

# THE WRIGHT STUFF



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# THE WRIGHT STUFF

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**IMAGES - Title Banner**

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**

Infrared Echoes of a Black Hole Eating a Star.  
<http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/iotd.html>

## The Center Seat by John Troan

Election season is upon us, with both the “regular” elections and the STARFLEET election. If you’re eligible to vote in either election, please do so.

For the STARFLEET election, you would need to be an active STARFLEET member as of Aug 1. If you were and haven’t already received a ballot in the mail, please let me know ASAP. I can get you the information required for requesting a replacement ballot.

Looking ahead on the event calendar, [Crystal Coast Con](#) is coming up on Oct 22. We’re working with the just-launched STARFLEET chapter in that area (the *U.S.S. White Eagle*) and the *Star Trek Phase II/New Voyages* folks. Something new for us this year will be a 50/50 raffle the two ships will be doing together, with proceeds to benefit the Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina, which was chosen because both ships are located in the region served by this chapter of the Food Bank.

November is possibly a little quieter, with just a visit to the Crabtree ThinkGeek store at lunchtime on Nov 12. The exact gathering time will be set a little closer to the day. We’ll also be working on the last newsletter of the year – articles are due to Elaine by Nov 15 – and the results of the STARFLEET election should be released. (There’s also the “regular” election on Nov 8, so remember to GO VOTE!)

December brings us our fourth UNC-TV event of the year on Dec 3. This will be the second straight calendar year we’ve done all four pledge drives – and 27 straight years that the *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* has volunteered.

Our meeting will be in the UNC-TV conference room at 5 pm. We also have the Christmas party at Diane’s house on Dec 10 at 5 pm. Please let me know if you plan to attend either one -- and what drink or appetizer you plan to bring to the Christmas party -- so that we can get

a head count and avoid too many duplicate foods and/or drinks.

January will have another newsletter article due date (TBD) and our anniversary dinner at Kanki on Jan 15 at 6pm. I’ll let everyone know when I find out if we’ll be at the Crabtree or Durham Kanki location.

Sometime next year are one or two major SciFi / fantasy conventions in Raleigh. I’d like to try for us to be at both. Once I get more information on each, we can start planning for them.

I close with two requests for everyone to give some thought to –

1. Other charities/causes we can start to support.
2. Activities that we can do together. It can be something like our upcoming ThinkGeek stop-in or farther away, such as a trip for one of the special tour of the battleship *North Carolina* or a possible spring trip to DC to see the restored *Enterprise* (and the rest of the Air and Space Museum).

## Comp Ops by John Troan

First, the last act of our (first) podcast is now posted! I still have to create the full-length version with all five acts mashed together and hope to have that done by year’s end.

We’ll be starting to gear up for recording sessions of our next podcast, with the first session to be held sometime during the week between Christmas and New Year’s. Additional sessions will be scheduled on a few select Saturdays and Sundays early in 2017.

A mass update of our web site was just completed that included the last two newsletters and four sets of pictures from various away missions. My “Thanks!” to Keung and Diane for sending me pictures of their trips to the StarFleet Academy Experience and the *Star Trek* 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention. Seeing the pics makes me wish I could’ve done both.

Sometime in 2017, I hope to rebuild the web site structure. What everyone sees won’t change, but the

underlying design of what goes where needs to be changed. My original redesign works ok, but with the number of events, pictures, and other media being added, I decided it needed to be redone to better handle future additions. I also want to add links to our social media streams on all the web pages, giving us a more unified on-line presence.

Based on the press releases, this has been a largely quiet period for NASA’s engineering side. While the work definitely continues on the big tasks, there haven’t been many major milestones hit in the last couple of months. (There is [another commercial resupply mission](#) to the space station currently scheduled for the first half of October.)

On the flip side, the science side has had several major announcements:

- [Curiosity Finds Evidence of Mars Crust Contributing to Atmosphere](#)
- [Hubble Spots Possible Water Plumes on Jupiter's Moon Europa](#)
- [NASA Scientists Find 'Impossible' Cloud on Titan – Again](#)
- [Cassini Begins Epic Final Year at Saturn](#)
- A note from the ESA: [Rosetta Mission to End on Comet Surface](#)
- And, lastly, a *Trek*-themed observation -- [Enterprise Nebulae Seen by Spitzer](#)

## Communications Report by Elaine Pischke

First, I’d like to apologize for the lateness of this edition of *The Wright Stuff*. Working on an ancient computer is proving to be quite challenging. This old thing keeps crashing and refusing to reboot. I was half way through putting this issue together when it died for a few days, came back long enough for me to almost finish, then crashed again for a week. Fingers crossed that it holds up long enough this time for me to finish!

# Engineering Report

## Brad McDonald

Wow, how time flies! It feels like I just wrote the last report yesterday.

I actually make a case for time not being a constant by illustrating as follows. Time is like a train. When you're born, the train begins moving, very slowly and it takes time to get moving to a rate which is acceptable to us. Remember how long it took to get out of grade school or before you could buy things for yourself? Or how about being considered old enough to go somewhere by yourself? It took forever to get your driver's license and go out on your first date. How long it took to graduate, go to college, get a permanent job, and more milestones?

Then life starts to change with marriage, kids, house, cars, mortgage, credit cards, and so on. The train is now gaining speed. Days, weeks and months slip by and things start to happen more quickly. When I hit 30 I couldn't believe it, then 40, then 50 then 60; the birthdays arrived quicker than ever and more frequently as I got older.

Now time is really moving. My weeks feel like days and days like hours and so on. If you don't believe me, then you're too young... just wait.

On a more serious note, I was happy to see that the new *Star Trek* TV series has an old friend on board. Nicholas Meyer either wrote or directed *Wrath of Khan*, *Voyage Home*, and *Undiscovered Country*. He will be producing and writing for the series, so things are looking good. Also, the announced premiere date has been moved from winter to summer of 2017. If that means a better series, it's okay. It's better

to do it right, rather than rush to meet an arbitrary deadline.

I'm sorry I missed the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for *Star Trek*. Judging by the many pictures and stories I've heard, it must have been great.

As a substitute of sorts, I went to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lecture at the N.C. Museum of Natural History. They had three guest speakers who shared their thoughts and knowledge about the original *Star Trek* series. Speaking for about an hour, they followed up by answering questions from the audience. Unfortunately, I had to leave early due to an early wake-up call the next day.

Although the lectures were interesting, I was somewhat disappointed. This was mostly due to the setting. The café is okay for conversations across the table, but the idea of having guest speakers there was a bit surprising to me. There were too many distractions from the business side of the café. The staff was cleaning up, rattling pots and pans, emptying trash cans while guests were refilling their drinks and picking up their food orders and even more commotion. To me it was disrespectful to the speakers and quite annoying. I noted that the speakers too were mindful of the noise and lost their train of thought once or twice.

The speaker I was most impressed with was the first one. He had a lot of inside information on the original series and a large collection of pictures from the set and behind the scenes. I was a bit disappointed by the sociologist who seemed to forget some of the key issues of the 60's. Having grown up in the 60's as a

teenager, I was very aware of what transpired, the major issues and the changes that were occurring. The omission of some issues was puzzling, especially since Gene Roddenberry went to so much trouble to address a few of them in the original series.

Chiefly among these omissions: the Viet Nam War along with the anti-war movement and the stop the draft movement; the perception of the generation gap, hippies and free speech; the arrival of the pill and its impact on, and the early start of, the women's movement; voting rights for all, including the 18 year olds; the beginning of the back to nature and the green movement; the cold war including the Cuban missile crisis and Russia's invasion of Czechoslovakia; and so on. The years 1966 to 1969, the years that *Star Trek* originally ran, were some of the most important in our history. I just don't think they were addressed well enough. As I stated, I may have missed something during the question and answer period, but I think these things should have been mentioned early on.

Okay, I finally saw *Star Wars VII*, it came on my satellite movie package so at least I didn't have to pay to see it. Also, Katy watched it with me and guided me through the 'ordeal'. I gave it a 5 out of 10. Good looking, but not much substance. Of course, John Williams' music was great, as usual. No surprise there and the music was the best part of the movie.

First, it seemed awfully familiar, almost a copy of *Episode IV*. Instead of a Death Star, we have a Death Planet. (Isn't that a step down?) Instead of the

Empire we have The First Order. Instead Of Darth Vader we have Kylo Ren. Instead of Luke, Leia and Han we have Finn, Rey and well, Han, at least for a while. (I suppose Han will be replaced by Poe Dameron.) Instead of the rebellion, we have the resistance and so it goes.

Our chief bad guy, Kylo, is pitiful; almost more comic than evil; more of an annoyance than a threat. He wears a mask; why, because grandpa did? Vader wore his to stay alive, not because it looks cool or menacing. (I'm not sure which look he's trying for.) He's not even as threatening as the young Anikan. He's too young, spoiled, unfocused, paranoid and not very threatening or scary. Rey faced him down on the first try and beat him easily on the second. Even Finn got a good piece of him with no problem and no assistance from the force. He's supposed to be a replacement for Vader? Hardly. The Supreme Leader says he will finish Kylo's training. What kind, potty training? Supreme Leader; the name brings memories of the old 1930's Buck Rogers or Flash Gordon serials and sounds 'cheesy'.

Which brings me to another thought, where are all the grey hairs? In the original *Star Wars* we had a number of older people. The Empire had older admirals and generals, Governor Moff Tarkin and so on. Everyone in the First Order seems to be 30 years old, even the generals! Who's in charge of these kids? All the sage warriors seem to be in the Resistance; Han, Leia, Luke, Lor San Tekka and others. I don't think the Resistance has much to worry about, including the Vader wannabe. Lastly, what exactly happened to the Empire? Where did the First Order come from? Actually that's an awful name,

sounds more like a cheap restaurant, not an evil empire.

Next up, I'm looking forward to our excursion to the battleship *North Carolina* on October 9<sup>th</sup> as the cofferdam construction has begun. This will allow the engineers (always my favorite people) to pump out the water around the ship and begin the necessary repairs on the ship's hull. If the ship were active, it would make regular trips to a dry dock facility. The *North Carolina* has been sitting in the same place about 50 years with no servicing, so it's way overdue.

This is a time for me to reflect on two personal moments and I'll start with one concerning my wife, Trina. Our very first trip together was to Wilmington. She wanted to go because she loved the coast and the beach. I wanted to see the battleship. I'm a history nut and love the navy, but Trina had a connection that I didn't know about. As a child she was part of the fundraising campaign and donated her milk and lunch money to the 'Save the Battleship' fund. She died November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006, so the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary is near.

Another connection concerns my uncle, who was a battleship sailor on the *U.S.S. Oklahoma*, as was his father on the *U.S.S. Wyoming*. My uncle was killed when the *Oklahoma* rolled over and sank. The method of restoring and repairing the *North Carolina*, the cofferdam, is the same used to salvage the fleet at Pearl Harbor, including the *Oklahoma*. Not many people know this; all but three of the ships damaged or sunk at Pearl Harbor were returned to duty. The *Arizona* and *Utah* are still there, the *Oklahoma* was raised but wasn't worth restoring.

Sorry about the history lesson, but I'm really looking forward to the visit. I make periodic trips

there and my last one was almost two years ago. I plan on making a generous donation to the restoration fund to help out. Since I didn't make the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention, I have the money that I would have spent on t-shirts, hats, posters, autographs and so on.

Lastly, it seems I am moving further into the new century with the help of my daughter, Katy. She introduced me to something called 'binge watching'. Using Katy's fire stick from Amazon, set to Netflix, I watched the entire 13<sup>th</sup> season of *N.C.I.S.* in just four nights with no commercials. What will they think of next!

That's all for now; long live and prosper.

# Vegas and the 50th Anniversary of Star Trek

## by Diane Ripollone



[Editor's note: more pictures are on the [Kitty Hawk web site](#).]

I probably can't do as a good job as Keung, but I will do my best in summarizing this amazing event that I attended this August. If you want to see all the guests that appeared you can check out [StarTrek.com](#). They did a post with all the guests.

We arrived in Vegas on Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the celebration had already started. Many of the attendees had already arrived at the Rio during the weekend. The convention was taking place at Rio Hotel off the strip. It officially started on Wednesday, but Tuesday was pre-registration. I did arrive on Tuesday for pre-registration, but now that it is over, I would arrive on Wednesday.



This would give me an extra day to stay for Sunday; I missed some of the guests' speakers I really did want to see. Next time, maybe. Standing on line for registration was pretty interesting. There were people from around the world and everyone was in costume. I couldn't help but take pictures of everyone. And everyone was more than willing to allow it.

Wednesday morning I arrived when the doors opened. The crowd was amazing; the line to get in was longer than the hotel convention center hallway. Once through ticket check, you then began your adventure down the Promenade.

Not only were you there for the stars and guest speakers, there were other events happening; guest star autograph room, an area for art, dealer's room, gaming room, etc. Tons of fans were meeting at various venues to have some fun and meet new people. I will say there was never a dull moment. The hotel bar was never empty, someone wearing a uniform or in cosplay was always there. I met a ton of new people, and no one denied me a picture.

I should start from the beginning. As you walk in the entrance of the



convention; smack in the middle is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary statue. Plenty of photo ops for everyone here. From there you entered the main theater where all the major guest stars would talk. Over 5,000 people were supposed to be at the convention. It was a wall of chairs. Here I had an





Everyone signed the poster that was to be given to his family.

Once you completed the rounds of the Promenade photo op displays, you then could visit various rooms off the Promenade. The first room and most popular was Quark's Bar. There were two photo opportunities here, sitting in the Captain's chair and the Ferengi. Of course I had to get a picture in the Captain's Chair. There were also presentations going on at the Roddenberry's lounge. But one contest that stood out was the Cake Contest. I couldn't



assigned seat; I splurged this year and paid for a good ticket. It was worth it because I didn't have to worry about not getting a seat. Beyond the theater, you started your walk down the Promenade. First stop: a picture in front of the 50th sign. Next stop: the Roddenberry Vault, a wall display of black & white pictures of the crew

believe how the cakes looked, I thought at first they were sculptures. People from around the country entered their cakes for the contest.

Once you exited Quark's Bar you then headed to the Dealer's Room. There were at least 200 dealers if not more. It took me two days to walk the room. In the center of the whole room appeared M-



A-C, a cosmetic company that was doing makeup for people. They also

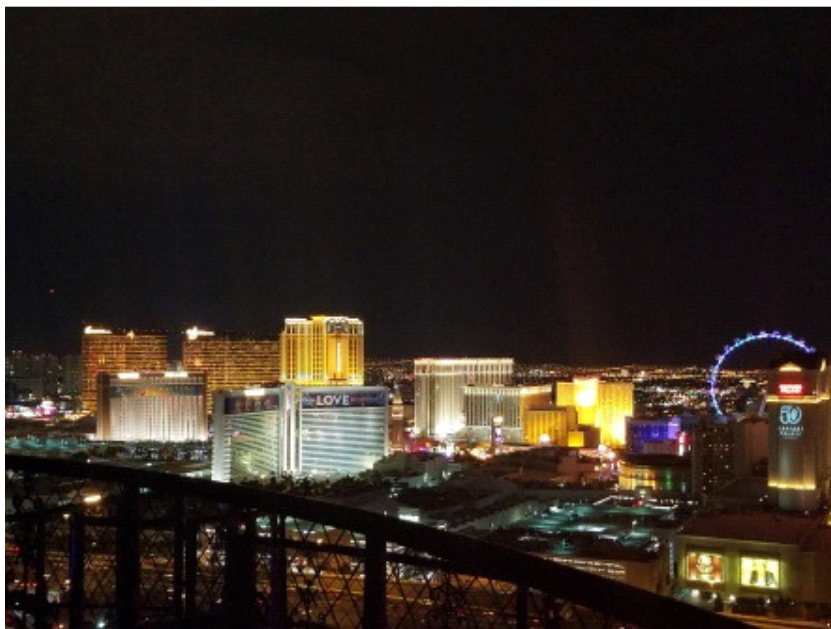


during production of the original show.

Along the Promenade there were different photo opportunities. You could step through the Guardian of Forever or step into a Borg regeneration chamber. I should mention here the most emotional part of the walk down the Promenade was the tribute to Anton Yelchin (Chekov).

took the stage to talk about how to apply makeup for your cosplay. Once you left the dealers room you had another photo op, the transporter room from the original show. In the next room all the guest stars were signing autographs. I





YouTube. But you can't beat being there. I was impressed by Adam Nimoy. He did a great job with *For the Love of Spock*, which, by the way, is out. Shatner was, well, Shatner. Nothing different. Nichelle Nichols was great, and probably the most wonderful moment of the convention was when Whoopi Goldberg appeared on stage with her. Kate Mulgrew, my favorite, was awesome. Everyone was great and fun to listen to. The stories fans shared were touching. Finally, one of the last things I did at the convention, was get my picture with Nichelle. I couldn't believe I lost all voice control and could barely say "hi" when I saw her. But what a wonderful moment and one I will treasure forever. Another memorable moment was the dinner I attended at the famous Voodoo lounge. The lounge was atop the Rio on the 50<sup>th</sup> floor. What a view! But more importantly, I got a chance to meet new people from all over and had a good deal fun.

I think what I did get from this convention, was how important *Star Trek* is to many people around the world. The stories people shared with stars was amazing. And the young people. It was nice to see young people. I realized then that *Star Trek* would keep going. It would have its ups and downs, but it would always be there.

can't even begin to describe how many had showed up. And the Klingons were also well represented.

Next on the list was the art exhibit: A special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary exhibit that was traveling around the globe and the artists were appearing at the convention signing for fans. This was a treat to see the different visions people had of *Star Trek*.

One of the last rooms to visit was the *Enterprise* Bridge. I was amazed by the sounds and the realistic instrumentation on the panels. Words can't even describe the set. To get your picture on the bridge you did have to pay a fee. I guess if there is one thing I do regret about the

convention, it would be this: I should have splurged and done this. But, oh well!

The last part of this whole event was the actual stars. Whoopi Golberg was awesome and you can see her talk on YouTube.

Actually, you can see a lot of the stars' talks on







# Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Star Trek in Raleigh

## by T. Keung Hui

More than 200 science fiction fans came to downtown Raleigh on Sept. 8 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the television debut of *Star Trek*.

The Museum of Natural Sciences turned its Science Cafe program into a "*Star Trek*: Golden Anniversary" celebration. Experts in science fiction, science and culture talked about how *Star Trek* has impacted society since "The Man Trap" was broadcast on Sept. 8, 1966.

"That (broadcast of "The Man Trap") was the beginning of an incredible 50 years of science fiction and science inspiration and imagination," said Chris Smith, host of the Science Cafe.

The tenor of the evening was set with the playing of "Eyes on the Stars," an animated short about Ronald McNair, an African-American NASA astronaut who was killed in the *Challenger* shuttle explosion in 1986. McNair's brother, Carl, talked about how his brother grew up in the segregated South of the 1960s and was inspired by *Star Trek* to reach for the stars. (See the video at <https://vimeo.com/58648044>.)

David Tilotta, a N.C. State chemistry professor, gave a 30,000-foot view of the production history of *Star Trek: The Original Series*. Tilotta is owner of one of the largest collections of original film negatives from the Original Series. Tilotta, holding 35mm film from the Original Series, explained how a "whole lot of extra film" was shot for each episode that was never aired.

Some of these bloopers and deleted scenes were thrown into the garbage while some leftover film scraps were saved by series creator Gene Roddenberry.

Roddenberry had volunteers cut up the film, which Tilotta said fans could buy for 50 cents for eight full frames. While cutting up the film might sound like a bad thing, Tilotta said many of the frames that were sold were ultimately preserved. Tilotta estimated that 4 percent of the clips that were sold contained behind the scenes, deleted scenes and bloopers that are a



"gold mine." Tilotta said it was a big thing, before the advent of VCRs and DVD players, to be able to project *Star Trek* clips in your own living room in living color.

The *Original Series* was shot on Eastman color, which was a good film at the time but is now chemically decomposing. Tilotta said the colors on the film are turning to magenta but can be digitally restored. Tilotta helps run a website, [www.startrekhistor.com](http://www.startrekhistor.com), where for free they'll digitally restore frames from the Original Series if they're of deleted scenes not found on the DVDs. He estimated that

they've restored 75 deleted scenes.

Tilotta talked about some of the behind-the-scenes production elements of the Original Series. For instance, one way star fields were created was by putting white paint on black backing. To simulate the ship's movement in space, the 11-foot *Enterprise* model and the camera were both physically moved like a dance. Worlds were made by painting different colors on Earth globes.

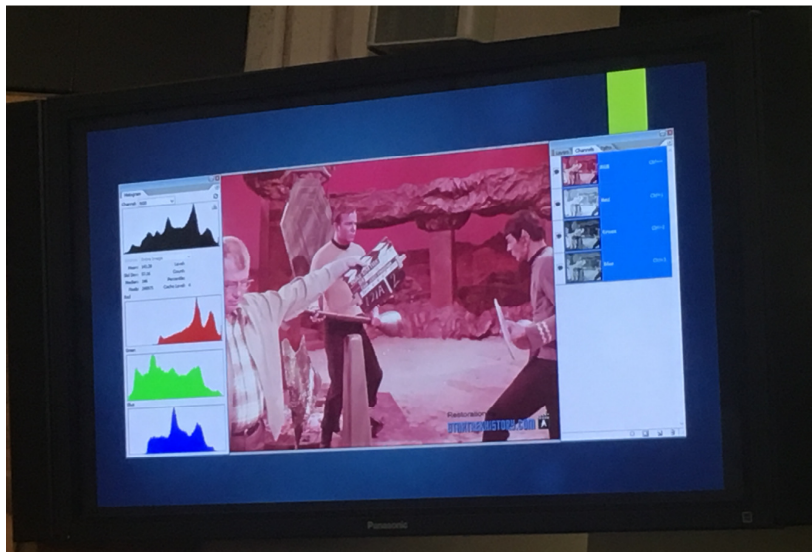
Patrick Truthardt, assistant head of the astronomy and astrophysics research lab at the Museum of Natural Sciences, talked about how *Star Trek* has creatively used real science concepts. He played a clip about a Dyson sphere from the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode "Relics." As shown in the episode, a Dyson sphere is a hypothetical mega-structure that completely encompasses a star and captures most or all of its power output.

No one has ever discovered a Dyson sphere, but Truthardt said that if they do exist you wouldn't see the star but would feel gravity from it and see an excess of infrared radiation. Truthardt pointed to the recent discovery of two stars that are dimming regularly, leading some to speculate that they're surrounded by Dyson spheres. Truthardt said that the SETI program has looked at one of the stars to see if any kind of organized signals are coming from it that could indicate a civilization. But nothing has been found.

Tim Wallace, a N.C. State associate professor and anthropology program director, opened his presentation by saying he was supposed to bring the discussion "back to reality." Wallace framed the Original Series against the backdrop of the Cold War in the 1960s. Wallace said the United Federation of Planets "was the United States writ large."

Wallace said the *U.S.S. Enterprise* was essentially the United States in space with crewmembers who were all courageous, bold, benevolent and peaceful. He said the Romulans were stand-ins for the Soviet Union, who were sneaky and devious and couldn't be trusted. The Klingons were semi-barbaric, Wallace said.

A theme stressed by Wallace was that the Original Series promoted the worldview that teamwork was important. Wallace said the show's subordination of the individual in



about the Original Series, such as the "clear prejudice against women," the womanizing of Capt. Kirk and only a few African-American characters being shown.

"Roger Ailes would have very much been at home on the deck of the Starship Enterprise," Wallace said.

Treuthardt answered that *Star Trek* has a unique universe storyline "that promises a shiny future that is really hopeful."

"It's a bright happy future where things may go wrong, but everything is geared toward society is great and we have all these resources now and let's explore and see what else is out there," Treuthardt said. "Ideally that's the society that everybody wants to live in rather than a post-apocalyptic wasteland."

Tilotta said that watching a good *Star Trek* episode involves looking at its many layers.

"When the episode is over you walk away and you think, and then you can talk to people and have a discourse," Tilotta said. "To me, that's what *Star Trek* is all about."

The end of the discussion was a Q&A session. One person drew loud boos from the audience when he inadvertently asked what changed the trajectory of the *Star Wars* franchise. The last question involved asking the panelists why they felt the appeal of *Star Trek* has endured for 50 years.

"It's like the Bond movies," Wallace answered. "We've kind of gotten used to it on a regular basis. We kind of need a fix."



deference to the team reflected a progressive, democratic society where passions are tempered by intellect. Wallace had also some uncomplimentary things to say

# ST:TOS-In Service of the Queen

## Brad McDonald

### PART TWO - TEASER

FADE IN:

LAST WEEK IN PART ONE

INT. ENTERPRISE – BRIDGE – KIRK

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's log, Star Date 5858.6. We are investigating a space anomaly reported by the freighter Avalon.

CUT TO:

KIRK AND UHURA

UHURA

Captain, I'm picking up a strong signal emanating from the center of the anomaly.

SPOCK (O.S.)

Confirmed. Also a... presence.

CUT TO:

ANGLE ON THE MAIN VIEWER

The image clears and a starship appears, the H.M.S. Enterprize, a Victorian starship with octagon shaped hulls, engines and period ornamentation.

KYLE II (V.O.)

I say, this is H.M.S. Enterprize. Who might you be?

KIRK

Do I have the pleasure of addressing... Captain Kyle?

CUT TO:

RILEY II

I knew it... rebels.

KIRK

(confused)

How's that?

ON KYLE II

KYLE II

Number one is speaking of an unfortunate uprising in our North American colonies.

MCCOY'S P.O.V.

Artwork shows space battle titled 'Defeat of the Vulcanians'.

CUT TO:

SPOCK

First, I believe the anomaly is artificially induced and since it is so large, an enormous amount of energy is needed to sustain it.

KIRK

But why create it?

SPOCK

Excellent question. I believe it has only one purpose, to allow travel between our space and... someone else's.

KIRK

So the Romulans created it to travel into our space?

SPOCK (O.C.)

A distinct possibility.

The other Enterprise represents another... difficulty. If we are to assume the Romulans are attempting to create a doorway of sorts, the other ship is evidence of a more troubling aspect.

CUT TO:

KIRK

The Romulans have created a Pandora's box.

SPOCK

And with every minute, Federation space is becoming more vulnerable.

KIRK

This situation goes way beyond just getting that other ship out of here. We could be at the doorway of a mass invasion from multiple sources.

CUT TO:

SPOCK

When the first probe was destroyed, it revealed a weakness. The anomaly absorbed the energy. Evidently, it uses local sources to supplement its basic supply. So we provide it with all the power it needs.

MCCOY

How the devil does that help us? Doesn't it just get bigger?

KIRK

Not if we feed it anti-matter.

SULU

All we have to do is use some anti-matter from the engines.

SPOCK

I believe it will take most of our reserves.

MCCOY

But we won't have warp drive! It will take... forever to get home.

SULU

That's a long time to sit on the Romulan frontier, especially if they're looking for a confrontation.

CHEKOV

Aye, sir. Coming about to one-one-oh mark five. Full impulse power.

BRIDGE – WIDE ANGLE

UHURA

Captain, Romulan signaled home before the torpedoes hit.

CUT TO:

KYLE II

Well, Number One, bit of a sticky wicket.

SULU

Romulan is old style bird of prey. No phasers or disrupters, but...

KIRK

(thoughtful)

He reported the success of the anomaly and our presence.

RILEY II

He's hiding something. I'd stake my life on it. They're trying to get rid of us for some purpose other than the one they claim.

KIRK

... the plasma energy weapon.

(beat)

Damage, Mr. Spock?

CHEKOV

And we don't have the power to outrun it.

SPOCK

Romulan shields down 35 per cent, but holding steady.

KYLE II

Dash it all! Better prepare a detachment of the royal marines, then power up our energy-matter devices.

FADE OUT.

END OF PART TWO – TEASER

KIRK

Again, Sulu. Don't give them a chance to recharge their weapon.

CUT TO:

PART TWO - ACT ONE

SULU

Aye, sir. Firing torpedo spread.

SPOCK

As I suspected, we may have visitors captain.

FADE IN:

ACTION IS CONTINUOUS FROM TEASER

The ship shudders with the release of torpedoes.

KIRK

Red alert! Charge phasers and stand by photon torpedoes!

BRIDGE – WIDE ANGLE

SPOCK

(off console)

Captain. Romulan charging up their plasma weapon.

EXT. SPACE – ON ROMULAN

Torpedoes hit the ship with a glow of impact.

Klaxon sounds, lighting is changed to note new condition. Sulu's weapon's console hood rises.

KIRK

Sulu, give the Romulans a welcome, a full spread of photon torpedoes.

INT. ENTERPRISE -- AS BEFORE – BRIDGE – WIDE ANGLE

SULU

Aye, sir! Phasers and torpedoes.

KIRK

Spock?

ACTION IS CONTINUOUS FROM PREVIOUS WEEK'S SCENES

SULU

Aye, sir!

SPOCK

Romulan shields down 68 per cent and their weapons are off line. Engines are badly damaged as well. I suspect all power is diverted to life support and maneuvering.

INT. ENTERPRISE – BRIDGE – ON COMMAND SECTION

EXT. SPACE – ENTERPRISE

Firing a spread of torpedoes.

The crew is studying the main viewer intently.

INT. ENTERPRISE – ANGLE ON VIEWER

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER

KIRK

Ensign, give us some maneuvering room, now!

The torpedoes impact on Romulan ship.

Romulan ship is moving slowly.

KIRK (O.C.)

Good, they won't be able to cloak either. Let's try hailing—

There's a bright flash from the screen.

AS BEFORE – BRIDGE – WIDE ANGLE

KIRK

(continuing)

Spock! Was that his engines or did he self-destruct?

SPOCK

(surprised)

Neither, sir.

ANGLE ON COMMAND SECTION

SULU

It was the other Enterprise. They administered a coup-de-grace.

KIRK

(sarcastic)

At least they didn't hit us.

CHEKOV

Maybe now they'll believe Mr. Spock's theory.

KIRK

(smiling)

Good point, Ensign. Return us to our original position.

CHEKOV

Aye, sir.

KIRK

Stand down from red alert, Sulu, but remain at yellow, just in case. Looks like we dodged the ball this time.

SPOCK (O.C.)

Captain; dodged the ball?

Kirk is about to explain, but is interrupted.

UHURA

New signal, sir.

Kirk tenses a bit.

KIRK

Romulan, lieutenant?

UHURA

No, sir, the other Enterprise.

Kirk signals Spock to move out of view, after a beat:

KIRK

On main viewer, Lieutenant.

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER AND KIRK

Kyle II appears very satisfied and self-important.

KYLE II

Well Captain Kirk, it seems it was a good thing we didn't leave after all, eh what?

Kirk is unimpressed and tired of Kyle II's theatrics.

KIRK

We had pretty much rendered them helpless, so I'm not sure how important your contribution was.

KYLE II

I thought we did quite well, but I see you have the same problem as Her Majesty's forces.

KIRK

Meaning?

KYLE II

You didn't see the transmission from that ship?

KIRK

We were a little... busy.

KYLE II

It was those pointed ear devils. You may call them Romulans, but we call them Vulcanians. They're savage fighters and ruthless.

KIRK

We've dealt with them before as well, many times. But it does prove what we've been saying all along. I trust you believe me now.

KYLE II

Yes, however I have new orders regarding the... situation.

Kirk picks up interest, not liking what he hears.

KIRK

New orders? In what respect?

KYLE II

We are to remain here to help you put down the Vulcanians. Besides, we wish to investigate this space a bit further. It's... quite interesting.

(beat)

I shall be in touch. Cheer-oh!

Main viewer goes dark.

BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE

The crew is stunned to silence for a few beats.

SULU

Her Majesty's forces in Federation space?

KIRK

Not if I can help it. We have to get them out of here, fast, before the Romulans send reinforcements.

SPOCK

Agreed, Captain. If they sent for assistance, reinforcements could be here soon.

UHURA

About that, sir...

Kirk and Spock turn to Uhura.

ON UHURA

UHURA  
(continuing)

Those other signals that were neither Romulan nor the Queen's own...

KIRK (O.C.)  
Yes, Lieutenant?

UHURA  
They're getting stronger.

SPOCK (O.C.)  
We may have other 'guests' captain.

UHURA  
And I've partially decrypted the Romulan signals too.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND UHURA

Kirk has moved to Uhuru's station, enthusiastic.

KIRK  
What did you find?

UHURA  
Well, sir, it's what we thought. The device is Romulan and our visitor was a test ship with a minimal crew.

KIRK  
(thoughtful)  
An old ship, just in case it didn't work. Continue, please.

UHURA  
They were sending reports on the way here, as they found doors to other worlds. And, Captain, the Romulans are planning to invade those other worlds as well.

KIRK  
(determined, grim)  
We've got to get this stopped.

UHURA

Sir, their call was for help, but it was also a call for the invasion to begin. They sent a code word: Arhian.

SPOCK (O.C.)  
Romulan god of war.

Kirk walks over to Spock's position.

TWO SHOT – SPOCK AND KIRK

Kirk is anxious and we can see him in thought.

KIRK  
Spock, any reason we can't begin your plan immediately?

SPOCK  
Mr. Scott should be finished with his preparations soon. However, I doubt the other Enterprise will approve of our plan. Considering their plans to remain in our space, they may even try to block it.

KIRK  
Spock, you're not exactly 'optimistic', are you?

Spock looks surprised at the comment.

KIRK  
(continuing)  
We need to resolve this quickly and I think I have an idea.

EXT. SPACE – ENTERPRISE AND HMS ENTERPRISE

Both ships are motionless with the anomaly in B.G.

INT. ENTERPRISE – CONFERENCE ROOM – WIDE ANGLE

Present are Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Sulu, Uhura, Scott, Chekov KYLE and RILEY.

KIRK

I've formulated a plan but I'm going to need everyone's help. We can collapse the anomaly but first we must remove an obstacle.

MCCOY  
The other Enterprise.

KIRK  
Yes, but I'm going ask two of you to perform a rather hazardous mission.

ON KYLE AND RILEY

The two exchange a knowing look and smile weakly.

KYLE  
I think I know what you have in mind, sir.

RILEY  
Me too, Captain.

KIRK (O.C.)  
You've both heard about your counterparts?

KYLE  
Yes, sir.

RILEY  
I heard my doppelganger wasn't very... nice.

ON MCCOY

MCCOY  
That's putting it mildly. They're an obnoxious group of people.

ON KIRK

KIRK  
What I'm proposing to do, is put you two on board the other ship wearing their uniforms. Riley, you would

go to auxiliary control and set the systems to engage warp drive at a prearranged moment. Meanwhile Mr. Kyle can enter the main computer and program the other ship for a course back through the anomaly.

AS BEFORE – ON MCCOY

McCoy whistles low.

MCCOY

That's a pretty ambitious plan, Jim. What about getting Riley and Kyle back home?

AS BEFORE – ON KIRK

He speaks calmly to Riley and Kyle in reassurance.

KIRK

You'll both set a delay so we can transport you both back before the automated set-up sends The Queen's Own back from where it came from. Questions or comments, anyone?

SCOTT (O.C.)

How can we be sure our two men can pull off the masquerade?

KIRK

We can't, but if we don't at least make the attempt, we could be courting a royal disaster, if the queen will pardon my use of those words.

(beat)

Short of destroying the other Enterprise, we need to get it out of here.

WIDE ANGLE

CHEKOV

What about that? Why not just destroy them? After all

they have been a problem since the beginning.

UHURA

Why should we jeopardize our crew just to save theirs?

SCOTT

It's not that simple. We don't have warp capability and limited power. In a battle, we may not do so well.

SULU

And if our goal is to eliminate the anomaly, we could be damaged enough that it might not be possible.

KIRK

That's it, we can't take the chance.

TWO SHOT – KYLE AND RILEY

KYLE

Well, sir; I'll go.

RILEY

Me, too, sir, but we'll need some details on what to do.

AS BEFORE – WIDE ANGLE

SPOCK

Mr. Scott and I will brief you and walk you through the process, accounting for differences in technologies.

SCOTT

I'd go with you, but I might stand out like a sore thumb.

MCCOY

(to Kirk)

Why is that? Shouldn't Scotty have a counterpart on that ship?

SCOTT

Possibly, but no one saw one and we can't take a chance.

KIRK

Very well. If there are no more questions or comments...

Kirk seems pleased.

ON MCCOY

MCCOY

Just one thing, Jim. What if this plan doesn't work?

ON KYLE

KYLE

Then Kevin and I will find out if Her Majesty's Service still uses a cat-of-nine tail as punishment.

ON RILEY

RILEY

Or worse yet, get hung from a yard arm.

FADE OUT.

END OF PART TWO - ACT ONE

PART TWO - ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – H.M.S. ENTERPRIZE

INT. ARMORY

There is a display of weapons ranging from phasers to swords. Royal marines are lined up for a briefing.

RILEY II

Gentlemen, you will be boarding a ship crewed by rebels, so show no mercy. Take prisoners if they surrender. However, do not hesitate to use force, understood?

MARINE OFFICER

Yes, sir, understood.



RILEY II  
Very well, brief your team,  
then report for your  
assignment.

SPOCK  
(continuing)  
Mr. Scott and I shall meet  
you in the transporter room.

SULU  
Weapons coming on line,  
sir.  
Kirk is thinking out loud.

EXT. SPACE – U.S.S. ENTERPRISE

ON RILEY

KIRK  
Romulans? From a cloaked  
ship?

INT. ENGINEERING – AUXILIARY  
CONTROL ROOM

Spock, Riley and Kyle are engrossed  
in their work.

RILEY  
(smiling)  
Yes, sir, as soon as we get  
our new uniforms and...  
rank.

NEW ANGLE  
Chekov stands up at science station,  
surprised.

KYLE  
(working)  
Mr. Spock, how long do you  
think it will take to perform  
our tasks?

CORRIDOR – CAMERA FOLLOWS  
ACTION

Spock moves down corridor and  
hesitates at a cargo bay. He's alerted  
by a strange sound and turns to see  
people transporting aboard.

CHEKOV  
(off viewer)  
No, sir. Humans.  
Kirk slaps the arm on his command  
chair.

SPOCK  
(working)  
No more than a few  
minutes. However, as the  
saying goes, getting there is  
half the problem.

BRIDGE – ON COMMAND SECTION

COMPUTER  
Intruder alert! Intruder alert!

Kirk is in command chair when alarm  
sounds. Chekov runs to Spock's  
station. BERGMANN takes his place.

KIRK  
It's the other Enterprise!  
Kirk jumps up and heads for Chekov.

RILEY  
(working)  
I trust you have an idea  
concerning that?

KIRK  
(continuing, moving)  
How many, Ensign?

ON SPOCK

SPOCK  
The captain will arrange a  
diversion. At that moment  
we will transport you both to  
areas of relative seclusion  
based on sensor data and  
observations from the  
crew's visit. When you  
finish your work, activate the  
emergency recall signal and  
we will beam you back.

KIRK  
Red alert! Location of  
intruders?  
Lighting changes to reflect alert  
condition.

CHEKOV  
(off viewer)  
Twenty, sir.

KIRK  
Sulu, any activity from the  
other ship?

KYLE (O.C.)  
And if we can't finish our  
work or get caught?

KIRK  
Uhura, security to deck  
seven, cargo holds four  
through ten. On the double!  
Screens and shields; stand  
by on weapons!

SULU  
(surprised)  
No sir, no shields or  
screens; weapons are off  
line.

SPOCK  
Activate the recall and we  
will devise another plan.  
However, I would personally  
recommend that you do not  
get caught.

BERGMANN  
Screens and shields, aye,  
sir.

ON KIRK  
He's surprised and deep in thought.

KIRK  
(moving)  
Mr. Sulu, you have the  
conn. I'm going to see  
what's going on. If there are  
any changes, let me know.

Spock heads for the exit.

SULU

Aye, sir.

SPOCK

Spock to bridge.

part of their usual tactics. Use their crude transporters as a means of surprise, take control of certain sections of a ship, then transport even more personnel to complete their work. Evidently, they are used to dealing with less sophisticated adversaries.

CARGO BAY EIGHT – WIDE ANGLE

Spock is hiding behind a container, watching the marines. All are leaving except one posted as a guard. After the doors close, Spock moves quickly behind the guard and gives him a neck pinch. He takes the marine's weapon then moves to an intercom and activates it.

SULU (V.O.)

Aye, sir, measures activated.

SPOCK

Confirmed. Suggest Phase II search. I shall remain here as a rear guard until the ship is secure. Spock out.

AS BEFORE - WIDE ANGLE

Spock turns over the weapon to N.D. security.

ON SPOCK

SPOCK

Spock to bridge.

SULU (V.O.)

Mr. Spock, where are you?

SPOCK

Cargo eight, Lieutenant.

SECURITY – BRIG SECTION – WIDE ANGLE

All cells are full of royal marines. Some are awake but groggy, McCoy is examining a few. Most others are still asleep; all are secure behind barriers. Kirk is present with N.D. security persons. Spock enters section with a prisoner. Kirk is angry, barely contained.

KIRK

Agreed. They deliberately misled us about their transporter capability. I wonder what else?

Kirk looks around the brig, then motions Spock and McCoy to exit the area.

SULU (V.O.)

The Captain and security are on the way to deal with intruders.

KIRK

Spock, are you all right?

SPOCK

Reasonably well, Captain.

CORRIDOR – THREE SHOT – KIRK, SPOCK AND MCCOY

They are close and speak quietly, Kirk is still upset but determined.

SPOCK

The intruders have left here. Isolate sections four through seven. Activate intruder control circuit and apply anesthesia gas in those areas. Inform the captain and security.

Spock releases his captive and N.D. security man puts the captive in a cell as McCoy exits.

MCCOY

So what now? Do we still go through with our plan?

KIRK

Absolutely! In fact, they may have provided us with a better cover for our operation.

SULU (V.O.)

Aye, sir.

Kirk turns to Spock.

KIRK

Thanks to your quick action, we avoided an... embarrassment.

MCCOY

How so, Jim?

KIRK

We'll send their people back, after I give them a lesson in humility.

CORRIDOR – CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION

Spock checks for intruders then moves cautiously. Around a corner, he sees energy barrier is up and gas is activated. Satisfied, he backtracks, locates a wall intercom and tabs the button.

Spock hands Kirk the captive's weapon, indicating control.

MCCOY

(grinning)

At the same time we can transport Kyle and Riley, right?

ON SPOCK

SPOCK

Much more than that, all of their weapons have one setting, kill. I believe this is

ON SPOCK

SPOCK

Your tactical perceptions continue to improve with time doctor.

(beat)

Captain, their transporter is... crude. It takes more than twice as long to cycle. So it should mask ours quite well. However, I am still concerned about one thing.

MCCOY (O.C.)

Just one?

Spock ignores the comment.

SPOCK

The marines saw me. They will undoubtedly report my presence. It may... complicate matters somewhat.

ON KIRK

He smiles at Spock's words.

KIRK

Let me worry about that, Spock. What really bothers me is the way they insult us. Their entire operation was almost casual. I'm getting tired of being treated like a...

THREE SHOT – KIRK, SPOCK AND MCCOY

MCCOY

(smiling)

... colonial?

KIRK

No, a child.

The intercom sounds with a hail.

UHURA (V.O.)

Bridge to Captain Kirk.

He moves to the intercom and activates it.

KIRK

Kirk here.

UHURA (V.O.)

Captain, I'm getting increased signals from the anomaly again.

KIRK

Understood, on the way. Kirk out.

Kirk slams the intercom switch with a vengeance.

KIRK

(continuing)

That tears it, let's get this done!

BRIDGE – WIDE ANGLE

Bridge crew is at positions except Spock. McCoy is standing next to Kirk.

KIRK

Okay, Uhura. Open a channel.

UHURA

Captain Kyle on visual captain.

NEW ANGLE – KIRK AND VIEWER

KIRK

Captain Kyle. I believe you've lost something.

Kyle II tries to put on a good humor and acts innocent.

KYLE II

And just what have I lost, Captain?

KIRK

Your marines, they 'stumbled' onto my ship and are now disarmed, in the brig and 'out of uniform'.

(beat)

Not bad for a bunch of colonials, right, Captain?

Kyle II tries to hide his 'defeat'.

KYLE II

Obviously a mistake was made by my marine commander. Let me deal --

KIRK

(interrupting)

Any captain who lets his crew operate without his knowledge is a very poor excuse for an officer.

KYLE II

(indignant)

Now see here...

ON KIRK

Kirk now enjoys the moment completely.

KIRK

What I 'see there' is a pathetic case for an officer. Here's my terms. I'll return your royal marines, weaponless and stripped. Then you have ten minutes to leave our space or be removed from existence by myself and our fleet, which will be here shortly.

KYLE II (O.C.)

I don't believe --

KIRK

(interrupting)

I don't give a damn what you believe. You can accept my terms now or I start eliminating your marines one by one.

AS BEFORE – KIRK AND VIEWER

Kyle tries to recover the situation and softens his tone.

KYLE II

Let's start over, shall we? We can negotiate --

KIRK  
(interrupting)

You can do whatever you want, but your marines start dying in sixty seconds, captain.

Kyle is frustrated and trapped, barely self-contained.

KYLE II  
What are you terms?

KIRK  
Your marines are on our hanger deck. We will lower our shields for two minutes. Any attempt to send more marines to my ship and the shields will go back up and the captives will be sent into space when I open the hanger doors. You can transport them with your device, but have warm clothing ready, they're not wearing a lot.

Kirk smiles at the last statement and there's a round of laughter from the bridge crew. Kyle II is humiliated and angry as he terminates communication.

NEW ANGLE

Still smiling, Kirk looks over the bridge.

UHURA  
(smiling)  
Nicely done, sir. And they believed your bluff about the captives.

KIRK  
It helps to have a poker face Uhura.  
(beat)  
Spock, ready on the transporters?

SPOCK (V.O.)  
Standing by, sir.

KIRK  
Chekov?

CHEKOV  
Marines are transporting, sir.

KIRK  
Now, Spock!

McCoy is worried and confronts Kirk.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND MCCOY

MCCOY  
(quietly)  
Jim, are you sure you didn't over do it just a bit. He looked really mad.

KIRK  
It's perfect, Bones. If he's angry, he'll make mistakes and that helps us. What I said stands, he's a bad officer and I'm going to use it to my advantage.

AS BEFORE – NEW ANGLE

KIRK  
(continuing)  
Sulu, Chekov; keep a sharp eye on them, they may still try something.

CHEKOV  
Aye, sir. Transport complete.

SULU  
Shields and screens back up captain.

ON KIRK

KIRK  
I've got his back against the wall. I've shown him up in front of his crew and he's got to recover his command. He doesn't know when the fleet is due so whatever he's going to do, it will be soon.

EXT. SPACE – H.M.S. ENTERPRIZE

The ship is motionless.

INT. MAIN COMPUTER CORE – ON KYLE

Kyle is in a Victorian uniform, moving quietly.

KYLE  
Computer. Recognize Kyle, Captain, H.M.S. Enterprize. Bypass alarms in the auxiliary control room.

After a few beats, Kyle sighs and shrugs.

KYLE  
(continuing)  
Great, a dumb computer. Okay, it's going to take a bit longer that we expected.

He removes a panel cover and starts working.

AUXILIARY CONTROL ROOM

Riley is dressed as first officer, working on the controls when Lt. BAKER enters the room, surprising Riley.

Off Riley's reaction...

FADE OUT.

END OF PART TWO - ACT TWO

## Upcoming Events

<b>Oct</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Crystal Coast Con (Cape Carteret, NC)</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4 p.m. Ship Meeting Texas Steakhouse, Morrisville</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Election Day - Remember to Vote!</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Lunchtime Outing to Crabtree ThinkGeek (Time TBA)</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Ballots due for STARFLEET Election</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5 p.m. Ship Meeting at UNC-TV 6 p.m. UNC-TV shift</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5 p.m. Christmas Party Location details TBA</b>

**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**