

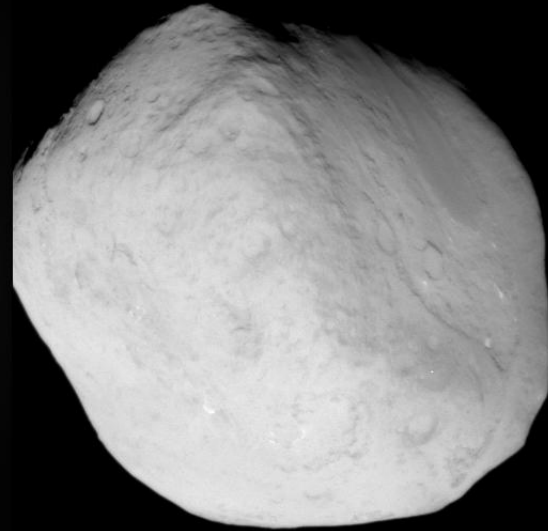
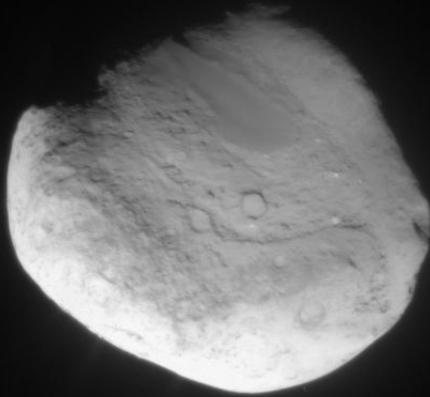
THE WRIGHT STUFF



Vol XXII ♦ No 1

The Official Newsletter of the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk ♦ NCC-1659

Jan / Feb 2011





THE WRIGHT STUFF

Volume 22 - Number 1

is a publication of the *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk*, the Raleigh, N.C., chapter of STARFLEET, an international *STAR TREK* fan organization. This publication is provided to all chapter members in good standing. Please address all correspondence to CATBIRD Publications, 5017 Glen Forest Dr., Raleigh, N.C. 27612. This publication is a non-profit enterprise and is not meant to infringe upon any copyright or trademark held by Paramount Pictures, Gulf & Western, or any other holder of *STAR TREK* copyrights or trademarks. Unless otherwise noted, ENTIRE CONTENTS ARE COPYRIGHT © 2011 CATBIRD Publications, THE WRIGHT STUFF. Nothing in whole or in part may be used without the written permission of the publisher. *THE WRIGHT STUFF* assumes all material submitted for publication is gratis. The publisher and editors reserve the right to edit all submissions.

Publisher J.R. Fisher
Editor John Troan



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TOOL BOX: Dell D810; Lotus WordPro; Adobe Acrobat.

IMAGES - Title Banner

Wright Flyer from NASA/Ames PAO photo archive; *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* (USN CV-63) from navicp.navy.mil; *Constitution* class cruiser from gwu.edu/~rljones/khawk.

IMAGE - Featured Front Page

A mosaic of comet Temple 1 seen by the *Stardust* spacecraft as it flew by on Feb 14, 2011. From NASA/JPL - Caltech/Cornell.

A View From the Catbird Seats

By J.R. Fisher and Larry Pischke



I would like to thank all of you that have offered prayers and thoughts for the health of my mother over the past few months. She is much improved at this time and we are hopeful that she will continue to improve.

Larry has signed the ship up to man the phones at UNC-TV for Saturday, March 5th, for the late night shift. It is hoped that the ship can get twenty family and friends to augment the crew. We have done this for 21

years; let's keep the tradition alive.

I will allow Larry to give all the other updates and progress reports in his article. Meeting will be the same place and time on March 5th.

Show me you have the *Wright Stuff*.

Esse Quam Videri

Well, here it is: my first "Catbird" report. It's a little overwhelming. I'm finally in the big chair. It's so comfy! But it'll take awhile to get my butt contour in it.

For those of you who may have missed our February meeting, we only have one PBS telethon date scheduled this year. Our traditional nights of the first and last Saturday were already gone, so we are booked for the first Saturday in March. That will be March 5th, from 6pm until 10pm. This coincides with our March meeting, which again will be at 4pm at the Morrisville Outlet Mall. We are only set for one night at PBS this year, as I didn't know what other dates would be acceptable to everyone since we were already looking into March.

This brings me to another point that I'd like to bring up; it also seems to be a good time. What kind of things would you, as a group, like to do? Movie nights? Trips? Eating? Do you want to move the meeting place?

The Kitty Hawk is what you make it.

"Second star to the right, then straight on 'til morning."

Are we on the right course?



Happy anniversary to Ham, the first chimp into space, January 31, 1961.

Science Report

By Elaine Pischke

Mysticon will be going on in Roanoke, VA, on February 25-27, 2011. It's coming up fast, but if you'd like more info, go to <http://www.mysticon-va.com>.

How many of you have heard of "Moon Trees" and know what they are? I happened upon this phrase and wondered what they could be. It turns out that "Moon Trees" are trees grown from a variety of seeds that were carried on the Apollo 14 mission, circled the moon 34 times, and returned to Earth. The experiment was supposed to tell us if the seeds could survive such a trip and still germinate. They did, and hundreds of seedlings were distributed to communities across the nation to be planted as "living symbols of our spectacular human and scientific achievements" (Gerald Ford). However, in the years since, the Moon Trees have all but been forgotten.

Dave Williams of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., wants to find them before it's too late. The whereabouts of about 50 of these trees are known. Some are known to have been cut down or died. Some are marked with a small plaque that simply says 'Moon Tree', and many people would not know what that means. There is now a web site for the trees where anyone who knows the whereabouts of any of these former space travelers can go and e-mail your information to Dave Williams. You can also see the list of where the known trees are located: http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/moon_tree.html.

Security Report

By Spring Brooks

Firefly' returning to cable; Fillion says he'd play Mal again by James Hibberd

BaldwinBrowncoats rejoice: *Firefly* is returning to basic cable -- and Nathan Fillion has something to say about it.

The Science Channel has acquired the rights to the cult-hit and will air the series in its short-lived entirety, plus some new extras. Science Channel will wrap each episode with interstitial segments starring renowned physicist Dr. Michio Kaku, who will discuss the theoretical science behind the show's sci-fi concepts.

According to *Firefly* studio 20th Century Fox, this will mark the first time *Firefly* has aired on a fully distributed basic cable channel since 2008, when it ran on USA Network.

In honor of this occasion, star Nathan Fillion took a brief break from shooting ABC's *Castle* today to jump on the phone and answer five *Firefly* questions -- including whether he'd ever reprise the role of Captain Mal again. That interview and more details about Science Channel's *Firefly* plans below:

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY: What was the part about playing the character?

NATHAN FILLION: It was my favorite job ever. What wasn't great about it? I got to wear a low-slung holster. I got to ride horses. I got to have a spaceship. I got to act mean and curmudgeonly. [Creator Joss Whedon] is really good at kicking characters in the nuts so the other characters would have

laughs at my expense and that was great too.

EW: If *Castle* had its series finale tomorrow and Fox said to you and Joss: "screwed up, let's try doing *Firefly* again." Would you do it?

NF: Yes. Yes. I would examine very closely Fox's reasoning -- I'm a little gun-shy. If I got \$300 million from the California Lottery, the first thing I would do is buy the rights to *Firefly*, make it on my own, and distribute it on the Internet.

EW: What's the most common thing *Firefly* fans say to you?

NF: No. 1, "there going to be more?" No. 2, "was it canceled?"

EW: Why do you think the show has had such an enduring appeal?

NF: It's a great question. We're the most story-literate society the world has ever seen. What Joss tends to do is twist story conventions into reality. Whereas the story goes like this, real life goes like this, and that's what Joss has mastered.

EW: Do you ever watch the show nowadays or is that just weird?

NF: It's not weird. I haven't watched it in a long, long time and I would like to revisit it.

Firefly premieres on Science Channel on March 6 at 8 p.m., with the two hour pilot, followed by the first episode at 10 p.m. Following that, *Firefly* episodes will air every Sunday -- and, yes, in their original intended order and upgraded to high definition.

Computer Operations Report

By John Troan

First, some news for all who weren't at the February meeting. I found a new job and will be starting on Feb 28. (It's a Monday, which explains why I'm starting the last day of the month.) I'll still be contracting at the EPA in RTP, but I'm changing groups -- and buildings. The key difference is that I'm transferring into the central core of system administrators. They support all of the field admins, so I'll still be hearing from the gang I used to work with.

In trying to figure out what this month's cover should be, I looked through the various NASA press releases I get in my e-mail.

I could've waited a couple more days and hoped that [shuttle Discovery will launch](#) on time this Thursday, but that would really be pushing the completion of this issue later than I want.

Other options included [interesting news from Saturn's moon Titan](#), [discovering very young stars in the North American Nebula](#), [new views of the sun from STEREO](#), and work on the next missions to [Mars](#) and [Jupiter](#).

I, obviously, settled on the Stardust mission's [flyby of comet Temple 1](#) on Valentines Day. What's unique about this mission is that this is the same comet that the *Deep Impact*

mission visited -- and crashed into -- in 2005. The [full press release for the flyby](#) is available on-line, with more images taken during the flyby, including some comparisons before the 2005 impact and what was seen this time around.

Here's the full caption that goes with the cover photo:

This image mosaic shows four different views of comet Tempel 1 as seen by NASA's Stardust spacecraft as it flew by on Feb. 14, 2011. The images progress in time beginning at upper left, moving to upper right, then proceeding from lower left to lower right. When the spacecraft first approached, it got a clear look at the same surface that was imaged previously by NASA's *Deep Impact* mission in 2005. *Deep Impact* sent a projectile into the comet, creating a crater that is located in the upper left image, but is difficult to see at this particular contrast level.

As *Stardust* flew closer to the comet, it began to see new territory that had not been imaged before. The new territory appears on the left side of the upper right image. The *Deep Impact* crater is also located in this view, on the right side.

Both the upper right and lower left images are the closest approach images for *Stardust*, taken at 3 seconds

before, and 3 seconds after, the closest approach. The images were taken from a distance of about 185 kilometers (115 miles). In the lower left image, the vast majority of terrain pictured had not been seen until now. The fourth image, at lower right, shows *Stardust's* view as the spacecraft was on the way out.

The image at upper left was taken 15 seconds before the encounter, or closest approach, from a distance of 244 kilometers (152 miles); the image at lower right was taken 15 seconds after encounter, from a distance of 245 kilometers (152 miles).

Stardust-NEXT is a low-cost mission that will expand the investigation of comet Tempel 1 initiated by NASA's *Deep Impact* spacecraft. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages *Stardust-NEXT* for the NASA Science Mission Directorate, Washington, D.C. Joe Veverka of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., is the mission's principal investigator. Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Denver, built the spacecraft and manages day-to-day mission operations. For more information about *Stardust-NEXT*, please visit <http://stardustnext.jpl.nasa.gov>.

VOYAGER - "Homecoming"

By Brad McDonald

After *Voyager* had been on for almost six seasons, I knew that "the end" would soon be on its way; I thought I'd give it a try. Of course, there is a bit of a surprise and I left a name off the credits on purpose. Once you've read the story, you'll understand who and why.

The story is derived from the old adage, "Be careful what you wish for, you may get it." The story explores a lot of "what ifs" and the consequences of them. I know my story would probably not be acceptable to the producers of *Voyager*, but it was fun to write never the less.

I hope you enjoy it as well.

[Editor's note: this episode's teaser was surprisingly very short, but I didn't want to split any scenes from next issue's Act I. I perused through the five acts and saw the unnamed guest, but I'm not spilling the beans -- and I'm waiting until I type set Act V to see what Brad's surprise is at the end.]

STAR TREK: VOYAGER
"Homecoming"

Written by Brad McDonald

CAST

JANEWAY	ADMIRAL
CHAKOTAY	PARIS
TUVOK	STOKAR
SEVEN	MRS. KIM
NEELIX	ACADEMY
DOCTOR	STUDENT
PARIS	RODRIGUEZ
PEARSON	ENSIGN

Non-speaking

N.D. REPAIRS
N.D. CREW PERSONS
N.D. PATRONS
N.D. PEDESTRIANS
N.D. STATION PERSONNEL

SETS

INTERIORS
USS VOYAGER
CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM
SICKBAY
BRIDGE
MAIN TRANSPORTER ROOM
ENGINEERING - SECTION FOUR
STARFLEET HEADQUARTERS
STOKAR'S OUTER OFFICE
STOKAR'S INNER OFFICE
KIMS' HOUSE
FRONT HALL/ENTRY PARLOR
STARFLEET ACADEMY CORRIDOR
OUTER OFFICE LAB
NEELIX'S NOOK
STARBASE 224 OPS
DUTY OFFICE
EXTERIORS
USS VOYAGER
BORG SHIPS
SPACE DOCK
EARTH
STARBASE 224
STARFLEET HEADQUARTERS
SAN FRANCISCO
RESIDENTIAL SECTION
FISHERMAN'S WHARF
NEELIX'S NOOK
REHAB COLONY FIVE
STARFLEET ACADEMY

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. VOYAGER - CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

JANEWAY has nodded off while looking at a data padd. Her door chime sounds, waking her up. She sits up, but is still groggy and rubs her eyes.

JANEWAY

Come!

TUVOK enters and heads directly for Janeway with a data padd in hand. He hands it to her and she does not look up, engrossed in the padd.

TUVOK

Here's the update on the repairs. We appear to be slightly ahead of schedule.

JANEWAY

It's about time something worked in our favor.

She stifles a yawn.

TUVOK

I'm sorry if I disturbed your rest. Shall I return at a later time and allow you to continue your nap?

Janeway looks up, suppressing a smile.

JANEWAY

Was I that obvious?

She stops short, studying Tuvok closely.

JANEWAY
(continuing)

Out of uniform, aren't we Lieutenant?

CLOSE UP - ON TUVOK

We see new rank pips on Tuvok's uniform for Lieutenant Commander.

TUVOK

Sir? I do not understand. I have been at the rank of Lieutenant Commander for almost two weeks, per Starfleet orders.

AS BEFORE

Janeway stands abruptly, surprised.

JANEWAY

We've been in contact with Starfleet again?

Tuvok is confused.

TUVOK

Daily. Actually, constantly would be a more accurate description --

JANEWAY

(interrupting)

Tuvok! What do you mean?

He points to her view port and she turns to look.

NEW ANGLE - JANEWAY'S P.O.V.

Voyager is in space dock with Earth visible in the B.G.

TUVOK'S VOICE

(o.c.)

We are home Captain, and have been for over two weeks.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

From the Kitchen

By Lynn Stone

A recent Starfleet banquet offered an array of delicious entrees. It was the mushroom dish that enticed most of the dignitaries. The Chefs at Starfleet served a pasta dish created by a member of Picard's *Enterprise*. It not only became famous, it is the most requested recipe ever created in Starfleet. The advantage is that for those of you who like to cook instead of using a replicator, the total work time from start to finish is ten minutes and the ingredients are readily available. The Chefs loved it because it is the epitome of simplicity and elegance. As it should be, since Data created it.

Braised Mushrooms with Buttered Pasta

- 8 ounces of mixed fresh mushrooms, already sliced (two packages)
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves or 1 teaspoon dried
- 1 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 teaspoon Kosher salt
- 12 ounces fresh or dried thin spaghetti
- 2 tablespoon butter
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese

1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil for the pasta. Add a half teaspoon of salt.
2. Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic and swirl through the olive oil until it softens. Add mushrooms and thyme, tossing until well mixed. Add broth and salt. Cover and simmer 7 minutes.
3. Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain without rinsing and return to the warm pan they were cooked in. Stir in butter and parsley, tossing to combine. Drizzle mushrooms and their cooking liquid over the pasta. Season to taste with black pepper. Sprinkle with the cheese. Toss and serve.

Upcoming Events

Mar	5	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Triangle Factory Outlet
		6 p.m. UNC-TV
Apr	2	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Triangle Factory Outlet

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR STARFLEET STATUS
(AND THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY KITTY HAWK DUES)**

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