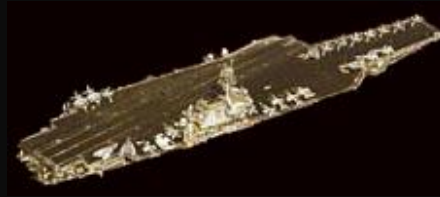


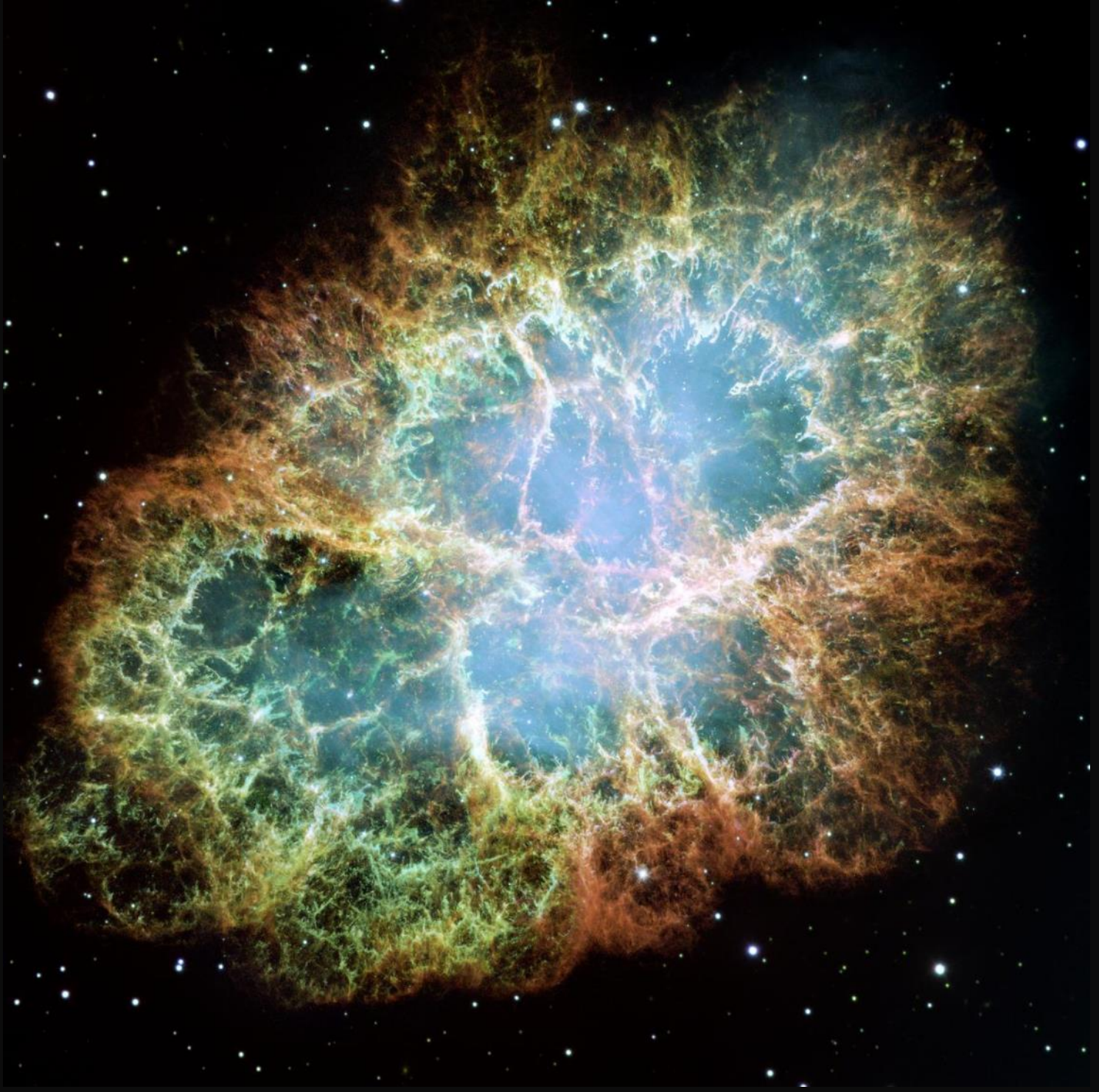
# THE WRIGHT STUFF



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# THE WRIGHT STUFF

## Volume 33 - Number 1

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### IMAGES - Title Banner

Wright Flyer from NASA/Ames PAO photo archive; *USS 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

The Crab Nebula is a supernova remnant, all that is left of a tremendous stellar explosion. Observers in China and Japan recorded the supernova nearly 1,000 years ago, in 1054. Credit: NASA, ESA, J. Hester, and A. Loll (Arizona State University)

<https://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/iotd.html>





# The Center Seat

## By John Troan

As you can tell from the “current” section – a carbon copy from the one in the Nov/Dec 2021 issue -- we’re trying to get the backlog of issues churned out kinda quickly. ☺

\*\*\* \*\*

**2022 Q1.** Our Anniversary Dinner will be on Feb 20 at the Kanki in North Raleigh. Please RSVP to me with the number of seats you’d like to reserve.

GalaxyCon 2022 is on! We’ve been asked to be a Fan Group guest this year. I won’t know where we’ll be put in the building, but I do know we’ll have tables and display space, along with some Exhibitor badges. GalaxyCon 2022 will be July 28-31, but we’ll use July 27 as a full day for setting up the big stuff for photo ops.

If you’ve got anything that can be used as a photo op for convention goers, please let me know so that I can plan it into our convention space.

We’re forming a Marine Strike Group (MSG) on board the *Kitty Hawk*. Kelly will be the Officer in Charge (OIC) for the MSG. The MSG is part of the STARFLEET Marine Corps, another part of the overall STARFLEET organization. Please contact Kelly if you’d like to join the MSG. (I’m in the SFMC reserves and will be joining the MSG.)

We’re looking to change the newsletter to quarterly, instead of bimonthly. This will give the production staff a little more time between issues.

A couple of dates to put on your calendar – the first two *Trek* movies (*TMP* and *TWOK*) will be shown later this year. May 22 and 25 for the first one, and September 4-6 for the second movie. Search online for ticket and schedule information as I’m very sure a few of the theaters across the Triangle will be showing them.

\*\*\* \*\*

**Jan 2024.** As we begin 2024, we start our *thirty-*

*fifth* year as a group, based on our 17 Dec 1989 launch as a shuttlecraft. For those wondering, October 2025 will be our thirty-fifth anniversary of commissioning as a full chapter.

In that time, the *Kitty Hawk* has launched several shuttlecraft that themselves were commissioned, and we’ve donated probably thousands of hours and dollars to numerous causes, plus our now-annual collections for the Food Bank and Toys4Tots. My Thanks! to Larry C. for continuing to coordinate both of these.

As we move forward into the new year, I’m going to spend the first quarter evaluating the positions that perform business functions (and earn three promotion points each month) – and there is potential for changing duties around.

A quick heads up that our 2 March meeting will be followed by dinner (as usual) **and game night!**

One big project that we’re starting to get launched is our chapter handbook. Brad and I have been finalizing [an initial basic outline](#), which is now posted on our [website](#).

Another project is a second new (but larger) banner. Mary is heading up this committee, so please contact her with ideas – and it doesn’t even have to be a full drawing, just a general concept works great.

We’ve also got GalaxyCon 2024 coming up in July. I’m in the process of confirming our appearance there, but we’re not yet guaranteed. Assuming we’re invited back, Setup Day is July 24 – followed by the Con itself on 25-28. **NOTE** that *not everyone who had a pass in 2023 will get one in 2024*; I’ll have numbers once we’re confirmed to be there.

If you have any questions about either of the above two items, please contact me via email.

Lastly, I’d really like us to start volunteering again and get back to our core community service mission. Remember.....

*Esse Quam Videri*

# Computer Ops Report

## By John Troan

As with and mentioned in my [Center Seat](#) article, my report will be broken into two parts – what I would’ve written back then and what’s going on as I write the articles during this period of catching up.

\*\*\* \*\*

**2022 Q1.** The biggest news is the domain and servers that host our website are on the move. Assuming all goes well, no one will notice a difference.

Updates to [the website](#) are on hold, but should be resuming soon.

\*\*\* \*\*

**Jan 2024.** I’ll touch first on the “new” hosting arrangement. It’s been almost two full years since I

switched to the new servers and things have turned out really well. I’m now planning to renew/extend the contract when I’m able to later this year.

As part of my backlog of many things for the *Kitty Hawk*, here’s what’s queued up for [the website](#) --

- Event photos for the last several years. I built an overall list of which events while printing pics for GalaxyCon 2023, which includes both community service and general fun.
- Our current narrative is still *Old Friends*, and it’s just a wee bit behind in getting posted.
- Newsletters, starting with the Nov/Dec 2021 issue, will be posted as they’re emailed to the distribution list.

Other than the newsletters, I don't yet have a timeline on when I'll get caught up. I'm *hoping it'll be by year's end*.

There may also be some new things getting posted through the year, primarily the handbook and a new crew directory.

All of the email distributions will be moving to Google Groups. I have a few pieces of setup to configure, then will be copying over the full list of subscribed addresses from the distros I use now. The reason for this change is the lack of my time to work on the current platform. There are a few things with it that just aren't right that need to be fixed.

## Vulcan Humor By Babs Freeman

**Why couldn't the skeleton play church music?**  
He had no organs.

**What type of sneakers do artists wear?**  
Sketchers.

**What do you get when you mix a gymnast and a physicist?**  
Quantum Leaps.

## ST:TOS—"Another Day, Another Credit" By Brad McDonald

This time around, I'm trying something a little different. In this story, James T. Kirk is going against the bad guys without the *Enterprise* and its crew. The story focuses on a "special mission" for command. In this case, Command is the newly installed Admiral of the Fleet, Nogura. He picks Kirk to lead the mission for a good reason, but Kirk has help. We revisit some old friends and meet some new ones as well.

In addition, I've included a little "Easter Egg" that gives a nod to events that will unfold in *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*.

Please keep in mind that this story was written several years ago, before the new *Trek* series made changes regarding some of the alien races we knew from the original series.

Anyway, read and I hope you enjoy.

### TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – SPACE STATION AND ENTERPRISE

Enterprise is docked at space station.

INT. ENTERPRISE – ON COMMAND SECTION

KIRK is in command chair reviewing clipboard. N.D. Yeoman is standing nearby. Present also are SPOCK, UHURA, SULU, and CHEKOV at their stations. Other positions are filled by N.D. crew. Communication console sounds, and Uhura makes adjustments, then:

UHURA

Captain, Starfleet on visual.

KIRK

Is it a secured communication?

Uhura checks and shakes her head.

UHURA

No, sir.

Kirk hands clipboard to N.D. yeoman and she exits.

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER

We see image of elderly Asian man, NOGURA, Admiral of the Fleet.

NOGURA

Kirk, how are the repairs going?

Kirk is surprised by the question.

KIRK (O.C.)

Uh...just fine, sir.

NOGURA

I understand Enterprise is to be laid up for another ten days, correct?

ON KIRK

He's not sure what Nogura wants and tries to explain the situation, almost apologizing.

KIRK

Sir, we were caught up in an unusually heavy ion storm, almost lost our port nacelle...

NOGURA (O.C.)

It's okay. I understand, Captain.

Kirk tries to guess the admiral's purpose.

KIRK

Did you wish an update on our repairs, sir?

AS BEFORE – ON MAIN VIEWER

Nogura smiles and is upbeat.

NOGURA

I need your assistance, Kirk. Pack a bag. The SS Pretoria is scheduled to depart your location today. Be on board. Further details are attached to this communication. Nogura out!

NEW ANGLE

Kirk is stunned and turns to face Uhura.

KIRK

Do you have the attachment?

Uhura works board, then:

UHURA

Yes, sir.

She holds up a data tape. Kirk is confused, shrugs, stands, and steps up, then takes tape from Uhura.

ANOTHER ANGLE

SPOCK

What does the admiral want, Captain?

KIRK

Not sure, Spock, but Starfleet's senior officer wants to see me.

CHEKOV

What does that mean, Captain?

CLOSE ON KIRK

He smiles weakly, and laughs, nervously.

KIRK

I'm not exactly sure, Ensign. But I think I've been called to the principal's office.

Off his statement...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. USS PTOLEMY – TRANSPORTER ROOM – ON CONTROL CONSOLE

Transporter TECHNICIAN is working controls, Nogura is standing nearby.

TECHNICIAN

Pretoria signals ready, sir.

NOGURA

Transport now!

ON TRANSPORTER PAD

Kirk appears in transporter effect with bag slung over shoulder. He spots Nogura, steps off platform and moves towards him.

KIRK

(moving)

Captain Kirk, reporting as ordered, sir.

TWO SHOT – NOGURA AND KIRK

NOGURA

(smiling)

At ease, Kirk. Let's get you settled in, then you can meet my team.

Nogura dismisses technician with a wave and he exits.

KIRK

Thank you, sir. There wasn't much information in the data download...

NOGURA

I apologize for that, but it was necessary for security reasons.

ON KIRK

KIRK

Understandable, sir.

(beat)

Congratulations on your promotion. Your exploits were part of my class at the Academy.

ON NOGURA

He eyes Kirk skeptically.

NOGURA

I heard it was only two lines...

He smiles broadly and laughs.

NOGURA

(continuing)

Let's get you to your quarters.

TWO SHOT – NOGURA AND KIRK – CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION

KIRK

(moving)

If you don't mind, I'd like to stop by the mess room. Food on the Pretoria was... less than stellar.

NOGURA  
(moving)

Maybe a trip to sickbay, too?

Kirk smiles broadly, becoming enthusiastic.

KIRK

Not a bad idea, sir. Lead the way.

Kirk indicates with a wave of his hand as the two exit the transporter room.

EXT. SPACE – USS PTOLEMY AND STARFIELD

Ship is moving at warp speed.

INT. PTOLEMY – MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

Present are Nogura, Kirk, KELSEY, SIPOWITZ, and STORN. Nogura is distracted and meeting is delayed. Kirk is confused and turns to face Nogura.

KIRK

Is there a problem, sir?

NOGURA

We are waiting for one more person to arrive.

Kirk's back is to the door. As it opens he turns.

ON SAREK

We see SAREK enter room and take a seat.

NOGURA (O.C.)

Ambassador, it's good to see you.

SAREK  
(moving)

I apologize for my late arrival. I was receiving an update on our mission. All is well. We may proceed as planned.

ON NOGURA

NOGURA

Let's begin. Captain Kirk made initial contact with the Gorn, 'courtesy' of the Metrons.

(beat)

Subsequent meetings went well and we were on the verge of reaching an agreement, then...

Nogura nods to Sarek.

ON SAREK

SAREK

The Gorn suddenly refused to acknowledge our attempts at communication, and their ships avoid ours.

WIDE ANGLE

NOGURA  
(to Kirk)

Admiral Kelsey commands Starfleet in the sectors near Gorn space.

Kirk nods and smiles to Kelsey.

KIRK

Yes, sir, I know of her.

(to Kelsey)

Have there been any hostilities?

KELSEY

No, but they're not exactly friendly either.

SIPOWITZ

I'm the Regional Director of Federation Affairs. We've had reports of civilian ships in distress, and the Gorn ignored them.

KIRK

Did the ships in distress make it to safety?

SIPOWITZ

Yes, fortunately, but no thanks to the Gorn.

Kelsey is discouraged and frustrated.

KELSEY

It's not like them. We had made so much progress...

ON SAREK

He's dismayed and lost in thought.

SAREK

I, too, thought I had made much progress. It is not, logical. The Federation has so much to offer the Gorn, and they seemed so agreeable.

ON KIRK

KIRK

Maybe they got a better offer, Ambassador.

(beat)

Klingons, Romulans, Tholians...even Orion pirates, who knows?

WIDE ANGLE

All contemplate Kirk's suggestion.

SAREK

How likely is that, Kirk?

KIRK

Pure speculation, Ambassador. But it provides us with a possible reason for the Gorn's behavior. I am open to other suggestions.

Storn clears his throat, nervously.

STORN

They may have been insulted, unknowingly, or they simply decided against the Federation for whatever reason.

SAREK

(to Kirk)

Storn is a member of the Federation Council, Captain. The Council believes this situation is simply a matter of misunderstanding and needs to be... resolved.

NOGURA

Which is why you are here, Kirk.

ON KIRK

KIRK

(confused)

What can I do, Admiral? Don't get me wrong...I'd like to help, but...

ON SAREK

SAREK

Captain, you provided the foundation for diplomatic personnel to begin negotiations.

KIRK (O.C.)

Is that correct, sir?

Sarek nods in acknowledgement.

SAREK

Correct. The Gorn were impressed with your willingness to choose diplomacy over confrontation. Your presence on my next effort may help considerably.

ON KIRK

He's embarrassed and skeptical and tries to downplay his importance.

KIRK

You may be asking more than I am capable of delivering. I'm willing to try, but --

ON STORN

STORN

(interrupting)

Captain, you must do more than try. We need a treaty, or more to the point, an alliance. The Gorn could make a substantial difference to the welfare of the Federation.

KIRK (O.C.)

Isn't that a bit overstated?

STORN

The Klingon/Romulan alliance is causing many smaller governments to question the Federation's ability to provide protection, guarantee trade routes, and more.

(beat)

A Gorn/Federation alliance could restore the balance of power. It could prove the Federation not only has the willingness to try peaceful means, but it may also help to make this sector safe.

ON KELSEY

KELSEY

Even more than that, Kirk, it would free up many ships and personnel now tied up keeping an eye on the Gorn.

(beat)

Since we don't know what their intentions are and why they are behaving so strangely, we have to be ready for anything, including conflict.

ON NOGURA

NOGURA

It boils down to simple math, Kirk. More ships here means fewer to counter the Klingons and Romulans. Also, fewer to counter moves by Orion pirates and others.

ON SIPOWITZ

SIPOWITZ

In short, a Gorn alliance would make all of our jobs a lot easier.

ON KIRK

He looks overwhelmed, then holds up his hands in mock surrender.

KIRK

Okay, you've sold me. How can I help?

ON KELSEY

KELSEY

It's simple. Just a few days ago one of my patrol ships received a hail from a civilian Gorn ship. They asked for a meeting to be held on an asteroid in what is essentially neutral territory. I passed the information to Ambassador Sarek.

ON SAREK

SAREK

The request seemed reasonable, but I was to meet an unknown party, not the Gorn diplomatic personnel I had been dealing with beforehand. But there was something else.

KIRK (O.C.)

They asked for me?

SAREK

Yes. Also, no starships, and the ship we do use is to be unarmed.

WIDE ANGLE

NOGURA

Kirk, I can't order you to go, but the Gorn haven't fired a shot since your encounter with them. So it's easy to believe the intent is friendly and genuine.

SIPOWITZ

You made quite an impression on them, Captain.

Kirk is digesting all he's heard but remains quiet.

SAREK

There is one more item, Kirk.

KIRK

What is that, Ambassador?

ON SAREK

SAREK

The person making the request is known to you. It is the Gorn whose life you spared.

CLOSE ON KIRK

Realization hits him and his smiles broadly.

KIRK

Captain Szal!

Off Kirk's reaction...

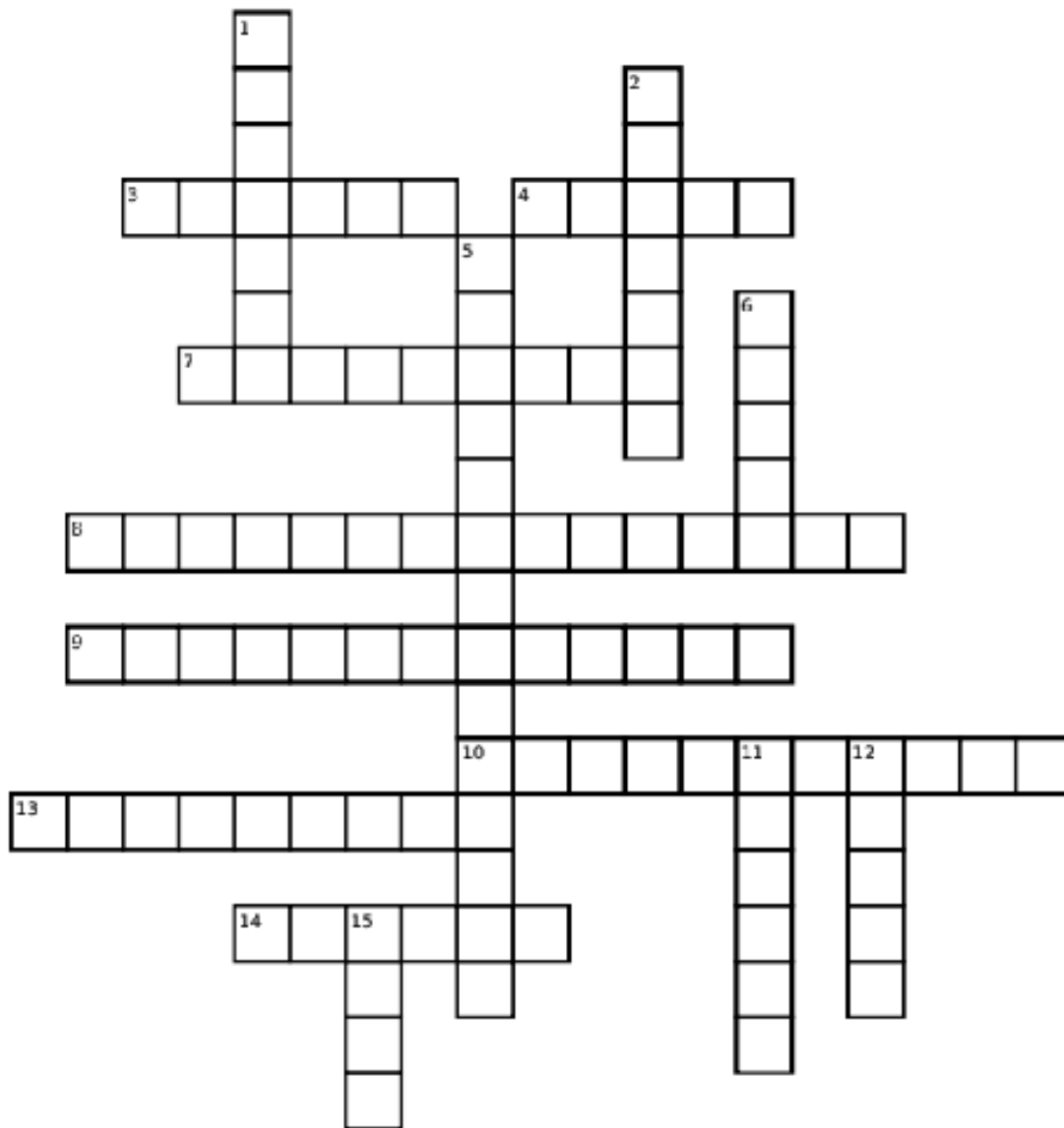
FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE



# *Star Trek* Crossword Puzzle

By Diane Ripollone



**Down:**

1. The alien species known for their honor and warrior culture
2. Diplomats will decide the admission of which planet in "Journey to Babel"
5. Were reused in "Amok Time" and "The Enterprise Incident" for the same thing
6. One of the genetically engineered tyrants of the Eugenics Wars, and the last to be overthrown
11. Leader of Plato's Stepchildren
12. The "final frontier" that Captain Kirk often references
15. Creator of *Star Trek*

**Across:**

3. The first episode of the show aired on 6 September 1966 in what country
4. The Orion inmate seen in "Whom the Gods Destroy"
7. In the episode "By any Other Name," Rojan intends to take the *Enterprise* to get back to here
8. In "Mudd's Women," the *Enterprise* chases what unregistered starship
9. Portrayed Captain Pike; was the only star listed in the original pilot's opening credits
10. Was also capable of being set to overload, resulting in a forced chamber explosion
13. The energetic substance that powers the *Enterprise*

# Upcoming Events

2022

Jan	1	Meeting, Zoom only, 4 p.m.
Feb	5	Meeting at Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
	20	Anniversary Dinner, Raleigh, 6 p.m. <i>Will be one of the Raleigh Kanki's</i>
Mar	5	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
Apr	2	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
May	7	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
	22, 25	<i>Star Trek: The Motion Picture</i> in theaters
Sep	4-6	<i>Star Trek: The Wrath of Khan</i> in theaters

2024

Jan	6	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
	14	Anniversary Dinner, Kanki Crabtree, 6 p.m.
Feb	3	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.
Mar	2	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m. <i>Game Night follows the meal</i>
Apr	6	Meeting, Texas Steakhouse and Zoom, 4 p.m.

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

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*THE WRIGHT STUFF*

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