of

StarTrek: <http://www.bc.1.com/users/wisecrack/home.htm>

There are today 601 webrings for StarTrek. <http://www.webring.com/> Webrings are websites that are linked together by a common subject. You can jump from one site to the next through the webring icon. Its like a search engine but very very specific.

Rare StarTrek photos can be downloaded from <http://www.barravensburg.de!/dohm/>

In this week's TV Guide, Jeri Ryan is

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

pictures wearing a Federation uniform (a skintight one). The Doctor and she will reportedly have a borg child. Terry Farrell's Jadzia Dax will be replaced with Nicole deBoer's Ezri Dax, another female Trill.

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