

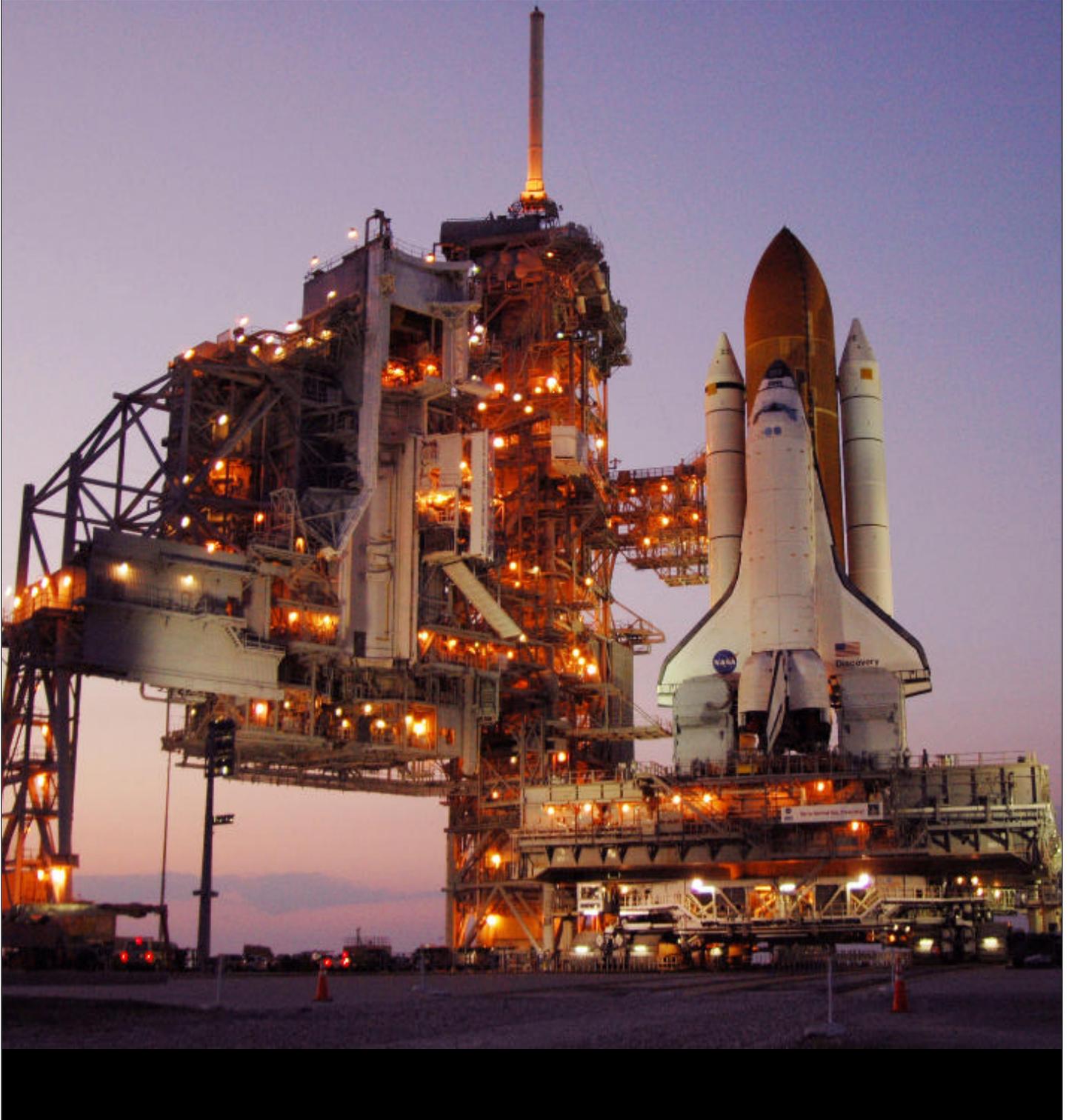
# THE WRIGHT STUFF



Vol XVII ♦ No 3

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

May / Jun 2006





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# A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher

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Once more summer is upon us and so many of us go many different ways according to the dictates of our families. There are many opportunities open to us as *Star Trek* fans if we wish to gather with like-minded people and enjoy stars and authors of our favorite topic as well as other science fiction or fantasy genre.

We will have a table at Trinoc-Con at the North Raleigh Hilton, July 21-23. We will be requesting the donation of books for the Mississippi Gulf Coast libraries to be delivered in the fall. We will also explain STARFLEET and the mission of U.S.S. Kitty Hawk. If this produces new recruits, great! But

our primary goal is collecting books and donations and disseminating information.

We need several more volunteers to man the table that weekend, particularly Friday and Sunday. I will be there all weekend but will need some help. We will be given badges for the con if you are working. Uniform of the day will be uniform, Kitty Hawk t-shirt, or other STAR TREK outfit; or other science fiction costume.

If you want to go to a great STAR TREK convention, then you have to look no further than Hunt Valley, MD, and Shore Leave. They have one of the finest guest and author lists in all of fandom's conventions and they are only 6 hours away. Always a great con on the second weekend in July.

The really big show this year is the 40th anniversary of STAR TREK in Las Vegas, NV, August 17-20. Meg has two rooms reserved and several people have decided to go. If you want in, let us know soon.

Our July meeting will be postponed until July 8 at 4 p.m. because of the Fourth of July holiday and everyone seems to have plans then. We will provide hot dogs and buns, so you need to bring whatever you wish to share with the rest of the crew: drinks, sides, chips, desserts, etc.

Remember to celebrate the fourth safely and honor those who have given everything that we might enjoy all of our freedoms. They had the Wright Stuff, do the right thing.

*Esse Quam Videri*

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## Computer Operations Report

By John Troan

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I write this having just survived the birthday party for nephew #1 and a large celebration Monday night into Tuesday morning at the RBC.

My mom was in town for the weekend and we went to Game 7 of the Stanley Cup finals. This was definitely one of those things that we'll remember for a very long time -- including seeing that large silver trophy getting carried out and awarded to the Hurricanes.

After the on-ice ceremonies were over, we headed in search of some Championship items. The only thing we managed to get were some of the last pucks left in building -- the t-shirts were long-gone. (They did restock and sell-out on Tuesday.... and again on Wednesday and Thursday, but I'm still trying to get a few more items.)

In space news, shuttle *Discovery* is now on the launch pad. The launch is currently planned for July 1 at 3:49 p.m. EDT. The mission has three main objectives:

1) Test new equipment and techniques to improve shuttle safety, particularly a redesign of the foam insulation on the external tank. Removed for the first time are a couple sections of hand-sprayed foam designed to protect the cable trays and pressure lines from the high-speed airflow during launch.

2) Deliver supplies and equipment to the International Space Station. Items no longer needed will be returned to Earth.

3) Bring ESA astronaut Thomas Reiter to the station, returning it to a three-man crew for the first time since 2003.

Shuttle *Atlantis* is being prepared for STS-115, currently scheduled for late August at the earliest. The solid rocket boosters are being stacked, with all segments now mated. The external tank is undergoing an inspection following repairs of a "minor nick" in the insulation on the non-shuttle side. Workers doing the repair noticed a couple water beads coming out of the tank, thought to be from when Katrina affected the Michoud Assembly Facility in Louisiana.

Shuttle *Endeavour* is continuing a power-up systems check after its maintenance overhaul. The current schedule doesn't yet show a mission for *Endeavour*, but it's expect to resume flights late this year or early next year.

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# DEEP SPACE NINE - "An Old Friend"

By Brad McDonald

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## ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes)

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - AIRLOCK ENTRY

As before, action is continuous from Teaser. Sisko is trying to recover from his shock at seeing Sarek alive. He taps his comm badge and speaks.

SISKO

Sisko to Odo. Constable?

ODO (V.O.)

Yes. Commander?

SISKO

I need a security detail at airlock four, on the double.

Sarek reacts visibly to the call. Sisko notes this and explains.

SISKO

(smiling)

A precaution, for your own safety, Ambassador.

Sarek nods in understanding and relaxes somewhat.

ODO (V.O.)

(tense)

Something wrong, Commander?

SISKO

Not at all, Odo. I need an escort for...

Sarek holds up his hand to interrupt.

SISKO

...a moment. Odo.

Sisko breaks the communication and waits for Sarek's explanation.

SAREK

(quietly)

The fewer who know of my presence here, the better.... at least for now.

Sisko nods in understanding and then reestablishes the link with Odo.

SISKO

Odo? Sorry for the interruption. I need the escort for a... V.I.P.

ODO (V.O.)

(relaxed)

Understood. I'll send a team and arrange quarters as well. Odo out.

SISKO

(to Sarek; quietly)

I want to learn more about your current assignment, Ambassador, but first...

SAREK

(bowing slightly)

I understand. The care of the refugees must come first. We can talk later.

Sarek turns and moves to one side while Sisko concludes his business with Bingham. Sisko moves closer to the Captain.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND BINGHAM

Bingham has been studying all of the passing females while Sisko and Sarek have been talking. Now Sisko gains his attention and tries to resolve the original problem.

SISKO

(to Bingham)

As soon as the security team arrives, you and I can take care of business... but back to my original question. Now did you wind up with a load of Bajoran refugees?

BINGHAM

It's a long story, Commander. In short, I was drafted by Starfleet.

(beat, then:)

Of course, I'm being paid, but...

SISKO

...at half the rate of a standard luxury cruise, right?

BINGHAM

(smiling broadly)

Right! Obviously you know how the system works.

(beat, then:)

So what's on your mind?

SISKO

(serious)

I need a big favor. Can you stay docked for a few days? Let the refugees off in groups? Otherwise we're going to be swamped.

BINGHAM

(smile gone)

I dunno. I've been in space a long time... I'm already behind schedule...

SISKO

What can I do to get you to stay?

Bingham thinks for awhile, then a smile forms.

BINGHAM

Got a good bar around here with dabo tables and girls?

SISKO

(smiling)

It just so happens. ..

BINGHAM

Consider it a deal then. My crew and I can use a good leave after being on duty for so long.

QUARK'S BAR - MEDIUM SHOT

There are patrons scattered about the bar and casino area. As Sisko and Bingham approach, QUARK notices the duo and sizes up the potential customers.

QUARK  
(smiling)

Let me guess. Two old friends...

(pointing to Bingham)

...Romulan ale...

(pointing to Sisko)

...Saurian brandy!

SISKO

Only half right. Quark. Better make that one Romulan ale, and we're new friends.

Sisko introduces the ship's captain to Quark.

SISKO

Quark. this is Captain Bingham. He's going to be a guest on the station for a few days. Take good care of him.

Leaning forward. he whispers to Quark. but not too quietly.

SISKO

He has a weakness for dabo tables.

BINGHAM

(smiling)

A rumor that I started! I'm just here to check out your facilities to see if they're good enough for my crew...

QUARK

(excited)

Well... let me get you that drink. ..

{to Sisko)

...Commander, go about your business, the captain's in good hands.

SISKO

(to Bingham)

Don't forget about your crew, and don't forget our agreement.

Sisko watches as Quark hands the captain his drink, then Sisko turns and exits, confident that the captain will be taken care of.

PROMENADE CORRIDOR -  
OUTSIDE SAREK'S QUARTERS

Sisko approaches Sarek's quarters. He nods to the two security guards, who pass him without challenge. Sisko then rings for entry. Sarek appears [as] soon as the door slides open. Sarek is relaxed and cordial, but typically Vulcan. Sisko is delighted.

SAREK

Commander, please come in.

SAREK'S QUARTERS

The two move into the ambassador's room, the action is continuous.

SISKO

(moving)

Thank you Ambassador. I'm most anxious to discuss the nature of your visit.

Sarek moves further into his quarters and takes a seat. Sisko takes the cue and takes a seat of his own opposite Sarek.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND SAREK

There's a pregnant pause as both men collect their thoughts. Sisko has many questions, but out of courtesy, he will let the elderly diplomat begin the conversation.

SAREK

(calmly)

I am here to open a dialog between the Federation and the Maquis leadership. These are my orders.

Sarek hands a data padd to Sisko. Sisko glances at it, then begins to speak.

SISKO

(surprised)

Indeed? I thought that Federation policy precluded talks with known terrorist groups.

CLOSEUP - SAREK

SAREK

I know about the policy. Too many have died as a result of it...

(beat, lost in thought)

I have convinced the Federation Council that I can succeed. Still, that policy...

(to Sisko)

...because of that, utmost secrecy is imperative. If anyone were to discover my purpose. ..

SISKO (V.O.)

(o.c.)

I understand completely.

(beat, then:)

I am just a bit confused about something.

SAREK

I know. No briefing from Starfleet, coded operational orders, all very irregular, but necessary.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND SAREK

SISKO

Actually, what I was curious about was your... death.

Sarek leans forward, elbows on his knees and fingers steeped before him in a familiar manner, but remains quiet.

SISKO

(tentative)

Ambassador, the news of your death was reported by all the nets. An official mourning was observed by the Federation in recognition of your life's work --

Sarek holds up a hand, then sits back in his chair again.

SAREK

A deception on my part. Unfortunate, but necessary to carry out this particular endeavor .

SISKO

I understand. Still, it will take some getting used to.  
(beat, then:)  
Do you have an agenda yet?

SAREK

First, I will be meeting with a representative of the Maquis. Once that is concluded, I will travel to one of their bases to begin talks.

Sisko is quiet. He doesn't like the arrangements

SISKO

(concerned)

Is that such a good idea? You're a valuable asset to the Federation.

SAREK

Not to worry, Commander. As a man of peace, I must accept risks. In fact, it comes with the job.

SISKO

(quietly)

I'm not sure I agree. Perhaps I could arrange an escort --

SAREK

(agitated)

I must do this alone. If I am not alone during this initial meeting, the Maquis will feel betrayed.

Sisko is defeated, so he changes the direction of the conversation.

SISKO

When will the first contact occur?

Sarek is relieved at the change of topic and relaxes.

SAREK

Today, actually.

SISKO

(surprised)

Really? Where?

SAREK

(raising a brow)

Here, of course, on Deep Space Nine.

CLOSEUP - SISKO

Sisko is very surprised and angry, the Maquis on his station!

SISKO

(controlled)

With all due respect, Ambassador, the Maquis are not welcomed guests on this station. The peace treaty with the Cardassians is hanging in a delicate balance and the Maquis threaten it.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND SAREK

SAREK

(impatient)

These facts are known, Commander, which makes it even more imperative that I succeed. Is that not so?

Sisko is quiet. He doesn't like the arrangements at all, but is powerless to alter the situation. Again he pursues other issues.

SISKO

You mentioned additional travel following the initial contact. How will that be accomplished?

Again, Sarek relaxes at the change of topics. It's now obvious that Sisko is accepting the fact that he can do little to alter the arrangements. Sarek sits upright and explains.

SAREK

It is the one favor that I must ask of you. I require one of your shuttlecraft and a person to pilot it.

(beat, then:)

It is the one skill that I have never mastered.

SISKO

(concerned)

Exactly where will this craft be going and for how long?

SAREK

(shrugging)

That information will be available after the first meeting. I suspect the journey to last a day or so at most.

Sisko is very hesitant to volunteer one of his people for such an ambiguous and risky undertaking. Sarek picks up on this.

SAREK

I understand your reluctance to send one of your people. Perhaps the Maquis can provide transportation...

(beat, then:)

...we will speak of this again, later. If there is nothing else, I have preparations to make.

SISKO

I would still feel more comfortable if you would accept a personal guard. While you are here, your safety is my responsibility.

CLOSEUP - SAREK

SAREK

(adamant)

Your concern for my safety is appreciated, but this mission is at my own personal risk .

(beat, then distant.)

Years ago, the original peace treaty with Cardassia was negotiated by my son and myself. The resulting treaty satisfied few. The situation needs to be rectified. This mission will correct the mistakes and perhaps clear up the misunderstanding between my son and myself .

There's a pause, the Ambassador relaxes a bit, then speaks.

SAREK

I must be allowed to succeed, please do not cause me to fail before I can even begin.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND SAREK

The final plea works. Sisko backs off, reluctantly.

SISKO  
(quietly)

Very well. I will leave you for now. Please keep me informed, won't you?

SAREK  
(nodding)

Of course, Commander. And thank you for your understanding and your cooperation.

Sisko stands to leave. Sarek remains seated.

SISKO  
(moving towards door)

I must return to the refugee problem Ambassador. Call me if you need anything. Good day.

Sarek merely nods in response and Sisko exits.

PROMENADE CORRIDOR -  
OUTSIDE SAREK'S QUARTERS

Sisko stops and reflects on what has just transpired. Something is not quite right and Sisko's face reflects his puzzlement.

Off Sisko's reaction...

CUT TO:

MAIN PROMENADE - WIDE  
ANGLE

Odo and a security team are escorting a small group of refugees to their temporary quarters. The Bajorans seem happy to be returning home. They seem a bit dazzled by all the shops and stop to look from time to time, causing Odo to become annoyed. Still, it's not too bad a situation; humorous actually. As Sisko approaches, Odo is seen 'rounding up a few strays'.

CLOSE TWO - ODO AND SISKO -  
MOVING

Sisko walks alongside of Odo. The two speak as they walk, camera follows action.

SISKO  
(walking)

How's it going, Constable?

Odo grabs a stray youngster and returns him to the group.

ODO  
(exasperated)

They tend to wander. I suppose it's been awhile since they've seen shops.

SISKO  
(walking)

Understandable. The Provisional Government described their former living conditions as primitive.

(beat; looking about)

Where 's Kira?

ODO  
(preoccupied)

She's with another group on the next level. So far we've accommodated over forty of them. The doctor says, once they're all inoculated, we can begin transferring them to Bajor.

SISKO  
(walking)

When will that happen?

ODO  
(walking)

They're working on it now. Should have the first group ready in a few hours. Dax is coordinating transport.

SISKO  
(appreciative; walking)

All of you have been busy. nice work .

Sisko studies Odo's situation, then poses a question, almost reluctantly.

SISKO  
(walking; quietly)

Odo, do you think Kira could get along without you for awhile? I've got a special assignment in mind...

Odo grabs another stray youngster and returns him to the 'flock'.

ODO  
(busy; sarcastic)

And take me away from all this?

Sisko suppresses a laugh, then outlines his plan, briefly.

SISKO  
(walking)

When you get this group settled in, I want you to act as an escort for our v.i.p., but he can't know it. I'll explain later, sound interesting?

ODO  
(busy; appreciative)

You have no idea.

(beat, then:)

Is there a problem?

SISKO  
(thoughtful, walking)

I'm not sure...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

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## Upcoming Events

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<b>Jul.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Planned Launch of STS-121</b>
	<b>8</b>	<b>4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home <i>Cookout Follows</i></b>
	<b>21-23</b>	<b>Trinic-Con (North Raleigh Hilton)</b>
<b>Aug</b>	<b>17-20</b>	<b><i>Star Trek</i> 40th Anniversary Celebration (Las Vegas)</b>
<b>Sep</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home</b>

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