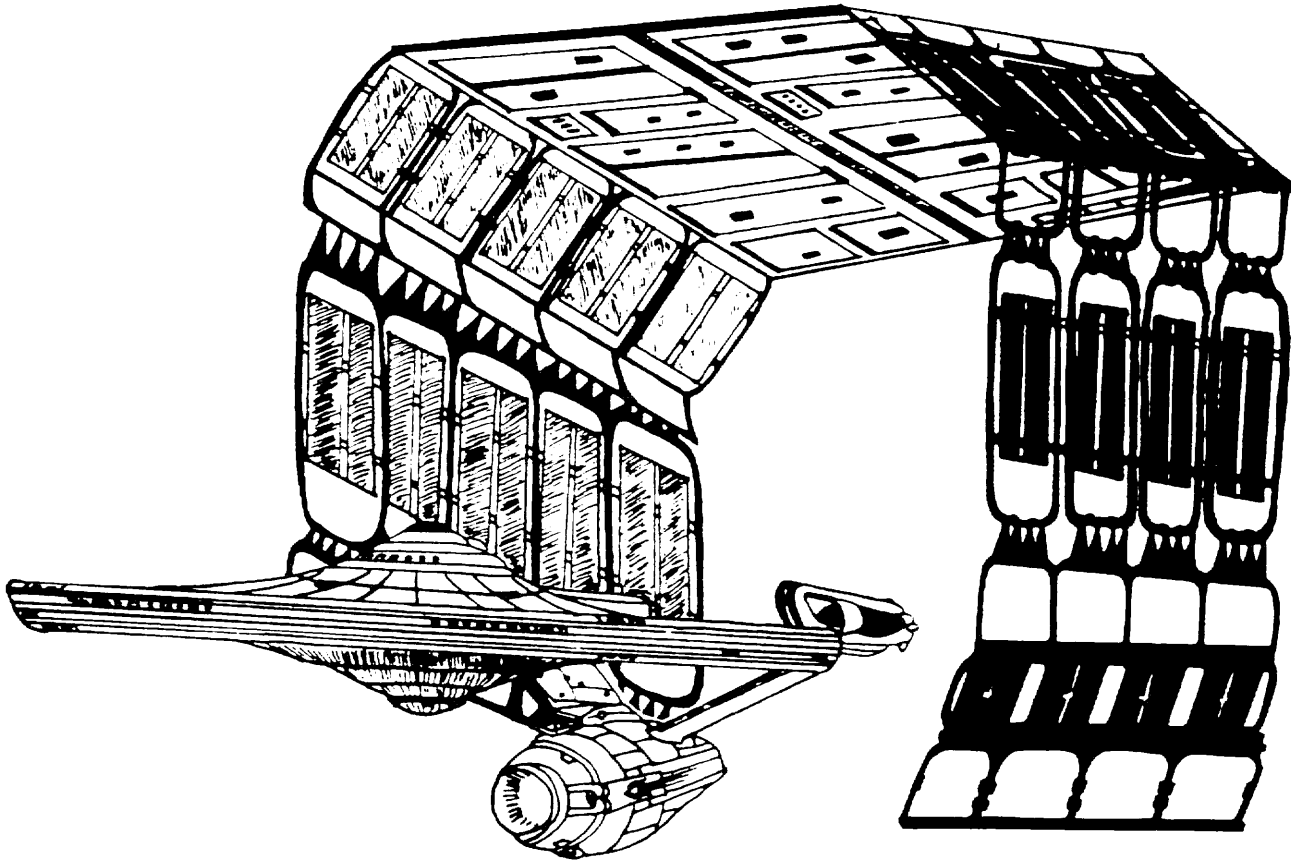
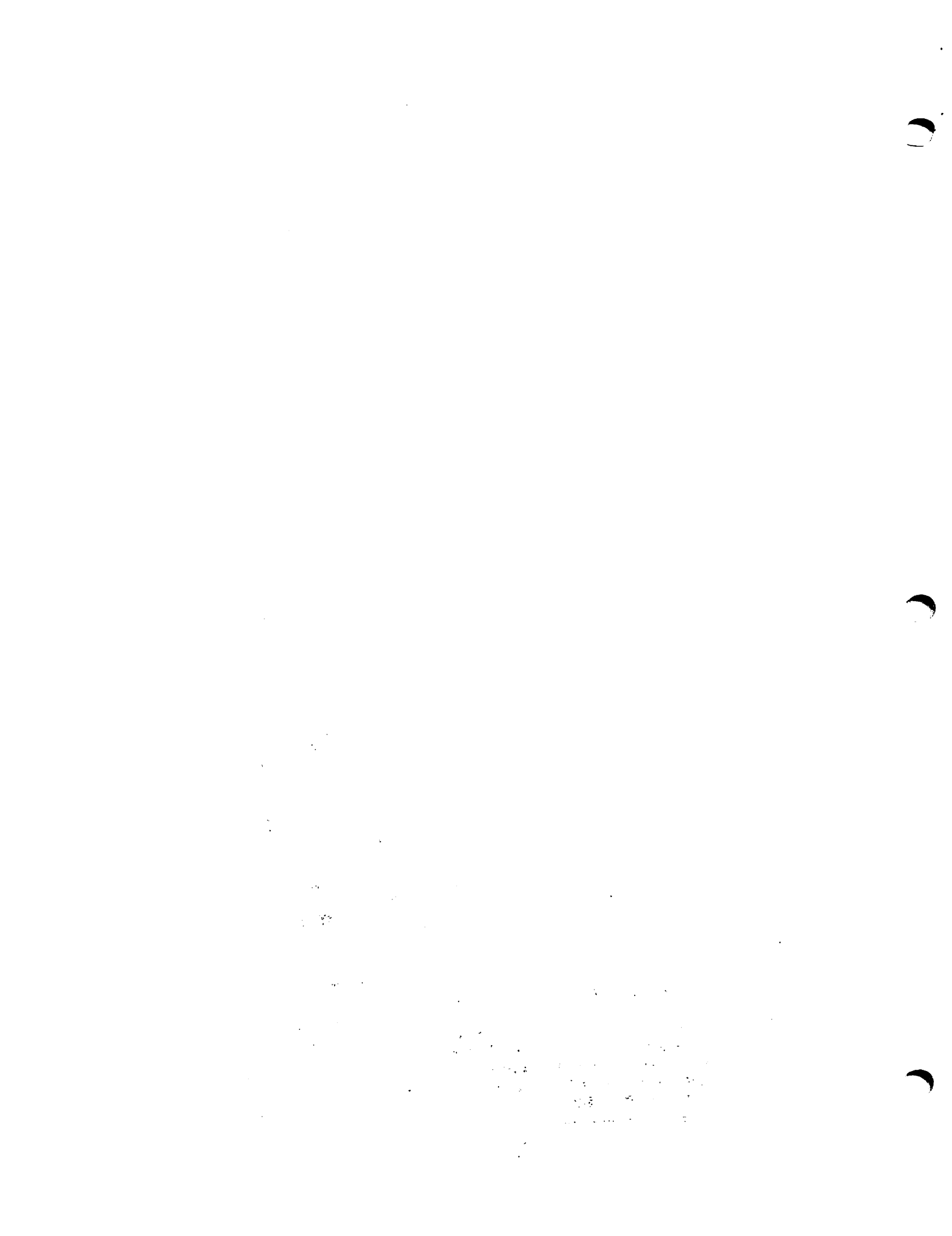


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Volume One, Issue One



'88
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Federation News and Republic Report is the official newsletter of USS Republic NCC-1371, The Atlanta Chapter of Starfleet. With the exception of From the Center Seat, the opinions expressed in this publication are not official policy of USS Republic, nor are they to be construed as opinions of the publisher or editors of this newsletter, nor are they necessarily representative of the opinions, as a whole, of USS Republic or the international fan association, Starfleet.

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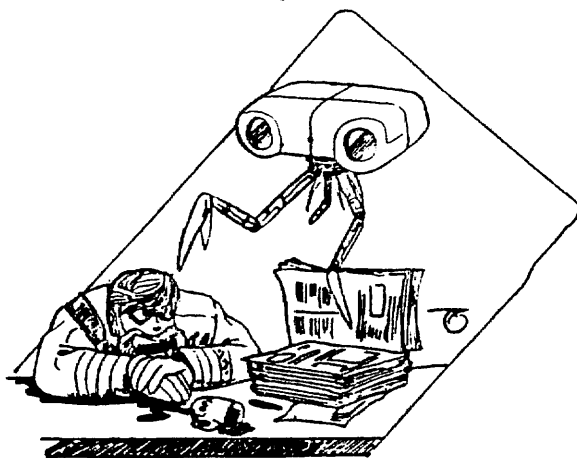
From The Editor

As you may have already noticed, this issue is a bit late ("A bit? Well, we did do the nose. And the hat. But she's got a wart!"). My most sincere apologies to all of you who have been patiently waiting for this issue to arrive on your doorstep. A multitude of problems and a chain of events long enough to make this issue as large as War and Peace delayed publication.

We've got several goodies for you in this issue, including a trivia corner from CAPT Ernst, an article on the Huntsville trip, a convention report on DixieTrek '88, and much, much more.

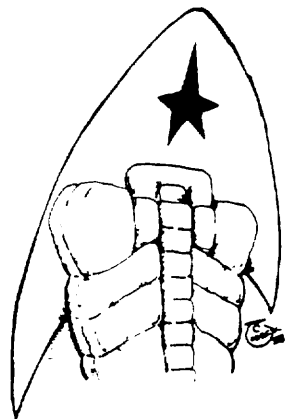
You'll also notice that we have more original artwork than we've had in the past. Gone are the odd little computer-pictures that we used to have. We have cartoons, cover art, and more!

Special thanks go to Paul Timm, Rodrick McWhorter, Pat Roberts, Chris Ernst, Bart Alcorn, and Brian Flatley for their help and patience in putting this issue together. Also, a fond farewell to Lt. Richard Hogen, who is moving to a cooler climate to go to school. Richard, we wish you the best of luck. May the wind be at your back, the road rise to your feet, and may ye be in heaven an 'alf an hour before the Devil knows ye're dead!



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From The Center Seat



"Address intracraft."
"System open, sir."
"Attention all hands..."

In case you've been living in a cave somewhere and haven't heard the big news, we have been commissioned as a full Starship/chapter of Starfleet! Welcome aboard USS Republic (NCC-1371). With our upgrade to Starship we will see many changes; including the one you are holding in your hands right now. This is our new newsletter. Isn't it great? I hope that all the other changes I've talked about in previous issues of the Nautilus News go as well. We have a lot of organizing and reorganizing to do; so hang in there through the transition. A special welcome also to all our new members. Two months ago, when the last newsletter came out, we had about twenty members; we currently have over one hundred twenty. One hundred three of you joined at Dixie Trek. Boy did that ever impress the brass.

"Now hear this!"

If you have joined recently make sure that you have joined both Starfleet the international fan association and the local chapter – USS Republic. This may be a bit confusing. You must be a member of Starfleet so that you can be a member of this chapter. Dues in the international association are eight dollars per year. Dues in the local chapter were seven dollars per year but have increased to twelve (mainly to cover production and distribution of this publication). I cannot over stress the importance of this matter.

When you receive your membership packet from Starfleet there will be a small yellow card enclosed. Regardless of whether you choose the Associate or Active Duty option, fill out this card and get it to me directly. This is the way I, as Chapter Chairman/Commanding Officer keep track of the membership. It is also what Starfleet counts as our official number of members. If I get the little yellow card (L.Y.C.'s) on all of you we will have the largest ship in Region II and be in the running for largest ship

in the whole organization! So, if you have not done so, join up and get that L.Y.C. to me right away. Membership information is available in this issue.

Starfleet is currently engaged in a recruiting contest. The chapter which recruits the most new members before August 31st will win one-hundred dollars for a party. We have been working hard to win this contest and we are in the top running. When Starfleet gets an international membership form they check the "recruited by" field and credit that ship with one more recruit. So, if you have not already done so, fill out that form and get it in before August 31. Remember, the difference between winning and losing could be you.

With the upgrade to Starship, I made some changes in the Command Staff that you should be aware of:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Commanding Officer | CAPT Christopher F. Ernst |
| XO/Chief Engineer | CDR Patrick Roberts |
| Science Officer | LCDR Jon Crymes |
| Operations Officer | LCDR Bart Alcorn |
| Communications Officer | Lt. John Kemker |
| Security Officer | Lt. Brian Flatley |
| Medical Officer | Ltjg Michael Hart |
| Director of Special Services | Ltjg Paul Timm |
| Senior Associate Member | Mr. James Lock |

The chain-of-command is as above from myself down to Ltjg. Timm. As an Associate Member, Mr. Lock is a staff member outside the paramilitary structure and therefore outside the chain-of-command.

This is also a good time to reiterate our goals:

"The primary purpose of STARFLEET shall be the pursuit of unity and brotherhood among members through the promotion of STAR TREK, its goals and concepts." – STARFLEET Constitution, Article I.

To further the enjoyment of STAR TREK and science-fiction in general.

To perform community service.

Interaction in the scientific community and support of the space program.

To support cooperation with other science-fiction fan clubs in a non-competitive manner and further the concept of "Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combination" (IDIC).

The Naked Now

By Richard Hogen

1. Relevant Timeline
2. Current Knowledge
3. Analysis
4. Conclusion

1. Relevant Timeline

- For eight months, the *Tsolkovsky* has been monitoring the collapse of a red supergiant into a white dwarf.
- Huge shifts in gravity create complex strings of H_2O which acquire C from the body and act like alcohol.
- The red supergiant collapses and explodes, leaving behind a white dwarf star.
- A single "huge chunk of the star's surface" will hit the *Enterprise* in 14 minutes.
- Riker states that the star is still collapsing.
- The *Tsolkovsky* impacts with the approaching chunk and explodes. The chunk remains unchanged.

2. Current Knowledge

- A star releases energy by fusing its own matter. Fusion is possible in a star due to the conditions of extreme temperature and pressure at the core.
- The energy released in fusion is so great that the electrons of the matter surrounding the core become so energetic that they break away from their nuclei, the plasma state.
- Plasma is so energetic that it can be more rarified than the best vacuum humans can produce and yet still radiate enough energy to yield blinding light and temperatures that make molten lava seem icy cold.
- As a star fuses its core matter, the nuclei grow from single proton Hydrogen atoms to larger nuclei. When the nuclei grow to the size of Iron nuclei, they are no longer fusible. This is because the Iron nucleus possesses the highest ratio of Binding Energy to Atomic Weight; that is, Iron is in the low-

est energy state. Such nuclei do not fuse, they split apart in nuclear fission.

- As the quantity of non-fusible matter increases, the ratio of radiative force to gravitational force drops.

- When that ratio drops below a certain level, the star collapses in on itself. How much it collapses depends on the total mass of the star; a collapsing supergiant star, which would have a mass on the order of at least eight times that of our sun, would become either a neutron star or a black hole.

- At the time of collapse, the plasma just outside the core hits the surface of the neutron star or black hole and is instantly converted into gamma radiation. This causes the explosion which blows away the remaining surface plasma.

- Both neutron stars and black holes are dark, except in the case of a pulsar.

A pulsar is a neutron star which is still surrounded by vast amounts of plasma. The plasma, charged either positively or negatively, is driven along the star's magnetic field flux lines. When the extra matter reaches one of the two magnetic poles, which may not coincide with the poles of the star's rotational axis, it is instantly converted to gamma radiation. Depending on your relative angle of view of the star, it may seem to pulsate as the regions of energy radiation move about the axis of rotation.

- Gauss's law explains that there is conservation of flux of a magnetic field. Accordingly, the number of lines we use to represent magnetic force must remain constant.

- Gravitational force is known to be one of the weakest of the known forces.

3. Analysis

- The *Tsolkovsky* was said to have been "monitoring the collapse" of the star from red supergiant to white dwarf. "Monitoring the collapse" implies that the collapse had been taking place for at least eight months. We know that a supernova is a sudden, violent event. Perhaps Captain Picard should have said, "monitoring a red supergiant star that is expected to collapse." After the star collapses and explodes, we are shown a smaller body, steadily emitting white light, the supposed white dwarf. As we know, a red supergiant star would be expected

to collapse into a neutron star or a black hole, not a white dwarf. Riker stated that the star was still collapsing, but how could this be? It must be related to the fact that the star has been collapsing for months, but we have no way to explain such a thing. Perhaps four hundred years of additional scientific research will have shown that under certain conditions supergiants can collapse into white dwarfs, and that some stars do take months to collapse, but what we know now suggests that the collapse would have been sudden, and that, in all probability, the red supergiant would have become a neutron star.

– There is no reason for the gravity of a star to “shift” either rapidly or extremely, except perhaps at the very moment of collapse. The gravitational force of the star would drop fractionally as its outer layers are blown away, but not significantly; much of the star’s matter is still there, it is merely compressed into a smaller physical space.

– One might theorize that a large part of the outer layers of the star might be heavy, non-fusible matter, thus resulting in shifts in the direction of the star’s gravitational force as it applies to the *Tsiolkovsky* in close orbit.

However, if a portion of a star’s outer layers is dense enough to significantly alter the star’s center of gravity, then its mass would have to be on the order of that of a star anyway, and it would undoubtedly possess a strong enough gravitational force to rend the star apart, grab much of the outer plasma layers for itself, or, at the very least, put an end to the star’s fusion by precluding the crucial pressure conditions made possible by the centered gravitational force at the star’s core. Current knowledge of stars does not accept “huge shifts in gravity”.

– Water molecules are somewhat average in their tendency to chemically react. There are many molecules in a biosphere which are much less reactive than water, and many which are much more reactive. If “huge shifts in gravity” created complex strings of water molecules, either inside or outside of the bodies of the crew, then those same gravitational shifts would have undoubtedly caused innumerable other chemical reactions within their bodies which probably would have acted far more quickly and harmfully than the intoxicating water-based contaminant had. Therefore, we must conclude that if shifts in gravity had anything to do with the creation of complex strings of water molecules, the water inside or outside of

the bodies of the *Tsiolkovsky* crew must have already had the proclivity for the creation of such molecules, and that the shifts in gravity must have been less extreme than we envision. This is a compelling thought. Perhaps some alien virus or a genetic mutation causes some humans to produce aberrant enzymes which under certain conditions mutate or become “confused” and begin stringing water molecules together instead of their designated molecules. It is a possibility, especially after all the encounters with alien biospheres that humans have had in *Star Trek*, and it does help explain that the “huge shifts in gravity” may be a relative statement.

– The exterior view implied that there were no other “chunks of the star’s surface” either surrounding the one approaching the *Enterprise* or following it. The chunk of matter from the star looked solid, complete with rotational motion, yet the chunk looked totally unaffected when the *Tsiolkovsky* exploded on impact. When the star’s explosion was shown, we saw a rapidly expanding wave, followed by the chunk that was headed for the two ships. As we know, there should have been no “chunks” of anything, only plasma. If that wave was meant to represent an expanding cloud of plasma, it would have hit the two ships in seconds and definitely would have vaporized them both. Therefore, the wave must have represented an optical effect, and the chunk must have represented expanding star matter. At such a close range, however, it is clear that the entire visible sky should have been filled with star matter.

– As for the singularity of the expanding star matter, we can only assume that it was a simple misrepresentation, and that in fact there was a sky full of star matter. Regarding the seeming solidity of the one important piece of star matter, a far more interesting theory can be put forth. Under the high-energy conditions of a supernova, it can be assumed that a star’s magnetic field will be “stressed”. Gauss’ observation that there is conservation of magnetic flux suggests that it is possible for a flux portion to break away from its source. This “magnetic bubble” would then move away from the star, gradually losing strength until it simply breaks apart and a new line of flux is created in the star’s magnetic field. If we suppose that the chunk of matter aimed at the *Enterprise* was indeed plasma, but plasma held in such a magnetic bubble, we can assume that the force of the magnetic bubble might result in a more solid-acting mass than if the plasma were subjected to the forces internal to the cloud alone.

4. Conclusion

– Much of the astrophysics in 'The Naked Now' can be explained, but some can't. The most inexplicable phenomenon in the episode is the "huge shifts in gravity", but it is the supposed result of these shifts which is most intriguing to me, namely the water-based intoxicating contaminant. As fans we can easily accept such inconsistencies as a supergiant collapsing into a white dwarf over the course of many months; we simply dismiss the inconsistency as the product of twentieth century ignorance. I have done my fair share of pseudo-scientific rationalization for Star Trek's sake. But the one inconsistency which I find unavoidably disturbing is the single chunk of star matter hurtling its way directly toward the Enterprise. Granted, my purpose here has not been to scrutinize the episode in order to find discrepancies, but just as Sir Isaac Newton was struck by an apple, I am stricken by this "the only chunk in the quadrant" syndrome.

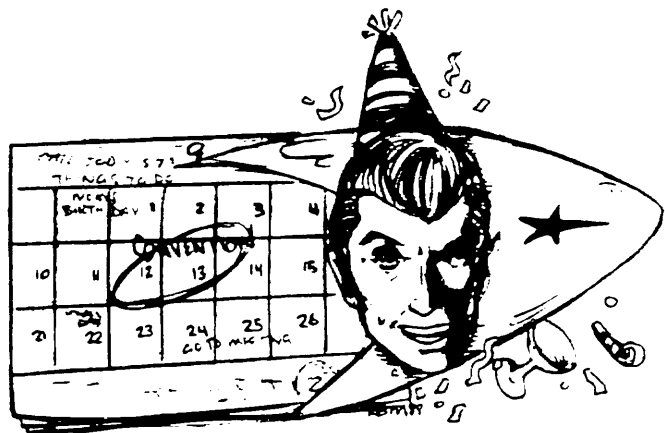


Convention Calendar

If you have or know of an upcoming convention, we would like to list it free of charge. Please send us the name, dates, location, guests, events, and an address and/or phone number for those interested. Be sure to send to:

STARFLEET-ATLANTA
CONVENTION CALENDER
6050 Peachtree Parkway
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Norcross, GA 30092

or call: Patrick Roberts, 455-9347
John Kemker, 491-8423



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Intelligent's Report

Jack Russell, You Know Him, You Love Him, He Owes You Money

by Brian Flatley

I never thought that the letters in this magazine were true, but after my experience with the two Swedish Flight Attendants and the trapeze, I just had to...

HOLD IT!!! Sorry, readers, I opened the wrong file on my word processor. I'll start again, after I update you on what is going on. Lieutenant Commander Jack Russell is a Star Fleet Intelligence Command agent with a difference. His current assignment is on *USS Manchester*, where his cover is that of LCDr. Jack Crager. The reason that he is on the ship under cover is because Klingon Ambassador Kamarage, that crazy Klingon that demanded the extradition of Capt. Kirk before the Federation Council, is being taken to Organia by the *Manchester*. He may or may not be passing information from spies placed by the Klingons (I haven't decided yet). When we last heard from Jack, he was listening to the Rolling Stones, while somebody was trying to kill him.

And now a word from our sponsor. Let me ask you a question: do you think that I take too much time setting up what happened in the last chapter of the story, and not enough time with the new chapter? You're right, I do. I just wanted to hear it from you, the reader. So, as soon as I finish this paragraph, I will get on with the story. Really, I mean it. I'm not kidding [the rest of this paragraph, which goes on for another two pages has been deleted. We don't regret the inconvenience this hasn't caused. - Ed.]

Jack could not help but notice three things: he wasn't dead, he wasn't armed, and that the ship rocked like it had just been hit by an enemy attack. Jack was, of course, correct on all three counts. Because the ship was under attack, his attacker missed, and he wasn't dead. Jack decided to do several things: get his phaser, head for the bridge, and wish he had security armor.

By the time Jack had done this, the *Manchester* had returned fire on the attacking vessel. When Jack got to the bridge, he saw a small Klingon scout ship turning and ready to return fire.

"Mr. Crager, relieve Thompson at the Security console," Captain Mystel told Jack.

"Thompson, have there been any reports of unauthorized persons with energy weapons?" Jack asked the Security Officer of the Watch.

"No, sir, where might they be? You know that under a red alert-

"I'm well aware that when there is a red alert the ship is sectioned off and that non-security personnel can not go from one section to the other without authorization. Go to the Security Office to get your armor," Jack snapped, irritated by the stress of the events of the past few minutes.

"Captain, the Commander of the Klingon ship wishes to speak to you," the Communications Officer said to Mystel.

"On screen, Mr. Brown."

"This is Commander K'mart, your opponent. We know that you are holding our Ambassador hostage and demand his release, at once."

"Commander, this is Captain Jora Mystel of the *USS Manchester*, we are on a diplomatic mission and are not holding Thought-Admiral Kamarage hostage," Mystel said, full of the stuff that makes a ship Captain a ship Captain.

"More Federation lies. Not more than two hours ago, we received a transmission that stated that Thought-Admiral Kamarage was a hostage of the cowardly Federation," said K'mart, giving the bridge crew a look that all good Klingons are taught to give their enemies.

"I don't know anything about that, Commander, and I will only give you the Ambassador at Organia. If you can wait the four hours it takes to get there, I will be glad to turn him over then, but not one minute sooner. Do I make myself clear?" Mystel said, containing her rage, barely.

"We will wait. If you stray as much as a kilometer

from a standard course to Organia, we will destroy your ship." with that, K'mart closed communications.

Mystel spun in her command chair, "Yellow alert, Mr. Sheaffer. Mr. Crager, I want some answers as to why I was not informed of the unauthorized transmission that was sent from this ship."

"Captain, I honestly do not know why we never picked up a transmission, unless the Commander was lying. But the time factor of two hours does come close to the time that the body of the Klingon was found."

"Do you have any suspects?" Mystel asked.

"I was checking them out when I was shot at by someone. It was probably our killer. I have taken the liberty of not cancelling the full security alert in the hopes of flushing out the killer."

"You better be right, Mister, or I'll have your bars."

The bridge was tense while they waited for the next check-in by the security checkpoints. Each checkpoint began to report. Each reported nothing unusual, until they got to the section where Jack's quarters are. Lieutenant Rogewan made the report.

"Sir, Commander Turner wants access to the lifts to the bridge, will you turn off the field, sir?"

"Hold on, Lieutenant. There is a problem with my controls. It will be a few minutes," Jack said to Rogewan.

"Those controls are working fine, what are you doing, Mister?" the Captain demanded.

"My job, sir." He switched channels. "This is Commander Crager, all security teams will report to Deck Three, Section One Alpha immediately. Commander Turner is holding Lt. Rogewan hostage. All units will converge, phasers on heavy stun. I say again phasers on heavy stun."

"How do you know that Turner is your man?" the Captain asked.

"Several things Captain: Commander Turner's quarters are on deck two. He should be there since this is supposed to be doing paperwork. Lt. Rogewan did not give me the correct recognition code. Also, Commander Turner's personnel files show

that he was orphaned by the Klingons when his family lived on an agricultural planet. Finally, I realized when the lieutenant asked for Turner to be allowed access, I remembered that my attacker and Turner have one thing in common: they are both left-handed."

"Incredible, simply incredible," Mystel said to Jack. "Now what?"

"We wait for the security teams to move in. Rogewan, by virtue of the fact that he is in armor, will not be hurt by the phaser fire."

"What if Turner is wearing armor, or if he made Rogewan take his off?"

"Turner does not have access to security armor, because he has no need for it. He also, by the



design of the suit, can't wear Rogewan's, because it is form-fitted to Rogewan's body. Rogewan also has to go to either his quarters, or the security office, neither of which are in that section, to take his off."

"Sir, this is Ensign Betters, we have stunned Commander Turner and we are taking him to sickbay. Any other orders, sir?"

"Yes, stand down from Security Alert three," Jack told the Ensign. "How is Rogewan?"

"He took a couple of hits, we're taking him to sickbay as well."

"Very good, Ensign, carry on. Captain, would like to interrogate Commander Turner, or shall I?" Jack asked Jora.

"I'll go with you. Knowing you, you'll get him to confess to stealing the Enterprise," Mystel retorted. "Mr. Lloyd, you have the conn. Don't order a shore leave this time, we're four hours from Organia."

"Okidokie, boss," the Lieutenant said to his Captain. "Jeez, nobody on this ship has a sense of humor."

Russell and Mystel went to the Sickbay and talked to Turner. He was pretty incoherent, but his basic motivation was that of revenge. He never forgave the Klingons for killing his parents, and thought that the Ambassador was the Captain of the ship that destroyed his home. Both Jack and Jora were satisfied with his explanation, but exhausted by the three and a half hours it took to get it out of him. To be sure, once he started, he nearly didn't shut-up. After Turner was sedated, Russell and Mystel reported to the bridge.

"Status, Mr. Lloyd?" Jora asked her Navigator.

"Captain, we are receiving a transmission from a Federation Heavy Cruiser that is headed on an intercept course from Organia," Lloyd said. "Captain Christopher Ernst is in command."

"On screen, Mr. Brown," Jora told her communications officer.

"This is Captain Christopher F. Ernst of the Super-Starship, *USS Republic*," the young ship captain said to Jora. "We have been ordered to escort you to Organia. But I see now that you have an escort. Captain, may I ask when you defected to the Klingon Empire?"

"Very funny, Chris," Jora said without humor. "If you have any other wisecracks, please keep them to yourself."

"I'm sorry, Jora. My orders are that you are to transport the Ambassador's party to the Republic, and we will take them to Organia."

"O.K., Captain you may have them. Unfortunately, one of them has died on the way. My Security Chief, LCdr. Jack Crager will accompany the Ambassador's party."

"If you say so," the bearded Captain replied. "We await your next transmission. Ernst out."

"Crager, this will give you a chance to get off my ship," Mystel whispered to Jack.

"I knew you always loved me," he told Jora.

"Mr. Brown, inform the Commander K'mart of our intentions. No need to start a war over a lack of communications."

"I think that you should continue on to Organia or the nearest Starbase to deliver Turner, Sir," Jack said.

"I had planned on it. I'll meet you in the transporter room," Jora told Jack.

"Well, Jack, don't think that I won't be happy without you, because I will," Jora told said to Russell.

"You really do know how to make a guy feel good, but I'm young, I'll bounce back," Jack said to Jora. "Maybe we'll see each other soon."

"I hope not, Mr. Crager, Bon Voyage, and don't come back," Jora said with a smile.

The transporter sent Jack to *USS Republic*, with the two remaining members of the diplomatic party. There were an unusually large number of Security personnell in the room. Naturally, Thought-Admiral Kamarage was the first to shout- er, speak.

"What is the meaning of all of these troops, Captain? This is no way to treat a diplomat like myself! I protest in the strongest terms!" The long-winded Klingon (I'm tired of him, what about you?) screamed at our Captain Ernst.

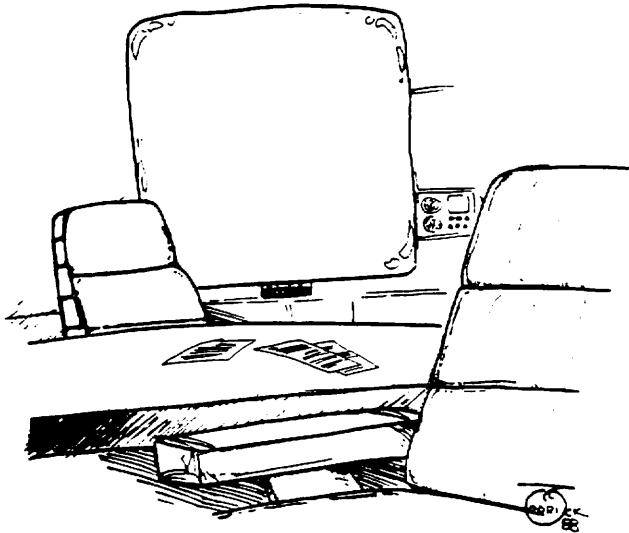
Chris, the smooth diplomatic type that he is, told the Ambassador, "They aren't for you, you dweeb, they are for "Lieutenant Commander" Russell here.

"Oops," was all Jack was able to say.

"You can do better than that, Lieutenant. How long did you think you could get away with it?" Captain Ernst asked Jack. "Take him to the brig."

Coming soon: "Jack Russell, Chief of Security."

The Briefing Room



Sciences

Right now in the science department key positions are being applied for and scrutinized by the officers. Examples will be such positions as biology, chemistry, planetologist, and zoology. Persons active in these special branches will be asked to do reports on their specialty and how it (if possible) relates to Star Trek and science fiction in general. Your own ideas and what you want to do are top priority, however, so speak up and make yourself and what you want to do known! Plans are at present being laid down to help Engineering with their Warp Drive Book. If you have a technical science background, we will need people who can theorize (realistically) and write technically and clearly.

If you plan to do a science article for the newsletter, please coordinate with me to try and relieve some of the pressure on Communications (Thank you! – Ed.) Finally, all ideas on future projects for this department are being considered at this time – come forward and let us talk about them! Especially presentations on the future of science as it guides the present. Thank you. Science Officer out.
::::Science Officer, Lcdr. Jonathan B. Crymes::::
::::EOT::::

Associate Members

The civilians aboard *USS Republic* have only just begun to become organized as a group. We are developing many ideas for projects and activities in which we will be involved. Few of these ideas are yet ready for public presentation. We will be working on an update to the directory. This update can be expected by the end of the next calendar quarter, exact date to be announced later. There are currently thirteen associate members aboard our starship and room for many more. Anyone who has not decided on a department yet is invited to consider becoming a civilian crewmember. If you are interested, please see James Lock at any future meeting. ::::Sr. Associate Member, James Lock::::
::::EOT::::

Special Services

In the division of Special Services, there are a few announcements. I would first off like to welcome the following people to Special Services: Karen Lindsay, Rodrick Bernard McWhorter, Joseph Phillips, Bertha Ray, Paul Allen Timm. Also, the following job assignments have been filled by the following personnel: Quartermaster/ Assistant Special Services Director – Paul Timm; Craft Specialist – Joseph Phillips; Recreation Officer/Craft Specialist – Rodrick Bernard McWhorter. There are other positions open! Please contact me if there are any questions, concerns, comments, or interests in Special Services. [As of 8807.06 Lt.j.g. Richard Parker transferred to Security. Lt.j.g. Paul A Timm was promoted to Director of Special Services]::::Special Services Officer, Lt. j.g. Richard D. Parker::::
::::EOT::::

Security

Security is working on several projects, among which are the Security Manual, a History of the Federation, getting Security personnel through the Starfleet Academy Security School, and organizing the department. At present, Lt. Brian Flatley is Chief of Security and his Assistant Chief of Security is Crewman David Duncan. ::::Chief of Security, Lt. Brian Flatley::::
::::EOT::::

Communications

By the time you read this, galleys of the Commu-

nications Manual should be in the hands of the critics for them to comment on. Several people have expressed interest in helping with the Communications Manual, among them Radm. Rob Lerman of Starfleet Academy. Several new members have been added to the Communications Department, among them Lenn Sisson, Lynn Williams, John Eaton, Arnold Sherril, and a civilian consultant, Melissa Walker. Other projects underway and/or in planning stages include an internal communications system for use at conventions, revamping of the InfoPacks, contacting colleges and universities, advertising in various newspapers and magazines, and assisting any way that we can with Special Services on their Library project.
 :::Lt. John E. Kemker, III::: :::EOT:::

Engineering

The first engineering meeting was at the picnic on June 4th. The start of phase 1 design of the new fan table went well. At Dixie Trek, I found the current fan table slightly unstable but this will be fixed by Deep South Con. Security has asked engineering to look into the technical parts of security armor as seen in the movies for possible future costumes. Cdr. Pat Roberts plans to teach some basic engineering theory to those who are interested in the near future. For more info call Cdr. Roberts.
 :::Chief of Engineering, Cdr. Patrick Roberts:::
 :::EOT:::

Medical

The Photo I.D. badges have been sent to the *Communiqué*. Admiral Krause also has a copy of the colored divisional I.D. badges. The department head badges are also to be in the June issue. We will be working on stocking up on the parts to put the badges together, and later making photo I.D. badges for at least the "medical" staff. The following are assigned personnel positions:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Michael Hart, Lt. (j.g.) | Chief Medical Officer |
| Robert Swanson, Lt. (j.g.) | Chief Surgeon |
| Bonnie Englett, Crewman Recruit | Medic |
| Thomas Grey, Crewman Recruit | Medic |
| Charles Raym, Jr., Crewman Recruit | Medic |
| John McRay, Crewman Recruit | Medic |
| Julie Swanson, Cadet | |

:::EOT:::

Operations

The *Operations* department is charged with the scheduling and coordination of all events and functions. Also the *Operations* department organizes the ship's rank structure and department assignments. *Operations* will routinely publish a calendar of upcoming events. The members of the *Operations* dept. will help in the over seeing of all projects and will assist other personnel with ongoing projects as needed. As *Engineering* is what makes us go, *Operations* is that which steers us, following the direction as put down by the Captain and assuring a safe and effective mission.

Positions within the *Operations* department include: Helm, Navigation, Weapons and Defense (Main Ship Weapons), Personnel, Finance, Legal, Pilots, and Yoeman titles, with several sub-titles available as well.

The Current Chief of *Operations* is Lcdr Bart Alcorn. If you are interested in *Operations*, please contact him. As Lcdr Alcorn is the director of the STARFLEET ECHOMAIL Program, Computer Operations, although not normally under the *Operations* division, is currently assigned as such.
 :::Lcdr Bart Alcorn::: :::EOT:::



Dixie Trek '88

by Lenn Sisson

Dixie Trek '88 was a great success both for the convention itself and for *USS Republic*.

There were more people at this year's convention than the year before, and the local Starfleet chapter recruited 103 new members. The new recruits could make the Republic the largest ship in the region and the third largest in Starfleet.

The three-day convention was at the Sheraton Century Center May 13 through 15.

The convention featured appearances by Jonathan Frakes who plays Cmdr. William Riker on **Star Trek: The Next Generation**; Julie Newmar, who was Catwoman on the **Batman** television series; Nicholas Courtney, who played Brigadier Alastair Lethbridge-Stewart on **Dr. Who**; and writer Terry Nation, who created the Daleks from **Dr. Who** and the Blake's Seven television series; among other guests.

Frakes talked twice, telling behind the scenes

stories about performers and episodes. While he asked that a lot of his talk be "off the record," he did tell his audience a few quotable things. Among them he said, "If you ever meet Brent Spiner (who plays Lt. Cmdr. Data), you have to ask him to sing '*I Like the Salad*.'" The tune comes from a Broadway play Spiner appeared in once — the play apparently closed on its opening night. "The song alone is worth the price of admission," Frakes later added. The Century Ballroom was crowded for both his Saturday and Sunday talks.

The highlight of the convention for the Atlanta chapter of Starfleet was the commissioning ceremony at 1000 hrs. Saturday. About 30 people showed up to bid goodbye to the *Shuttle Nautilus* and say hello to *USS Republic* as the chapter was upgraded to Starship class. To receive starship status, a chapter must have at least 12 members, but Atlanta had more than 20 at the time of the commissioning.

Commodore Sherry Bowen officiated at the ceremony. Also attending were Capt. Robin Campbell of *USS Ingram* (Columbus, Ga.); Capt. Paul Kircher, director of Starfleet's Armed Services Program, and acting Capt. Eric Koske of *USS Valiant II*.

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On Friday, after the National Space Society cancelled a presentation, *Republic's* crew was asked to fill in. The result was an impromptu pro and con panel about the merits of the new **Star Trek** series.

Republic sponsored the con suite, which Capt. Chris Ernst described as "a great success." The group also held two parties. Saturday afternoon, there was a pool party featuring music and water polo. Saturday night there was a "Boarding Party" which was attended by more than 100 people, and where door prizes were given away.

During the commissioning ceremony, Capt.



Campbell presented citations from Fleet Adm. Steven Smith to chapter members who attended **MOC III** in Columbus. The citations were for the "outstanding" work of the members at the convention.

Unfortunately, Robert Swanson, who was one of the people at that convention, was left off the citation list. "We really felt bad about that," said Capt. Ernst. "He really worked hard at the convention."

Much of the credit for the large number of recruits goes to the people who constructed and manned the Dixie Trek con table. Lt. Cmdr. Crymes said he wanted to thank all of the people who worked it. He said everyone did a great job. But, he especially wanted to thank James Lock, Richard Hogen, Lorraine Bell, Michael Hart, David Duncan, Joy Gilbert, Karen Jordan, Brian Holloway, Danny Clark and Robert Swanson for their exceptional efforts.

From The Center Seat (continued)

To provide a disciplined, semi-military environment that is fun.

We are preparing to set down chapter by-laws. These goals will be a part of those by-laws. If you have input as to chapter goals or if you would like to be a part of the group that makes up the by-laws contact myself or the First Officer. The by-laws will be ratified by the whole chapter.

Until next time then...

"Carry-on. Bridge out."



Hail Huntsville Space Flight Center!

By Jonathan B. Crymes

Well, crewmen of *USS Republic*, if you missed the trip planned by Engineering to tour the Huntsville Space Flight Center and Museum, you missed the best excursion this ship has had to date (if you see Pat Roberts – head of Engineering – congratulate him!).

Saturday, March 28, was the day of the trip and it was a beautiful day for it. We left on schedule (noteworthy in and of itself! – Ed.) and dropped by Birmingham to pick up some members of a shuttle forming there to come with us. We arrived at the Center with the first thing to greet us being a group of large rockets looming on the edge of the horizon. These were the small – and I mean small – ones! So here we were – standing in front of the largest space flight museum on Earth and home of the Space Camp and Space Academy for civilians. Impressive it most definitely is.

The Center is broken up into several attractions ranging from EPCOT-ish entertainment/education to the flat technical for the more engrossed tourist. In the museum part of the center are real space suits (some of them worn by famous astronauts), fascinating exhibits, demonstrations of various space-oriented subjects, and the very real rockets used in the American space program. For example, there was a game there that simulated the difficulties in landing a lunar module on the moon – and then gave you a shot at it! It's not easy – my first crew survived and landed, my second crew "left a two mile crater" on the lunar surface. Poor guys, but they should have known better than to let the science officer get at the helm! Another computer gave you the chance to pilot a ship through an asteroid field. Holograms, parts of various ships, full scale models of Skylab and capsules all there to be touched, examined, and experienced. Too many things to get to in just one newsletter fill the museum. Just outside the museum is an awesome spectacle: Lying on its side is one of the Saturn V rockets. It is 363 feet long and 102,000 pounds of rocket. This is the monster that has the unique distinction of being the only craft to ever take a human being to another heavenly body – the moon. Standing like guards around it are several other rockets of both military and peaceful nature. Some on their side and some standing their full height – which is enough to cramp your neck. You can touch them, walk under them, and,



in some cases, walk through them!

Right beside them is the building that houses the Space Camp and Space Academy training facilities. Here, any person can go through the same training (if condensed) that the astronauts go through. We were shown an actual tile off of the space shuttle and what it does under heat (the kind demonstrator had a blow torch). A good deal of the equipment there were piece models of the shuttle with the corresponding practice, like the sleeping quarters and cockpit. A huge water tank is used to simulate the weightlessness of space for maneuvering in a space suit.

As far as the EPCOT-ish attractions go, there is a building that you can sit in and it will spin with a force of three G's – the amount of force an astronaut feels during liftoff (equivalent to three times the Earth's gravitational pull – Ed.). And there is a movie theater like none you have ever seen before. It is a domed building that you sit in and look up at the ceiling which is the screen. When the movie starts you feel as if you are there because there is very little to tell you that you aren't. Your eyes see a complete sight – even your peripheral vision – , you hear all the sounds, and you can feel through the sound. Now you can truly imagine what it is like to be standing only a few hundred yards away when the space shuttle takes off!

Finally, there is the guided bus tour of the space flight center. On this tour are life-sized models of the space station about to be put into orbit and an engine from the shuttle that you can look and and touch. A solid rocket booster, very real, that is out

Continued on page 18

An Interview With Jack Russell

J.K.3: Good evening, Lieutenant Commander Russell. I am Lt. John E. Kemker, III, Chief of Communications of the USS Republic.

J.R.: Howdy.

J.K.3: How are you this evening?

J.R.: Could be worse.

J.K.3: A man of few words, eh?

J.R.: And even fewer actions.

J.K.3: Not lazy, I hope?

J.R.: I'm just so good...

J.K.3: Modest, too, I see!

J.R.: But of course.

J.K.3: I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you aboard the Republic and to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to talk to me.

J.R.: Delegate, that's the watch-word. I've got my assistant chief running everything now.

J.K.3: I see. Efficient. Let me ask you: how did you first get involved with Starfleet?

J.R.: It was either this or prison (laughs). No, no, seriously, my hearts always been in the stars. And my mind in the gutter...

J.K.3: Where did you undergo basic training?

J.R.: New New Aberdeen. I swear I had the toughest CPO in the Fleet!

J.K.3: Really? What was his name?

J.R.: Him? Whaddya mean, him?

J.K.3: Your CPO in basic was a female?

J.R.: I guess you could classify her as that...

J.K.3: Her name?

J.R.: I don't want to embarrass Francine Ledbetter that way...

J.K.3: Ahem...I see.

J.R.: I'm giving you hell, aren't I?

J.K.3: Yes, well...to go on, what was your first tour of duty?

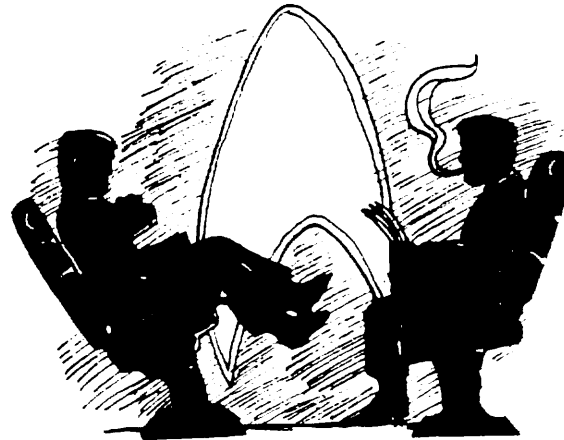
J.R.: Guarding a pile of sand. Oh! You don't mean basic, do you? I'm sorry, that's classified. I could tell you, but then I'd have to kill you.

J.K.3: I seem to recognize that line from somewhere...

J.R.: Twentieth Century (Old Calendar) flick.

J.K.3: You are a movie buff?

J.R.: And rock and roll.



J.K.3: "Rock and roll?"

J.R.: Oh boy, another uneducated one.

J.K.3: No, not uneducated, just asking for our readers' sakes.

J.R.: Well, let's put it this way: Distortion for the Masses.

J.K.3: Where did you pick up your tastes in music and movies?

J.R.: From living in Jersey. It's required for survival.

J.K.3: Jersey? As in New Jersey, North American Continent, Terra?

J.R.: I ain't talking about New New New New Jersey.

J.K.3: And New Jersey was where you were born?

J.R.: Yes. Even in this day and age it has a bad reputation. Blame it on New York, as they used to say in the Century.

J.K.3: Tell me about your childhood. Did you have a rough childhood, an easy one, or moderately middle-of-the-road?

J.R.: Well, my school records, at least the official ones, say that I was a model student. But, then again, I reprogrammed my files to say that. That's how I got into the Academy.

J.K.3: Tell me about the Academy. What was your branch school?

J.R.: Security with a cross-training in Intelligence.

J.K.3: At the risk of sounding like a cliché, isn't that a contradiction...

J.R.: ...in terms? Yeah, I guess you could say that. But I like being a redshirt.

J.K.3: You know, you're one of the few security personnel...

J.R.: ...that have lived long enough to even joke about it?

J.K.3: ..to call themselves a redshirt.

J.R.: Hey! That's what we used to wear! So would you.

J.K.3: So would I what?

J.R.: Wear a redshirt, if we still had those uniforms.

J.K.3: True. To change the subject...

J.R.: Getting a bit uncomfortable, eh?

J.K.3: No, not at all, I just wanted to ask you about Starfleet Marines.

J.R.: (Hideous laughter. After quite awhile, Lcdr. Russell calms down.) You can't be serious! (More laughter.) What about the Starfleet Lids?

J.K.3: I wanted to ask you your opinion of them, now that they are in a department of their own, rather than under Security, as they used to be.

J.R.: (Shakes his head.) They'll be back.

J.K.3: Under Security?

J.R.: Yep, soon as they have to make a decision, they'll come running back to people with minds.

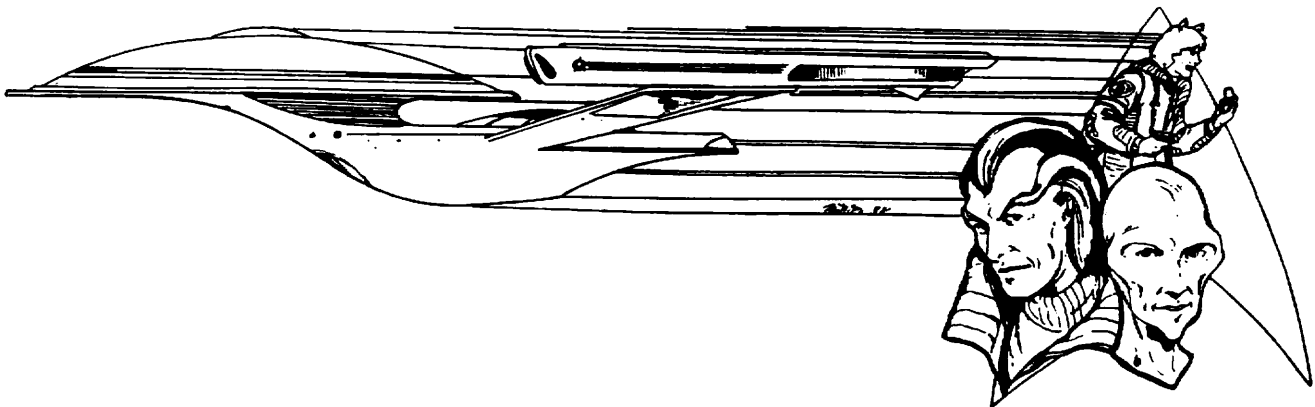
J.K.3: I take it you have a very low opinion of the Marines?

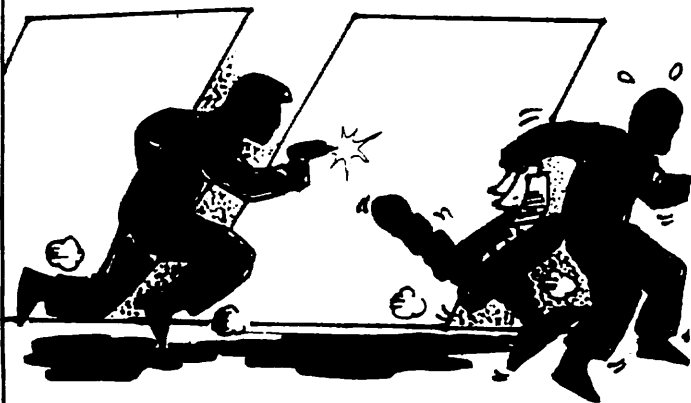
J.R.: I'd rather sleep with a Romulan.

J.K.3: I understand you've done that, as well.

J.R.: What?! Who told you?! I'll kill'em!

J.K.3: Well, it was in the declassified dossier I





received prior to the interview.

J.R.: Where'd you get it? Who signed the authorization?!

J.K.3: I'm not authorized to divulge that information, let's just say that it was all by the book...

J.R.: (muttering) Yeah, but who wrote the book? (in a normal voice) It wasn't that Flatley joker, was it? He'll make anything up.

J.K.3: No, it wasn't Lt. Flatley. Do you confirm the rumor?

J.R.: I'm not at liberty to say.

J.K.3: That's not what Commander T'leen says...

J.R.: Well, I don't care what that Vulcan says... You know it's a myth that they don't lie.

J.K.3: Commander T'leen is not a Vulcan, or do you usually forget the race of the women you sleep with?

J.R.: You know I'm going to have to censor most of this?

J.K.3: Why?

J.R.: Not in the public interest.

J.K.3: I don't know, I think the public will find this very interesting...

J.R.: But I've got the Captain's ear.

J.K.3: Well, you better give it back before he misses it. How does it feel to be on the defensive, yourself?

J.R.: Let's talk about that time in the Academy with

you and the duck...

J.K.3: Just because she had flat feet doesn't mean she's a duck.

J.R.: But, FEATHERS, and that BILL! I may allegedly go interracial, but you're sick, going interspecies!

J.K.3: She was a normal Terran Homo-Sapien and you know it.

J.R.: Quack-quack.

J.K.3: Well, she was going for her M.D.... Anyway, I understand you've led quite an interesting life in Starfleet. What can you tell me about it?

J.R.: That it was interesting.

J.K.3: Come on, Lcdr., you and I both know that several of your "adventures" have been declassified.

J.R.: And they would have to be my more embarrassing ones...

J.K.3: Any of the more interesting and less embarrassing ones that you can tell us about?

J.R.: Not at this time.

J.K.3: I understand you will soon be writing your own memoirs, rather than having them ghost-written. What is on the horizon for us to look forward to?

J.R.: A story for the ages...which ages, I don't know...but they will be interesting.

J.K.3: You're rewriting the Bible?

J.R.: Very funny, LIEUTENANT.

J.K.3: Now, now, Mister Russell. Let's try not to pull rank here.

J.R.: You've tried to pull everything else...

J.K.3: What percentile of your Academy class did you graduate in?

J.R.: Let's just say I walked away from commencement a little richer.

J.K.3: I see. That bad, eh?

J.R.: I've got'em framed. All 499 of them. With a little sign that says "Break glass in case of emergency."

J.K.3: Well, Lcdr. Russell, it seems our time is about up. Is there anything you wish to say to our readers before you have to go?

J.R.: Make sure you don't get landing party assignment with me.

J.K.3: Why?

J.R.: Let's just say, I have the tendency to find the weird alien monster.

J.K.3: Ok. "I have the tendency to find the weird alien monster."

J.R.: Stop that. And that is an order.

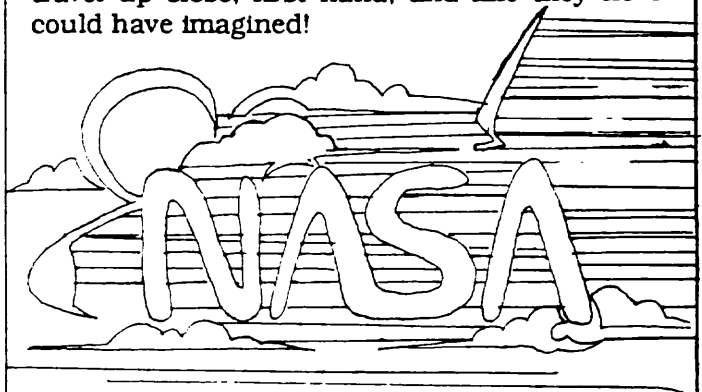
J.K.3: Very well. Thank you Lcdr. Russell for your time.

J.R.: The pleasure was all yours.

Huntsville (continued)

and in the open along with an external fuel tank that you can walk inside of. I bet you never thought when you first saw the tank the shuttle sits piggy-back on that you could actually see and stand inside of it! Plus, there is a mock-up of the front section of the shuttle so you can see everything the way it is.

All in all the Huntsville trip can be described very easily - breathtaking! Hopefully, Pat and his people can organize another trip real soon so those who missed this one can catch up on seeing space travel up close, first hand, and like they never could have imagined!



TO THE EDITOR.....

from Rodrick B. McWhorter

This idea has only just come to me, though it's basis has always rolled about in my mind. The Associate members in our club have been repeatedly referred to as citizen crewmen....., a contradiction? Not really. According to the **Starfleet Constitution**, Associate members are such because they don't have, nor wish to have any part in the Active Duty (read 'paramilitary') option of the club, other than on a social level.

This makes the important difference. *By its definition*, an Associate member has no rank, title, or position; can not give and does not have to take orders. Whereas a Shipboard Civilian (research scientists, ambassadors, etc.) would be subject to orders given aboard ship, and be responsible for any duties assigned to him/her.

Also, Shipboard Civilians would have a voice and authority over anyone that they are specifically assigned to, within their division. Positions for Shipboard Civilians would not be that different from any of the other departments, (Biologist,

Engineer, Linguist, ect.) but would be run in a less militaristic manner.

I propose this for those, like myself, who want to be active, but of (again) a less militaristic nature. As the proposal has not been submitted yet, there are no details to be disclosed. I would like to see more information by the next newsletter.



What It Means To Be A Starfleet Officer

It is by no means enough that an officer should be capable. . . .He should be as well a gentleman of liberal education, refined manners, punctilious courtesy, and the nicest sense of personal honor. . . .No meritorious act of a subordinate should escape his attention, even if the reward be only one word of approval. Conversely, he should not be blind to a single fault in any subordinate.

True as may be the political principles for which we are nowcontending...the ships themselves must be ruled under a system of absolute despotism.

I trust that I have now made clear to you the tremendous responsibilitiesWe must do the best we can with what we have.

—John Paul Jones, September 14, 1775; excerpts from a letter to the naval committee of the Continental Congress

Being an officer in Starfleet carries a lot of responsibility as well as privileges. Officers aboard a Starfleet vessel are a special group of people that have taken the well-being and enjoyment of the rest of the crew as being a duty and burden that they gladly shoulder. An officer is responsible for organizing and executing activities for the benefit of the entire crew. Their job is to make sure everyone gets out of Starfleet the best experience that is humanly possible.

To become an officer requires hard work and determination, as well as a demonstrated ability to organize and carry out projects. An officer has the power to delegate authority and to issue orders to someone below them in rank. An officer is also responsible to those above him in the chain of command for the projects and duties assigned to him.

To ensure that only those capable of handling the responsibility and power that comes with being an officer, several safeguards have been instituted. These safeguards are there to test, in various ways, the ability, responsibility, and character of a future officer. In no way are the safeguards meant to discriminate against a person because of color, race, gender, creed, or political beliefs.

The safeguards are, however, designed to allow the Commanding Officer to choose responsible, capable, motivated, self-disciplined people to aid him in the running of the Starship. These people must be of the highest quality if the ship is to succeed in its goals. Laziness, ineptness, inability to motivate others, and a lack of self-discipline are all disqualifiers for receiving a commission as an officer of Starfleet.

If the requirements for becoming an officer seem tough, remember that an officer is responsible for the actions of those below him. A good rule of thumb is: "Sh*t flows downhill." If one of your subordinates does something of an undesirable nature, it is not he that will hear about it from your superiors, it is you. You are the one to catch it for his actions. While you may pass along to him the "chewing out," it would have been much more desirable for you to have caught the infraction before it came to the attention of a superior officer.

While all of this may seem to be intended to discourage you from becoming an officer, it is nothing of the sort. Instead, take it as a challenge and a set of guidelines to follow while you are on your course to become an officer. Something that is easily won is not a victory. What we work hard to attain, we value most.

What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly...it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated.

—Thomas Paine



Recreation Deck

This will be an ongoing space where we will print word jumbles, crossword puzzles, word searches, mazes, cartoons or any other kind of activities that you can send to us.

However, if we don't have it, we can't print it! So this is an open call to get involved in your newsletter.



Trivia Corner

- 1) According to "Space Seed," what was the last era of world wars called?
- 2) What was the name of the first Star Trek pilot?
- 3) What was Ben Finney's position on the Enterprise?
- 4) Name the episode where Tasha Yar wears a skant (the short skirt uniform)?
- 5) In what animated Star Trek episode does Spock meet himself as a child?

For the experts: What is the result if a Starship's Impulse engine is overloaded?

Look for answers to these questions in the next issue!

