

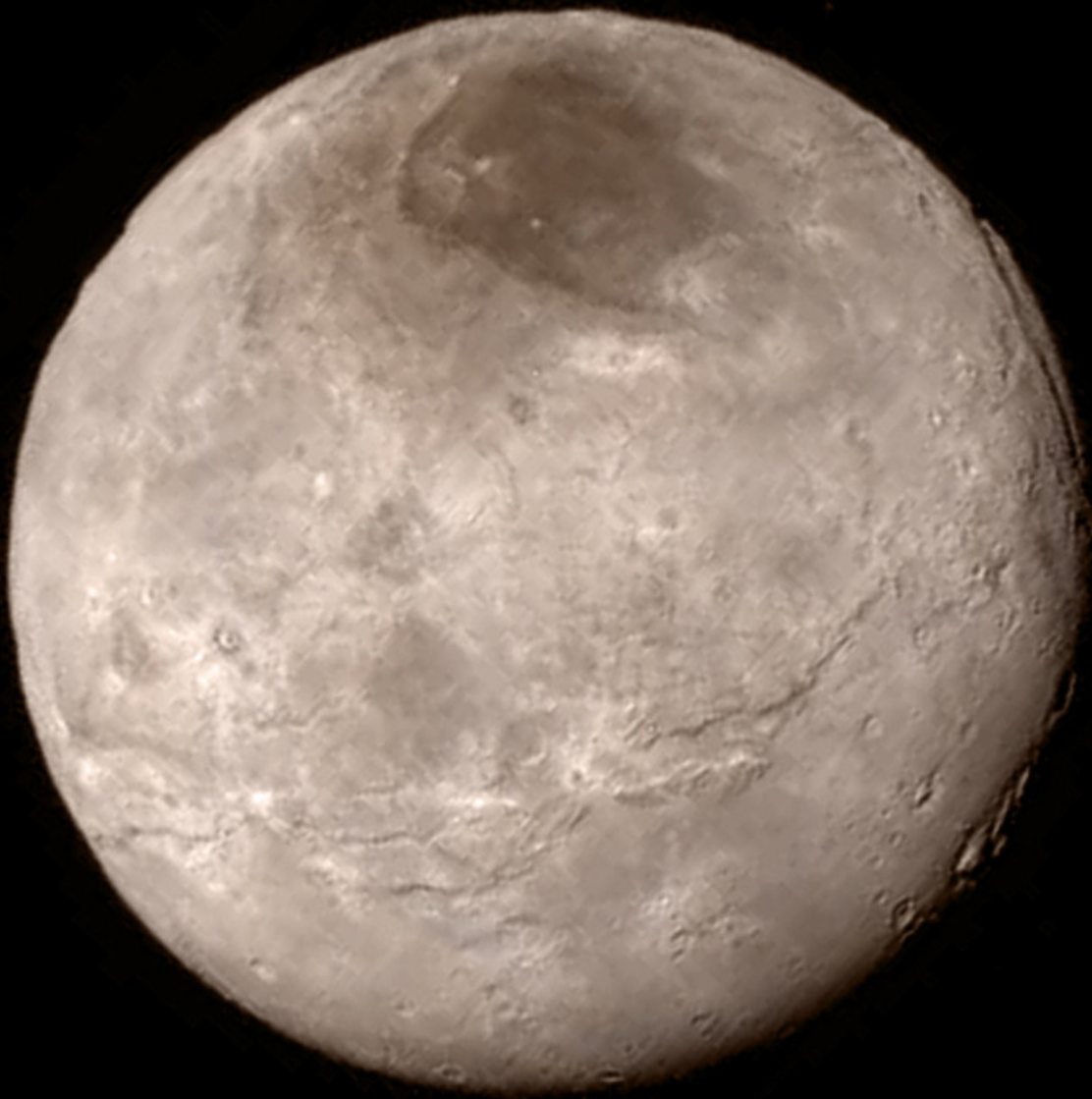
# THE WRIGHT STUFF



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

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# THE WRIGHT STUFF

## Volume 26 - Number 4

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Publisher ..... J.R. Fisher  
Editor ..... John Troan



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**TOOL BOX:** Dell E6530; Lotus WordPro; Adobe Acrobat.

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

**IMAGE - Featured Front Page**

Pluto's moon Charon as seen by *New Horizons* on July 13, 2015. Image credit: NASA-JHUAPL-SwRI.



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## A View From the Catbird Seat By J.R. Fisher

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We are deep into summer with the heat, storms, cookouts and everything else associated with this time of year. I certainly hope that everyone is

having a safe and wonderful season.

It is time for the election of a new president of the club. If you are currently a member in good standing with STARFLEET and currently assigned to the *Kitty Hawk*, then you are eligible to vote in this election. We have two qualified candidates in Captain Larry Pischke and Captain John Troan; both of whom have indicated to me that they would like to fill the position.

I will send out by U.S. Mail, a ballot to each eligible voter on our ship. The ballot is to be marked by the individual, placed in the envelope and sealed. The individual is to then sign his or her name across the flap of the envelope and mail it back to me. The ballot needs to be RECEIVED by me no later than September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Envelopes that are not signed across the flap will not be opened, nor will that vote be counted.

Both Larry and John will offer a brief statement soliciting your vote in articles in this newsletter. Please give careful consideration to both candidates and support to the winner. Good luck to both men and to the *Kitty Hawk* as it begins a new mission.

Please continue to give your support to our efforts to be an active community service organization. There is the UNC-TV Summerfest in August that has requested our assistance. [Editor's note: we're scheduled for UNC-TV on Aug 8.] A good turnout means a good time. And be sure to put Crystal Coast Con on your calendars! Even if you are not working the con with the *Kitty Hawk* table, you want to be sure to be there. Major guests include: Kevin Sorbo and Walter Koenig! Lots of other exciting people! This is fast becoming a major event in our region.

No matter how you spend the rest of the summer, please be careful. Remember that you have *The Wright Stuff*.

*Esse Quam Videri*

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## *Kitty Hawk* C.O. Election Statements

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**Larry Pischke**

It has taken me a long time to write this statement, mainly because I don't know what to say. JR has asked that I explain to all of you why I want to be captain. I would rather that JR remained as captain, but since that doesn't seem to be an option....

First off, let me introduce myself. My name is Larry, and I'm a Trekkie. Actually, I'm a scifi/fantasy/gaming/film fan. I've been with the *Kitty Hawk* since about the very beginning, when she was just a wee shuttlecraft.

Simply put, somebody has to be captain to keep this chapter afloat. It seems only John and I are interested, and John has a lot on his plate already with the podcasts and the newsletter and such. This is not to say that I am necessarily a better candidate than John, just that I have more time than he does. In fact, I propose having John as my first officer, as we did briefly in the past.

I think that we have a strong chapter right now, and I'd like to see it get stronger. Maybe have some more activities, like we did "in the old days." It's all up to what you, the members, want to do. And who you want as captain is all up to you as well. Either way, we'll keep moving on.

**John Troan**

In meeting with JR to discuss my interest in being the *Kitty Hawk* CO, he said he would have each candidate write a statement for the *Kitty Hawk* CO election. I had no idea what I would write. Neither of us is better than the other and we've both been active members of StarFleet and the *Kitty Hawk* for a long time, so it's hard to build a case for why you should vote for either of us. Regardless of which of us becomes the CO, I'll continue to watch over Comp Ops as I've done for the last decade-plus. However, I did get some recent advice from someone on what I could write about:

### *My Vision*

I'd like to see the *Kitty Hawk* "return to our roots." Part of this has already started with everyone's participation in the podcasts and an increased presence at local conventions (now that we've found out about several of them). I'd like to see what other charitable efforts we as a group want to target.

I'm also very open to ideas about getting the word out that we even exist. From a couple of recent events, discovering our near invisibility has been an interesting discovery.

# Science Report

## By Elaine Pischke

So, Pluto! I'm sure we've all seen the pictures and the reports, so there's not a lot to say about that. It will be interesting to see what new revelations are made about tiny Pluto as data from New Horizons is analyzed.

Closer to home, the American Meteorological Society reports that 2014 was, globally, the warmest year on record. The report, compiled by NOAA's Center for Weather and Climate at the National Centers for Environmental Information is based on contributions from 413 scientists from 58 countries around the world. It provides a detailed update on global climate indicators, notable weather events, and other data collected by environmental monitoring stations and instruments located on land, water, ice, and in space. The indicators often reflect many thousands of measurements from multiple independent datasets.

Key highlights from the report include: **Greenhouse gases continued to climb. Record temperatures observed near the Earth's surface.** Four independent global datasets showed that 2014 was the warmest year on record. The warmth was widespread

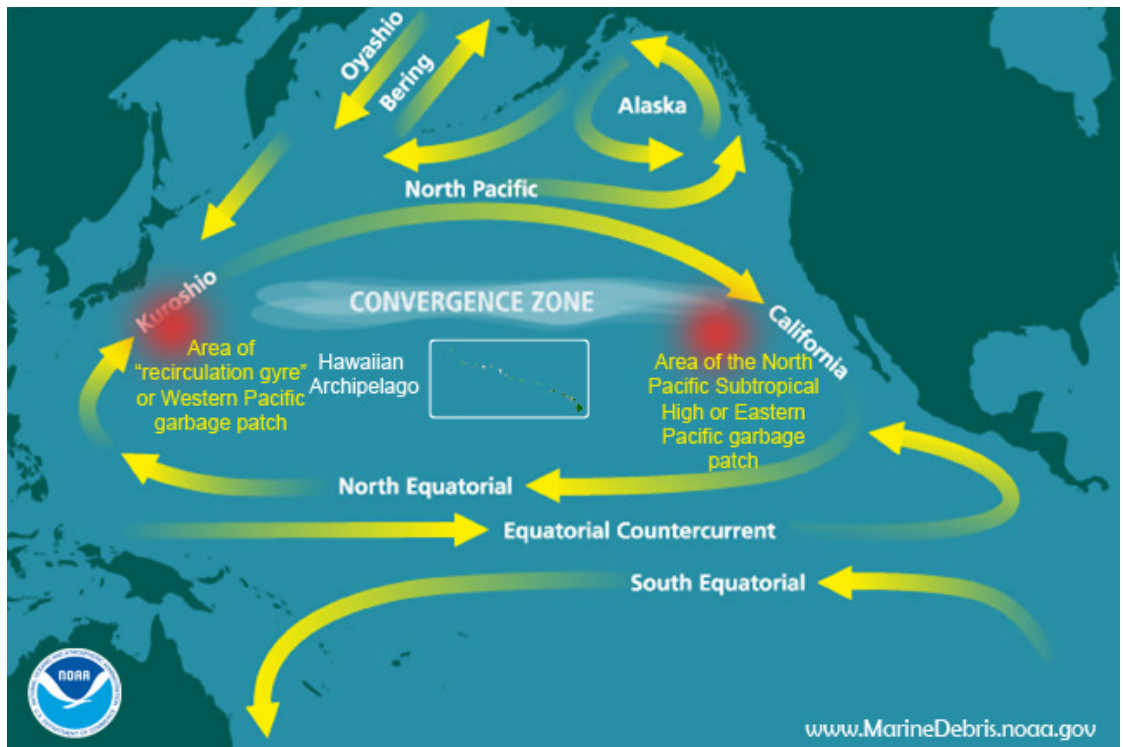
across land areas. For example, Europe experienced its warmest year on record. Eastern North America was the only major region to experience below-average annual temperatures.

**Sea surface temperatures were record high. Global upper ocean heat content was record high. Global sea level was record high. The Arctic continued to warm; sea ice extent remained low. The Antarctic showed highly variable temperature patterns; sea ice extent reached record high. Tropical cyclones were above average overall:** There were 91 tropical cyclones in 2014, well above the 1981-2010 average of 82 storms.

In somewhat related news, a new study of polar bears indicates

that, while the bears can compensate somewhat for warmer temperatures by increasing the time they swim in the Arctic seas, they are not able to semi-hibernate through the warmer months to conserve energy, as some has previously postulated. The dwindling of sea ice makes hunting for seals, their primary food source, more difficult and there is no method of conserving energy that will prevent their eventual starvation.

In happier news, the college student in the Netherlands who came up with the idea of a solar powered floating broom to collect plastic from the oceans is about to see his vision become reality. The device, funded by crowd sourcing, is scheduled to be deployed in the Korean Strait in 2016. The inventor, Boyan Slat, plans to build an even larger device to tackle the [Great Pacific Garbage Patch](#) between Hawaii and California.



A basic diagram of northern Pacific currents and the locations of the garbage patches. From NOAA.gov



# Computer Operations Report

## By John Troan

Decisions, decisions, decisions.... what to put on the cover of this month's issue ... so many options from [New Horizons's Pluto flyby](#).

The [full-globe image of Charon](#), Pluto's largest moon, "won" out. The other two options are shown here -- the [now-familiar "heart" on Pluto](#) (*right top*) and a [Pluto close-up that could be from Earth's moon](#) (*right middle*).

A few numbers from the mission (so far):

- It took *New Horizons* over nine years to reach Pluto, traveling a path of more than three billion miles.
- The Atlas V launch vehicle had the fastest launch of any rocket leaving Earth's surface -- over 37,000 mph, which gives it enough speed to eventually leave the solar system. (*Voyager 1* is currently moving the fastest, at over 38,000 mph.)
- A 2007 flyby of Jupiter added 9,000 mph to the "final" speed -- and gave engineers a practice flyby to optimize the probe handling before the "real" flyby at Pluto.
- At its fastest, *New Horizons* was traveling the fastest of any probe -- roughly 51,000 mph.
- During the flyby, it was about 7,700 miles from Pluto's surface and just under 18,000 miles from Charon.
- There was so much information collected during the flyby that it will take *sixteen months* to download all of the full-resolution data. (Even the summary version won't finish downloading until late this year.)

One of the most intriguing early discoveries is that Pluto may have an active geology. One mountainous area is estimated to be only 100 million years old -- very young in geologic terms. The relative lack of craters is another sign of an active geological surface.

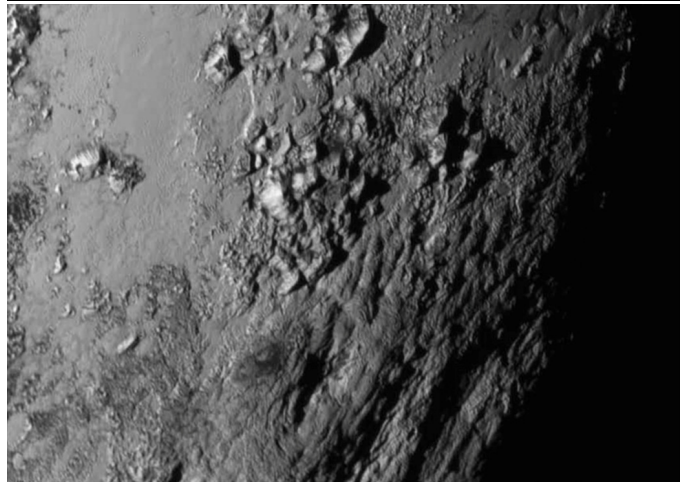
[One of the latest discoveries](#) is from a backlit image (*right bottom*) that shows surprising distinct haze around Pluto, with the layers at thirty and fifty miles above the surface. Also released is [a video simulation of New Horizons' flyby of Pluto](#) that uses the

close-up images of Sputnik Planum and the newly discovered (and informally-named) Hillary Montes.

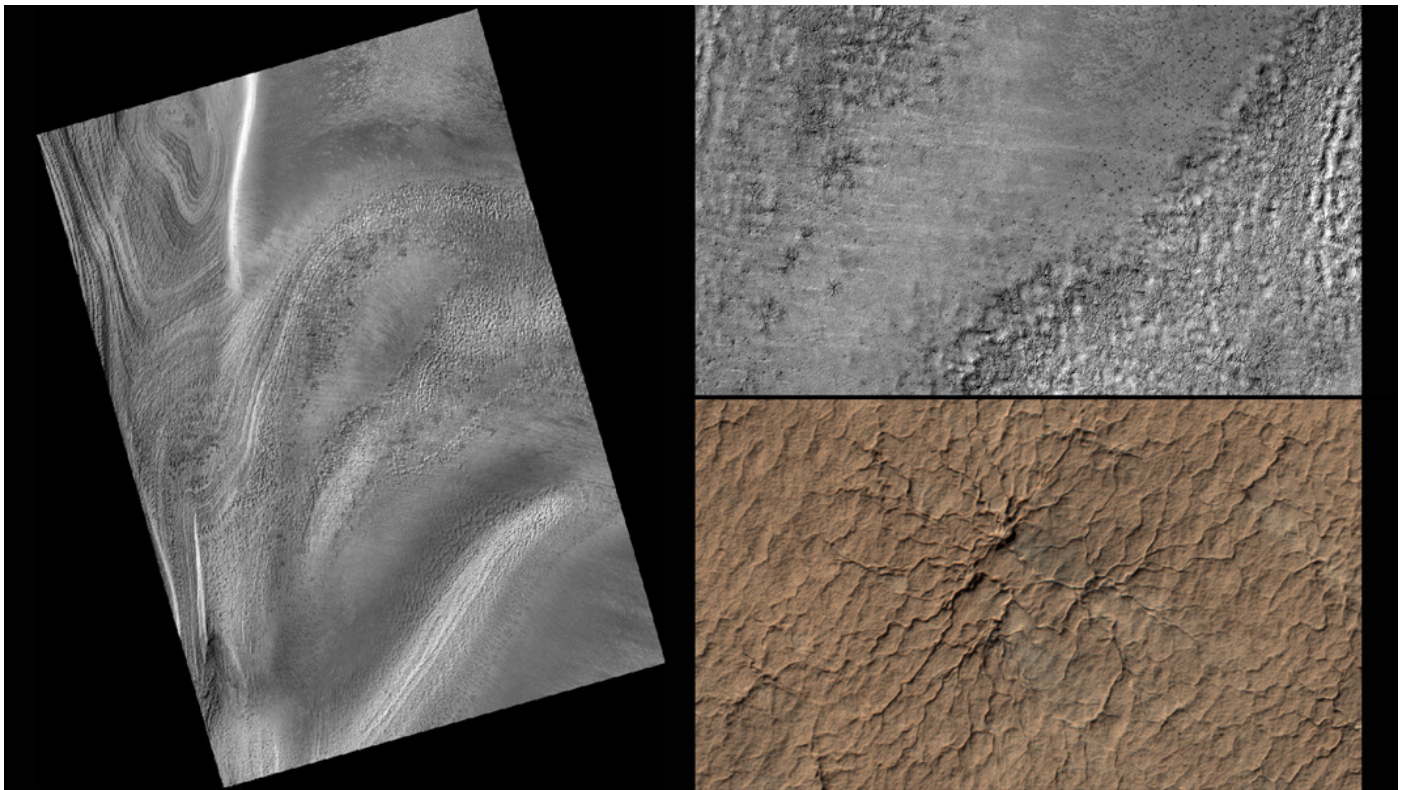
During the extended mission, *New Horizons* will next target several object in the Kuiper Belt. This is the region of the solar system that's beyond Neptune and is home to Pluto, Eris, Makemake, Haumea, Sedna, Quaoar, Orcus, and (very likely) dozens of other similar objects.

Moving both closer toward Earth and farther out into the Milky Way, the [Kepler team has just announced the discovery of the closest match yet for the Sun-Earth pairing](#). Planet Kepler-452b is in the habitable zone around its parent star, which has the same G2 classification as our sun.

The overall *Kepler* findings have piled up an impressive total of almost 4,700 planet candidates, which each need follow up analysis and observation to become a confirmed exoplanet. A dozen of the newest candidates are similar to Earth in size and orbit their respective star's habitable zone. Several of these also have a parent star that's very similar to our sun.



All images on this page from NASA/APL/SwRI.



Left and right top taken by MRO CTX; right bottom taken by MRO HiRISE. All images from NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS/Univ. of Arizona

On Mars, *Curiosity* was backed up a few dozen yards to a location it had previously been in order to study an interesting target that contains surprisingly high levels of silica, commonly found on Earth as quartz. What's alluring is that the high silica content "could indicate ideal conditions for preserving ancient organic material" if any life existed when the rock was formed.

The [Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter](#) (MRO) team is [asking the public to help identify "exotic" Martian surface features](#) in images taken by MRO's CTX and HiRISE cameras, as shown in the samples above. The ["Planet Four: Terrains" website](#) has been set up to facilitate harnessing public interest in helping with the image analysis. The HiRISE camera is the sharpest ever put into Martian orbit and is able to identify surface objects that are as small as just twenty inches.

Wrapping up the NASA segment, there was a recent announcement from Kennedy Space Center that [Pad 39C is now available](#). It's located within the perimeter fence for Pad 39B and is intended for the "small class market", with total vehicle launch weights of about 125,000 pounds. (In contrast, the 39A/39B pads for the shuttle and Apollo programs can each

handle several million pounds of launch weight, between the rocket, fuel, and payload.)

In *Trek*-related news, there was a recent posting from [StarTrek.com](#) that the [first true-to-form "fully working" TOS-era communicator is now for \(pre\)sale](#). It's a bluetooth handset that ties in to your smartphone, but also has a bunch of sound effects and dialog clips from *TOS*. From the pictures and materials description, it claims -- and really does look -- to be an authentic-looking copy of the "Alpha Hero Prop" that was used when the camera zoomed in for a close-up. This one also has wireless recharging, so there's no visible socket for the cord to plug into.

The other recent *Trek* news is a campaign from several groups (including the primary *Star Trek Beyond* cast) [to solicit donations for several charities](#). In reading through the list of charities, it appears each cast member nominated a cause -- and the ninth cause was nominated in honor of Leonard Nimoy.

The grand prize is a walk-on role in the new movie, including transportation to and lodging in Vancouver, BC, where the filming is taking place. The article states that a minimum donation of ten dollars gets

you into the drawing and that the campaign runs until roughly the end of August.

In closing, I'll actually cover some Comp Ops news -- and offer everyone a lesson about all the data (pictures, videos, documents, etc.) on your home computers. Part of why this *Wright Stuff* ran late in getting to print is that I had to spend a lot of time rebuilding one of the physical servers here. Even though I had set up the hard drives to protect against losing everything on the server, it didn't help because one drive died and a second drive was in the process of dying. (I've *got* to set up something to tell me when the *first* drive dies so that I replace it before a *second* one goes, but that's getting off topic.)

Buying the new hard drives was easy, but how to get back all the data that was on the dead drives? In my case, every virtual machine I lost has a twin that sits on a different physical server -- just copy the data back over.

The solution for the home user is to either install another hard drive (if there's room) or just buy a USB drive. Pretty much everything has USB these days. The trick is remembering to copy your data early and *often*. :-)



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# Wishful Thinking

## By Brad McDonald

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Moving away from writing stories for a moment, it's time for me to put on paper some thoughts that have been nagging me for some time. Most of you already know my opinion regarding the reboot of the *Star Trek* movie franchise: in a word, terrible. Because of that, or in spite of that, I'd like to propose another reboot, a new *Star Trek* TV series. Yes, I know there are several on-line, fan-based series out there. I've watched a number of them and some are quite good. Their very existence proves an audience and a need for a regular series. However, they do an hour or so once a year. This is due to limitations of budget, personnel and the fact that the people involved are mostly working for free. (Paramount/CBS Television does not allow money to be made on their property.) What I believe is needed is a regular TV series on a major network, or even better, as a direct to syndication production, to achieve major exposure. No new networks please!

In a recent interview with William Shatner, he stated that *Star Trek* will never regain its popularity or importance unless it returns to the small screen where it can become a more intimate and personal experience. I agree. While Mr. Shatner doesn't always get it right, his assessment is essentially correct. The big screen, flash and bang, gizmo and effects dependent format of current movies just doesn't suit the franchise. (I really hate the word franchise, but we're stuck with it.) *Star Trek* the TV series was making a comeback when Paramount decided to put it on the big screen as an answer to *Star Wars*. While it was a welcome return at the time -- any *Trek* was better than no *Trek* at all -- I think it was a mistake. Subsequent series like *Next Generation*, *Deep Space Nine*, *Voyager* and *Enterprise* filled the need of a regular series and *Star*

*Trek's* popularity remained strong and even soared.

The current situation of a once every three years movie doesn't really work. What made *Star Trek* great was its weekly, one hour long, morality plays of drama, action and even comedy which fans could and did appreciate. The stories made us think, they weren't 'dumbed down' and they spoke of issues that were current with the time or sometimes age old questions that remain unanswered and weren't explored in the average TV show of the time. Issues were even hidden from the network censors, masked in an alien setting or by the Earth of the future.

"Let us return now to those thrilling days of yesteryear..." (To quote another old TV show.) Give the fans the series that started the whole *Star Trek* phenomenon. While *Next Generation*, *Deep Space Nine*, *Voyager* and *Enterprise* were good, they were all based on the simple premise originally presented in the '66-'69 series. So let's get back to that concept with a new series set in the same time frame, a retro series, if you will allow the use of the term. Use the same sets, props, costumes and so on. Use Roddenberry's original concept of inviting the best sci-fi writers to give the series an infusion of fresh ideas. Staff writers are an essential part of the mix as they keep the series in line with basic principal and objectives. Some of the best stories of the original series came from the staff writers; D.C. Fontana, John D.F. Black, Gene Coon and Roddenberry himself. But notable sci-fi writers also gave us memorable episodes as well. Robert Bloch, Theodore Sturgeon, Richard Matheson and Harlan Ellison became part of the *Trek* family with excellent stories and memorable characters.

Recast the series with relative unknowns so there is no 'baggage' brought to the set. In other words, don't use the reboot movie series

stars. After all, how many of us knew the cast in the original series when it premiered? Give us the original main cast: Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scott, Uhura, Sulu, Chekov, Rand and Chapel. Use others for occasional appearances such as DeSalle, Riley, Leslie and Palmer. Since the original series had a male dominated cast, adding new female cast members would be advisable. Please, don't recast original male characters as female which was done in the reboot of *Battlestar Galactica*. Instead, introduce more characters as the series progresses. Perhaps tie into the original series by using Nichelle Nichols, George Takei and Walter Koenig. They can reminisce about the good old days and introduce the new series and new characters. Pick up the story line with 'season four' and move on. Complete the first five-year mission and then do another five, stick to Roddenberry's original vision and keep on trekkin'.

Will this happen? Sadly, no. But with so much interest in sci-fi in general, why not? Since the *Star Trek* movie and TV series are now separate franchises (don't ask me how or why) a TV series separate from the movies is possible. J.J. Abrams complained about confusion between the two, but I think the fans can distinguish between the two easily. We're a lot more intelligent than most people give us credit for, right? Besides, Abrams is now occupied elsewhere.

All of this is just an old man's dream at a critical juncture of the time and space continuum as the original series started in '66 and I turn 66 this year. Well, somehow it all seems connected. But a new series starting next year would be very nice, coming on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original, right?

Anyway, here's to wishful thinking!

# Star Trek On-Line

By Larry Cox

One of the challenges I've seen while playing STO is the need to create or develop new adversaries: the Klingons are more or less out and the Romulas have a new government after the destruction of their home world, the Romulan Republic, who have fostered a cooperative relationship with the Federation, except the Tal Shiar who cling to the "old" ways. Story lines are available as "episodes" for players to work through developments for both these factions, including conflict and resolution.

Once a player's character reaches rank 50, they are then eligible to begin gaining Reputation, one of the aspects of player character development. By completing various missions and participating in combat situations, either with a group or individually, a



Above: On Earth Space Station, Fleet ops. Below: My primary character, Joshua Nelson's reputation screen, the sunny shore of Risa in the background.



character earns reputation marks. Each reputation has 5 levels, with each level rewarding the character with a "skill" or trait for that level. Skills and traits add positive adjustments to a character's abilities, so they are

desirable. My character is now working to complete 3 reputations areas to max out on all levels. Reputation areas include:

- Task Force Omega
- Nukara Strikeforce



- New Romulus
- Dyson Joint Command
- 8472 Counter-Command
- Delta Alliance
- Iconian Resistance

Building up marks to complete these levels requires participating in the same missions over time.

As the game expands and grows, new areas for reputation are added. Task Force Omega marks are earned in battles against the Borg; Nukara

against the Tholians; New Romulus marks are earned assisting in the settlement of New Romulus; Dyson Joint Command marks come from missions in the coalition of Federation, Klingon, and Romulan forces in exploring the recently discovered Solanae Dyson Sphere and combat against the Voth, an aggressive alien species attempting to control the Dyson Sphere: 8472 Counter-Command is against, you

guessed it, Species 8472 aka the Undine, also in the Solanae Dyson sphere. Delta Alliance marks are earned in assisting indigenous species of the Delta Quadrant in the efforts to hold off the advances of the Vaadwaur; and the last and latest reputation, the Iconian resistance is in the Iconian War. Each rep takes place in a different area of the game; the Alpha, Beta and Delta quadrants.

Between reputation missions

there are always other areas of conflict to participate in. Or to enjoy some much needed shore leave. Currently the summer festival on Risa is in play. This is an annual event during the summer months offered to provide some light hearted entertainment. Activities include dance competitions, Horga'hn hunts, wave racing and building sand castles. Prizes for completion of these events can be used to buy off-duty attire or raise Risan tropical birds or feather monkeys (non-combat pets). This is a good opportunity to compete and socialize with friends in a non-combative situation.



Above: USS Raleigh orbiting Deep Space Station K-7, no tribbles in sight. Below: On freighter escort duty.



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# ST: TOS -- *Living with the Past*

By Brad McDonald

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## ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – MELANA III

Enterprise is in orbit around the planet.

INT. ENTERPRISE – MAIN  
CONFERENCE ROOM – WIDE  
ANGLE

The senior staff is present.

KIRK

So Mister Spock, do we have our list?

SPOCK

Twenty-five names plus the five alternates in case any of the others are not suitable for restoration.

Spock hands a tricorder to Kirk.

SPOCK  
(continued)

The names are listed in here.

KIRK

Thank you, Mister Spock, and I'd like to thank the entire staff. I'm curious as to which names I'll find.

MCCOY

I think you'll approve, Jim.

KIRK

I'm sure. In any case, Lieutenant Uhura, I'll let you make the presentation to the Elan.

He passes the tricorder to Uhura.

UHURA

Thank you, Captain.

MCCOY

After Uhura gives them the list, I suppose we let them make the next move.

ON SPOCK

He is deep in thought and steepled his fingers.

SPOCK

I am still troubled with the proposal.

KIRK (O.S.)

Go ahead, that's why we are here.

SPOCK

Suppose for a moment we do restore twenty-five individuals. In what capacity will they serve the Federation or even their own people?

(beat)

Many we have chosen are from our ancient past. They will, in essence, be out of place and behind the times.

ON KIRK

He is intrigued by Spock's thought process.

KIRK

Interesting, Mister Spock. Please continue.

AS BEFORE – ON SPOCK

He now relates all of his misgivings.

SPOCK

How can we be sure the restored individuals will be all we expect?

(beat)

Suppose the composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is brought back. He lived a short but very remarkable life. What if he was not meant to live any longer?

MCCOY (O.S.)

How do you mean Spock?

SPOCK

Suppose he composed everything he was capable of. Perhaps, if he had lived longer he would not have composed any more or created lesser work. He may have been an abject failure in later life had he lived longer.

ON KIRK – NEW ANGLE

He nods in understanding.

KIRK

A candle that burns twice as bright, burns half as long. Is that right?

AS BEFORE – ON SPOCK

SPOCK

Essentially correct. I realize this is but one example, but I am worried about where the restoration process may take us.

WIDE ANGLE

The room is quiet.

MCCOY

I hate to admit it, but Spock does have a point, Jim.

CHEKOV

A restored scientist from the past might feel out of place or even inadequate.

SULU

But it's their insight and thought processes that we celebrate, right?

SCOTT

Aye, the truly great thinkers would be timeless, like Sulu said.

UHURA

And the artists, their work is timeless as well. They should be just fine in our time.

MCCOY

But what if they did all they could do, or wanted to do?

KIRK

Doctor, you mean if they had a choice, they might not want to come back?

MCCOY

It is possible, isn't it?

CHEKOV

I hadn't thought about that.

UHURA

An artist's work may be valued due to its limited availability. If they begin producing again does it

reduce the value or importance of their earlier work?

SPOCK

I merely point out these possibilities in order to better understand exactly what it is we may expect. Do we really want to restore these people?

The group is quiet, thinking about what they've heard.

KIRK

Any other thoughts? Now is the time, people.

UHURA

Captain, could we think about this a little longer?

SCOTT

Aye. It seems we have a wee bit more of a problem than we thought. It's not just a matter of who we choose.

SULU

Maybe another day wouldn't be a bad idea, right Captain?

ON KIRK

He is taken by the thought process.

KIRK

Very well. We'll hold off for another twenty-four hours before deciding. Dismissed.

AS BEFORE – WIDE ANGLE

Everyone exits the conference room.

CORRIDOR OUTSIDE  
CONFERENCE ROOM

McCoy ambushes Kirk as he exits the conference room.

MCCOY

Jim?

Kirk is startled and feigns shock.

KIRK

Bones? You trying to drum up business by inducing a heart attack?

McCoy ignores Kirk's theatrics.

MCCOY

You know, I really hate Spock sometimes.

Kirk is amused by McCoy.

KIRK

Just sometimes?

(beat)

Gets under your skin, huh?

CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION

The two walk down the corridor.

MCCOY

(moving)

I hate him the most when he's right.

KIRK

(moving)

Like now?

They stop for a moment.

ON MCCOY

MCCOY

I don't like to admit it, but I never thought about all the ramifications involved. I guess my thinking was more concerned with if it could be done and not the consequences.

AS BEFORE – CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION

KIRK

(moving)

It caught me by surprise as well. Any thoughts?

MCCOY

(moving)

I was really beginning to believe it could be done and started to wonder what it would be like to meet someone like Copernicus or Einstein.

(beat)

How about you?

KIRK

(moving)

I never looked at the list, but I was hoping for Lincoln, of course.

MCCOY

(moving)

Regarding a previous conversation...

KIRK

(moving, smiling)

Care to be more specific?

They stop again.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND MCCOY

MCCOY

The importance of this mission to the Federation and all the M-5 casualties.

KIRK

You don't think Uhura's up to it?

He looks around to see if they're alone.

MCCOY

No, not that. But I am just curious as to why you're putting your career in her hands.

KIRK

It's been there before, many times. You know that, just as it's been in yours, Spock's, Scotty's... everyone's.

MCCOY

Agreed, but Uhura seems to be a focal point recently. Care to explain?

Kirk hesitates but wants his friend to understand.

KIRK

Uhura is thinking about leaving Starfleet. It's related to M-5, Bones. I'll leave it at that. Let's see how it goes.

CUT TO:

SPOCK'S QUARTERS

Spock is meditating when the door chime sounds. He's momentarily disoriented but recovers quickly.

SPOCK

Come!

NEW ANGLE

Kirk enters but stops short. He realizes he's interrupted Spock's meditation and is apologetic.

KIRK

I can return later if it's not a good time.

Spock rises from his meditation and goes to Kirk.

SPOCK

Not at all, Captain, what can I do for you?



KIRK

Before I assemble the staff again, I'd like to discuss the restoration process with you.

Spock indicates seats.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND SPOCK

They sit close to each other, Kirk is tentative.

KIRK

I was a bit surprised by your views on the restoration process.

SPOCK

Have I committed a faux pas?

KIRK

No, Spock, you actually made us think about what we were really asking for.

SPOCK

I thought it was essential that you had all of the facts.

KIRK

I agree, just curious as to what led you to your thought process.

ON SPOCK

SPOCK

I was thinking about Doctor Daystrom and how he was trying to recapture his past with the M-5.

KIRK (O.S.)

I see your line of thinking.

SPOCK

He was so desperate to prove his worth that he put the M-5 into service even though it wasn't ready.

ON KIRK

KIRK

I understand. I always rely on your insight and thoughts. A lot of what is credited to Kirk's command skills, is a result of the crew's input.

EXT. SPACE – MELANA III

Enterprise is in orbit.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's log Stardate 4744.3. Uhura's team has transported

to meet with the Elan to discuss the restoration offer I will abide by her decision. It should be... fascinating.

EXT. MELANA III – TOWN PLAZA – MID-MORNING

McCoy, Uhura, Sulu and Chekov materialize; Lacara and Dulan are waiting for them.

DULAN

We were glad to hear from you. We were beginning to wonder if you had left without accepting our offer.

UHURA

We'd like to talk to you about that.

DULAN

Of course. Do you have the names of those you wish to restore?

UHURA

Twenty-five plus five alternates.

LACARA

May we see them?

Uhura hands the tricorder to Lacara.

UHURA

You'll find the names plus their biographies. Do you know how to operate the tricorder?

LACARA

Chekov instructed us. We are... comfortable with its operation.

DULAN

Why don't we discuss this in Council?

INT. PLANETARY COUNCIL CHAMBER – WIDE ANGLE

It's a small room with McCoy, Sulu, Uhura, Chekov, Dulan and Lacara.

DULAN

(off tricorder)

Your choices are commendable. The biographies provided show you have chosen the best of the best that the Federation has to offer.

MCCOY

One question. If a candidate is restored and dies again, can they be restored once more?

LACARA

Isn't one time enough?

MCCOY

Our thoughts, exactly.

SULU

We are having doubts about your offer. Perhaps we shouldn't restore them.

The Elan are confused.

DULAN

Don't you want to bring your people back to life?

UHURA

It's not necessary. We believe they have already lived a meaningful life.

LACARA

Please explain.

ON UHURA

UHURA

We're worried that bringing them back may serve only to take away from what they have done already.

ON LACARA

LACARA

Interesting, we've never had that response before.

MCCOY (O.S.)

You've made this offer to others?

LACARA

On several occasions.

CHEKOV (O.S.)

You restored their dead?

LACARA

(confused)

Yes; do you wish to use our service?

ON UHURA

UHURA

We hope you don't take offense, but for the reasons we've stated, no.

WIDE ANGLE

The Elan talk quietly with each other for a few beats.

LACARA

We are pleased with your choice. You have shown us that the Federation is indeed worthy of our abilities and our membership.

SULU

You didn't expect us to accept the offer?

DULAN

Some do and some don't. Evidently you've matured beyond the need to cling to the past.

UHURA

We believe that it's more important to learn from the past, not live in it.

DULAN

Is there anything else we can do to show our friendship?

MCCOY

We'd like your assistance regarding a recent incident that injured many of our friends. Could you help us?

LACARA

We'd be happy to help you.

CUT TO:

KIRK'S QUARTERS – ON KIRK

He's busy when the door chime sounds.

KIRK

Come!

NEW ANGLE

The door opens and Uhura enters.

UHURA

Is this a good time to talk, sir?

Kirk smiles and indicates a seat. She sits, uneasy.

KIRK

Again, well done, Lieutenant.

UHURA

Thank you sir. I was just wondering if...

KIRK

... I gave you the assignment because you wanted to leave Starfleet?

UHURA

Well... yes.

KIRK

You were due, actually overdue for the assignment. Check the duty roster; Riley, Spock, Sulu and then Uhura. Besides, I knew the Elan required a gentle touch. But I'll admit that the timing was good.

(beat)

So, do you still want to leave?

ON UHURA

UHURA

(smiling)

No, sir. Where else can I meet people like the Elan? Also, since they've been instructing Doctor McCoy in new techniques to help the M-5 casualties, I've learned about the medical miracles they are capable of.

KIRK (O.S.)

Including your friend, N'komo?

UHURA

Unfortunately, no. But I do feel as if I have made a difference and it's helped with the healing process.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND UHURA

KIRK

(smiling)

Are you speaking in general terms or personally?

UHURA

Both actually. Thank you for the assignment.

KIRK

As usual, you've made me look good.

(beat)

I understand you have a new friend, Dulan.

UHURA

Yes, sir. Speaking of which...

She rises to leave.

KIRK

I'm holding you up.

(beat)

Thanks for remaining with Starfleet and Enterprise.

UHURA

Enterprise and its crew are my family Captain. This assignment made me realize that.

KIRK

(beat)

Glad I could be of service.

Uhura exits and Kirk tabs the intercom.

KIRK

(continued)

Palmer, you can contact Commodore Wesley now.

PALMER (V.O.)

Good timing sir. He's already on line. Putting him through now.

KIRK

Commodore Wesley, I'd like to talk to you about my easy assignment...

Kirk smiles slightly.

Off his expression...

FADE OUT

END ACT FOUR

THE END

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## Upcoming Events

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Jul	(late)	<i>Jul/Aug The Wright Stuff</i> published with <i>Kitty Hawk C.O. Election Information</i>
Aug	---	(No meeting this month)
	(early)	<i>Kitty Hawk C.O. Election Ballots Mailed Out</i>
	8	6 p.m. UNC-TV -- <a href="#">directions to studio</a>
Sep	11	<i>Kitty Hawk C.O. Election Ballots</i> to be <u>Received</u> by JR Fisher
	12	4 p.m. Ship Meeting Triangle Factory Outlet, Morrisville
	19	Articles due for Sep/Oct newsletter
Oct	7	25th Anniversary of the <i>Kitty Hawk's</i> Commissioning
	10	4 p.m. Ship Meeting Triangle Factory Outlet, Morrisville

SEE [PAGE 3](#) FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR STARFLEET STATUS**

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*THE WRIGHT STUFF*  
U.S.S. KITTY HAWK  
5017 Glen Forest Dr.  
RALEIGH NC 27612