

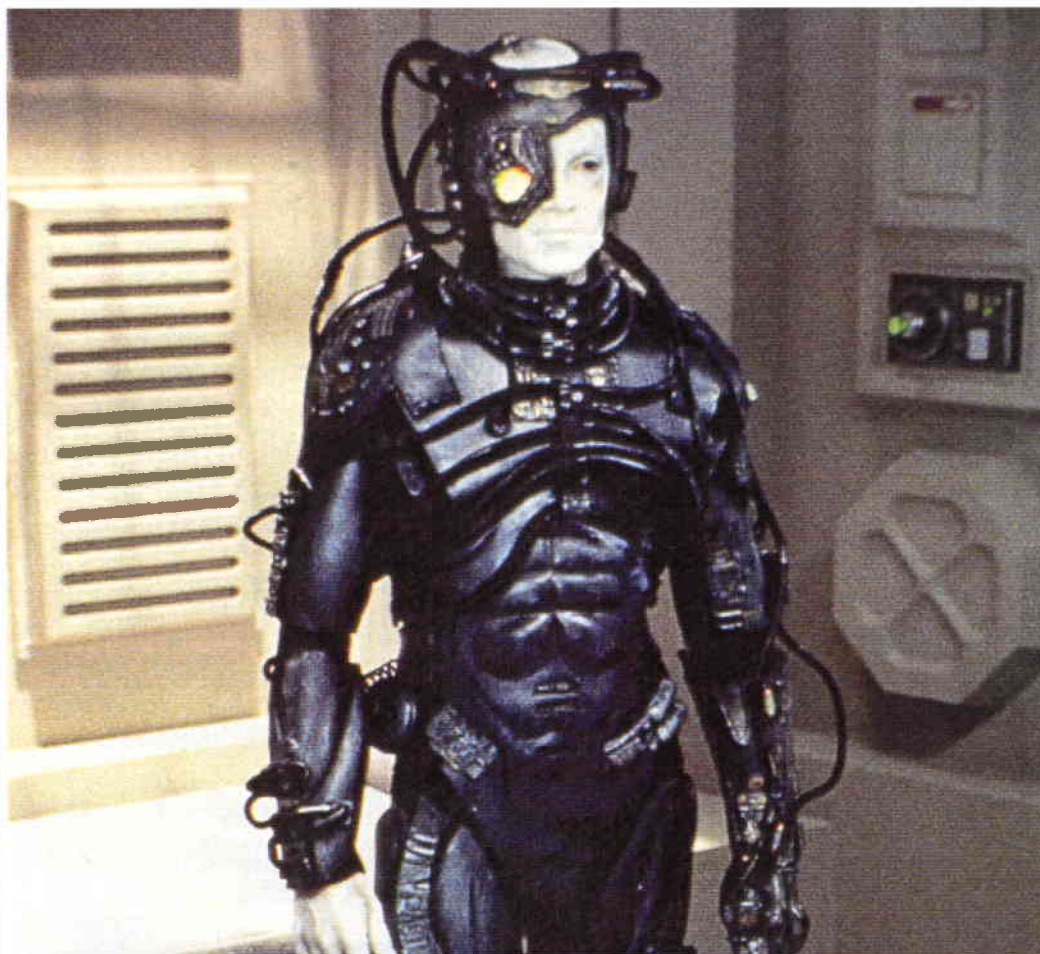
VOLUME I, ISSUE TWO

MARCH/APRIL 1999

The Official Newsletter of CHATTAHOOCHEE STATION, SFR-201 —Atlanta, Georgia

A Chapter of STARFLEET, the International **STAR TREK** Fan Association

Cybernetics: Are We the Borg?



NEWSLETTER STAFF

Edmund Trafford
Chief of Communications

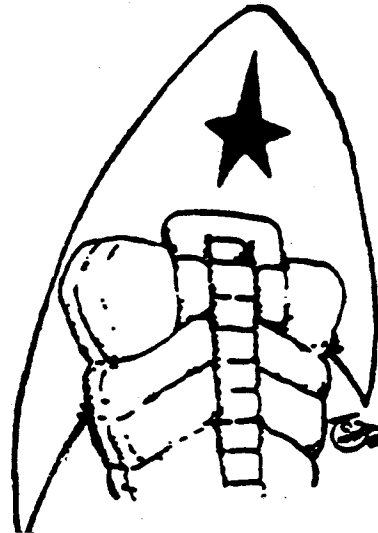
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FROM THE CENTER SEAT



by Fleet Captain Kathryn Webster

Hi Everyone!

We've had a busy couple of months with visits to the Carter Center, Vulcon, and various meetings and parties. I hope you have been able to come and join us, if not, we have more in store, so please come.

We are in the process of making decisions about our ship. We need new by-laws and other basic decisions about who we are and where we want to go from here. Please come to meetings and events to put in your "two cents worth" on these issues. This is your group, we want to have your input about where we are going.

We will be having a picnic in April and start talking about these issues. Also remember that Dragoncon is coming up in July and we need help with the table there (it's also a lot of fun)

See you soon.

Fleet Captain Kathryn Webster ★

Departmental Reports

From the Center Seat	1
From the Right Seat	2
Security	3
Medical	3
Communications	5

Features

Books	5
Summit Report	6
TrekBits	7
Care Groups: A Proposal	8
Greetings from Vulcon	9
Star Trek Continuum News	10
Keeping an Eye on the Universe	12
Star Trek Movie Quotes	13
Ravings From the Editor	14



FROM THE RIGHT SEAT



by Vice Admiral Mike Henigan

Greetings to all!

My apologies to Edmund and the crew for not getting articles into the last issue, but I was knee deep in final preparations for the annual Region 2 Summit, so I was just a little busy at that time. I think I made up for it this issue with everything that I send Edmund.

Well, we are a brand new chapter in Starfleet, but we are a long way from really being new! However, there is a lot that needs to be done in order for our group to function and function well. What needs to be done you might ask? Well, when we merged our two ships into the Chattahoochee Station, we decided to merge and figure out all the necessary paperwork later on. Here we are several months later and we still need to be doing the paperwork etc for our station. We are going to need By-Laws, Policy, Membership Database, New Signage (with the Station name etc), Promotion Guidelines and last of all, but not least, a Station Logo!

To that end, we are starting work on all of the above in some fashion or another. The Command Staff will be meeting later this month to start working on our By-Laws, Policy and Promotion Guidelines.

Ops Chief Dawn Benton will be designing the Membership Database over the next

several weeks, while PR Chief Joe Campbell is in the process of designing new signage for our display booth and EVERYONE is/has been submitting suggestions, sketches and ideas for the station logo.

Where can you, a member of the crew help? Offer some help or suggestions for any of the above items, offer to run a project for the station or even a social of some kind. There is LOTS that we can do and would like to do, but we need more feedback and volunteers from the crew. Contact Kathryn or myself if you have one of these suggestions or offers.

On another note, we are trying to set what the Station is doing for our activities each month and we would like to hear what ya'll want to do over the next 6 months or so. We are getting into the Summer Season (it is ALREADY getting quite warm I might add!) and there are fun things we could be doing€White Water, Six Flags, Picnics, Camping, Day Trips to Museums, and game nights. We also need to do some volunteering in the community, The Atlanta Soup Kitchen, Food Bank, SciTrek needs volunteers, Project Open Hand and Hands on Atlanta are just some of the things we could volunteer to do.

We need YOU to tell us just what YOU want to do, so PLEASE tell us and we will discuss all of this at the meetings coming up over the new few months.

That does it for me this issue. Keep safe and enjoy your time on our Station! ★

**Bringing you the
23rd Century . . .
. . . TODAY!**

SECURITY



by Captain Tonya Spanks

Greetings Chattahoochee crew!!!

This year has been off to a banner start. Thank you to Fleet Captain Kathy for the wonderful parties held at her home. The Valentine's Day Party was a hoot as well as the How To Host A Mystery game we have all been dying to play. To all the people who pointed the finger at me (Guinan) and were wrong, Neener neener neener.

March 19-21, all that could attend, enjoyed spending the weekend at the Holiday Inn in Marietta for this years one and only Vulkan. We had the privilege of hosting the ConSuite (and will have the same privilege next year) which got off to a rocky start on Saturday morning with the theft of our banner by a group of Florida Klingons. Needless to say not only was I not happy but neither was Con security, local Klingons or the promoters who had no idea this would be taking place as the Klingons would like to have everyone believe. Not only will this not be happening again but next year we will have an actual suite and control over the locks to the room.

The next convention (local) is DragonCon on the July 4th weekend. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there.

It is time we started working on raising funds for the station. We raised (at my last

count) \$48 for the station thanks to our tip alien. I would like to take us back to a project we worked on a few years ago and never completed but shows great promise . . . a recipe book. Now that I have a computer to work on myself (I worked before through the courtesy of Dee and Holly's computer) I think the project will go a lot smoother. I would like to work by the category. Please e-mail, snail-mail, or phone in your appetizer and beverage recipes. Fake recipes are fine but let's try to keep them to a minimum. The deadline for these recipes is July 1st. Your recipe should have a name (trek names are always good but not necessary), ingredients, directions, and your name for recognition. Remember this is to raise funds for the station. Thank you all in advance for your help. ♀

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT



Lt. Monty Strickland

The Medical Department is sponsoring its second Starfleet Academy Party. The time and place will be announced at least by our May Republic and MacLeod Ship meetings. Hopefully it will take place the last weekend of May in one of our member's homes with a computer that can send email.

Starfleet Academy is the division of Starfleet International (the national association with which Chattahoochee Station is affiliated) which is responsible for getting out the word to the membership

continued on page 4



about how a chapter of Starfleet International operates and also to enhance the fan's enjoyment of Star Trek by providing Trekology (the study of Star Trek) information.

The reason for announcing this so far in advance is that the participants need to make arrangements with Starfleet Academy to take one of their self-study courses which are graded by the results of an open book test. On the day of the party, all the participants will take their tests in the home of one of the members sharing the fellowship and council of not only the participants but also some officers who have already taken the test who can guide each student to a successful conclusion of their Starfleet Academy experience.

Starfleet Academy provides a number of courses which can be taken both for fun and to get credit toward a fictional rank promotion. The two most famous courses are OTS (Officer Training School) and its succeeding course, OCC (Officer Command College) which by their completion gives an automatic fictional rank promotion within the Station which deal with the structure of a Starfleet International Chapter and its day-to-day running. Other courses deal with department operation and Trekology in general. The full course list is available on the web at <http://www.sfi-sfa.org> and we will also have copies to give out at our April 3rd 4 pm meeting at the Morrow Media Play.

The First Starfleet Academy Party was called an OTS party which was held by the MacLeod Ship of the Station Valentine's weekend of 1998 and was held in the home of Fleet Captain Kathryn Webster. It was

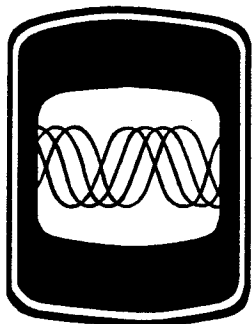
called an OTS Party because all three of the participants were taking OTS. It resulted in all three of the participants, Dawn, Bernie and myself passing the test and in a ceremony in March being promoted from enlisted fictional rank to officers.

In this Second Starfleet Academy Party, the Medical Department hopes to appeal to all station personnel to participate. Those who have never taken a Starfleet Academy Course might want to take OTS just as Dawn, Bernie and I did last year. Others like the "OTS trio" might want to take the next course OCC. Even Admirals can find something that interests them that they have not taken yet in the Starfleet Academy's wide array of course offerings. Even though the Station is only empowered to promote to the fictional rank of Commander, All Starfleet Academy courses completed become part of an individual's Starfleet record which can be a factor in promotions to Captain and above.

The Medical Department would like to encourage every station member to participate by taking a Starfleet Academy course in May whether you think that you'll be able to attend the party or not. If we can approach 100% participation in this endeavor it will not only benefit the club by circulating new ideas but also will be something to include in our submission for the Region 2 Chapter of the year award. And for those of us who can attend, I'm looking forward to a great time of food, fellowship and fun as we gather together for our second annual Starfleet Academy Party in May. ★

E=mc²

COMMUNICATIONS



by Commander Edmund Trafford

As you all know, I am the shyest and most humble and modest of people, but perhaps on this one special occasion I will be permitted a certain amount of latitude in expressing pride . . .



PLEASEPLEASEPLEASE NOTE: All submissions for the May/June issue are due by May 31, no excuses, no exceptions, no extensions!! 🌟

Books Books Books

BOOKS Books BOOKS

Star Trek Book Schedule Spring/Early Summer 1999

April

Dark Victory (TOS hardcover), by William Shatner with Judith & Garfield Reeves-Stevens

Dyson Sphere (TNG #50), by George Zebrowski and Charles Pelligrino

Spectre (TOS pb reprint), by William Shatner with Judith & Garfield Reeves-Stevens

May

Star Trek: Strange New Worlds II (trade pb), Dean Wesley Smith (editor), with John J. Ordovery and Paula M. Block

Battle Lines (VGR #18), by Dave Galanter & Greg Brodeur

Ship of the Line (TNG pb reprint), by Diane Carey

Get a Life! (A look at Star Trek conventions - hardcover), by William Shatner & Chris Kreski

June

The Biology of Star Trek - by Robert Jenkins, Susan Jenkins, ppb

Future Perfect: How Star Trek Conquered Planet Earth by Jeff Greenwald, ppb

DS9 Final Episode Novelization, by Diane Carey

Double Helix #1 (TNG #51) "Infection," by John Betancourt

Double Helix #2 (TNG #52) "Vectors," by Dean Wesley Smith & Kristine Katherine Rusch 🌟



Summit Report **by Vice Admiral Mike Henigan** **Summit Director**

Greetings to All ☺

Our Esteemed Editor, Cmdr Trafford has been bugging me for weeks for Region 2 Summit information and how are newsletter did in the awards judging. OK, so I am going to come clean now, Edmund – watching?

Region 2's 1998 Newsletter of the Year:
USS Republic's Republication edited by
Edmund Trafford!!!

And the other shock that came to one of our dedicated crew members:

Newly Minted Captain Tonya Spanks!!!

Yes, the summit was a happening place for our club, even though there were only a few of us who could attend this year. What a great time we had, I might add. Astronaut Fred Haise was a great guest and he loved being at summit every minute. He took part in the Putt Putt Tourney and signed lots of pictures for everyone. We had up about 75 people there.

Pete Mohny had declared that this weekend was his (as he would take office as the new RC on Sunday at noon) and so it seemed to go! First off, we had the Great Dalmuti Tourney on Friday evening, and Pete went on to dethrone Mike George as the Great Dalmuti. THEN, at the Putt Putt Toruney and Grand Prix Racing, he took the early lead with about 12 racers (including our own Kelly Hilliard and then R2 Grand Prix Champ) and it was see saw between several people, but then Pete dogged it out and took the final lead and held on to win also the crown of Region 2 Grand Prix Champ!

So a special highlight of the Awards Banquet was when Barb and Kelly

conferred and awarded Pete, the J Michael Long Explosive Decompression Award! Pete had certainly earned it with the swelled head he had for the weekend! The banquet was delicious, the panels were great and the Awards and Promotions on Saturday night were quite special.

When it came time for Newsletter of the Year, I was sitting on the edge of my seat rooting for our newsletter and for Edmund of course. Come to find out there was a tie between the USS Wernher von Braun's newsletter and *The Republication*. The von Braun's newsletter is more like a fanzine and is published quarterly, and it is also a kick butt missive full of interesting articles and news. We hear that they will expand the newsletter awards to include quarterly newsletters/fanzines. When they did announce the *Republication* as a winner, I was quite proud to see Tonya come up for the award.

The other highlight was when we were doing the promotion segment of the evening. Kelly and I purposely held a certain promotion to the end so we could get more delight from it. As I made the announcement, I watched Tonya's face and she was one surprised and shocked person! Her hands went to her face and she was elated to get this promotion. To the cheers and standing ovation from those present (the ONLY Standing Ovation for a promotion that evening, I might add) we awarded Tonya her much deserved promotion to Captain. Well done Tonya, you deserved it. Funny thing about this promotion is that several of the crew knew about the promotion but were of course mum on it until the big moment. Fleet Captain Webster tells me that Tonya called her to give her the news and threaten to kill her for knowing about her promotion, we all had a good laugh at that.

A Great Weekend and a Great Summit,
Look Forward to Birmingham 2000! ★

trekbits

Jordan's new King Abdullah is apparently a Trekker. The issue of *Newsweek* magazine for February 22, 1999 ran a picture of Abdullah's cameo appearance in a 1996 *Voyager* episode. Some political analysts feel that this is a good sign about the young and untested king's character and interests. A ruler in the volatile Middle East who is sufficiently progressive and forward-looking to enjoy ST is a hopeful sign.



Hollywood gossip is that a feature film of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* is in the works. Candidates for the wizard Gandalf include Sean Connery and Patrick Stewart. The role of Bilbo Baggins is rumored to be going to Danne DeVito.

Andrew Robinson ("Garak" from *DS9*) guest starred on the *X-Files* episode "Alpha" which aired here in Atlanta on March 28, 1999. He played a werewolf.

Jimmy Doohan celebrated his 79th birthday on March 2, 1999.

Leonard Nimoy celebrated his 68th birthday on March 25, 1999. He also had a cameo in the premiere of the new animated series *Futurama* (from Matt Groening, creator of *The Simpsons*). During the show, a typical American teenager is accidentally cryogenically frozen and awakes on New Year's Eve 2999, facing the new millennium of 3000. As part of the show's action, he stumbles into a "museum of heads." Nimoy's "cameo" consisted of his head being preserved in a jar, able to talk and interact with others. Other "heads" included David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson (as their *X-Files* characters Fox Mulder and Dana Scully), Bill Clinton, Dick Clark, Richard Nixon, and even Groening's own head.

Captain Kirk has hit it big in the booming stock market. An article on the front page of the business section of the *Atlanta Journal* for Friday morning, April 2, 1999 highlighted William Shatner's windfall as spokesman for the firm of Priceline.com. (See the article below.) ▲

Actor's stake in firm blasts off

When William Shatner says on ads for Priceline.com Inc., "I told you it was going to be big — really big," he might have been talking about his bank account.

"Star Trek's" Captain Kirk was granted the equivalent of 125,000 shares for pitching Priceline.com. That stake was worth a little more than \$10 million at Thursday's close, compared with \$2 million when the stock went public this week.

"If you look at the payday William Shatner is getting, and consider there are companies paying \$25 million to advertise for two years on [America Online], it's very reasonable," said analyst Sara Zeilstra of Warburg Dillon Read.

A big jump in the stock of a company that has just gone public produces paper wealth for those who owned shares before the initial public offering. But companies and their underwriters often restrict how much stock those shareholders can sell, and when.

In the case of Priceline.com, its directors, executive officers, key employees and "substantially all" the current shareholders generally can't sell stock for six months without the OK of Morgan Stanley & Co.

Besides benefiting Shatner, the sale made billionaires out of Chief Executive Richard Braddock, 57, and founder and Vice Chairman Jay Walker, 43.

— Staff and news services



Shatner

ROBOTMAN/ by Jim Meddick



Care Groups: A Proposal

Lt. Monty Strickland

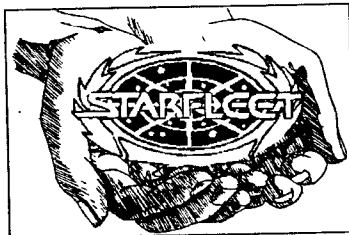
Chattahoochee Station Medical Officer

The Medical Department would like to propose forming Care Groups among all the Station Members. This would be similar to phone lists that have existed in the past on the Republic and MacLeod. A care group would consist of a care group leader and within the group some active members and some semi-active members and perhaps even some prospective members who express that they would like to be kept informed of station activities. The function of the care group would be to both act as a phone list to inform members of station activities but to also keep in contact with those members who have not attended meetings in a while. In that way we can show that we care about our members and give our members the chance to share both club and personal concerns. In the event that one of our club members are in need of help, we can take action in what ever way seems best. With 20+ members and associate members, the station would need about 3-5 groups to start with so that each list would consist of

no more than 6 names. By limiting the number of names, each care group leader would be able to have a relatively small group of members to call and thus have more time to devote to the concerns or needs of each member of the list. It seems logical that each groups would consist of a care group leader and members who all attend the same meeting and that family members living at the same address would be grouped together as one entry on the list. This would involve the care group leader calling the members of their group at least once a month ordinarily. The XO of their ship or CO of the station could request the care group leader to call the Members of the care group in case of a change in plans or an unannounced meeting or social. Care Group leaders would be expected to keep confidential all information shared with them that is not authorized by the member to be released to station as a whole and only share information of a member's need with the XO of the ship who will submit to the station a proposal (keeping the member's identity secret if requested by that member) to help. The actual function and procedures would of course be decided on by the

continued on page 9

station. However, the Medical Department feels that keeping confidential things that should be kept confidential will aid the care group in it's purpose which would be to show each member that the station cares about them and that the station is willing to help each member in what ever way is possible.



One of the greatest mottos of Starfleet International (and Star Trek in general) is "Let me help," and the

Medical Department feels that by starting Care Groups in the Station we can put that motto into practice.

Submitted for your consideration,
Lt Monty Strickland
Chattahoochee Station Medical ★

ZIGGY



Greetings from Vulkan central!



There have been some changes in our upcoming show schedules that I would like to share with you.

First, (if you have not made the time to visit our website), we have added two NASA astronauts to our Orlando show on April 16-18, 1999. They are Charles Duke, who walked on the Moon on Apollo 16 in April of 1972, and Richard Gordon, who piloted the Gemini 11 mission and was the command module pilot on Apollo 12, and orbited the Moon on November of 1969. We are extremely excited to have REAL astronauts at Vulkan and will try to bring others to future shows! The astronauts are coming as "Bonus" guests and are not compensated for their appearance, they sell Photos of themselves in order to cover their expenses. They will be charging \$20 for an autographed photo. Your support is important to them, but you are in no way obligated to purchase anything from them. (*But I personally feel that this is an occasion that calls for breaking open that "piggy bank" to obtain a wonderful memento from two national heroes!)

Second, we have also added Arne Starr to our Orlando line-up. Arne is a well known artist and DC Comics Inker for the original Star Trek comic book series. He always has great artwork for sale and will host our

continued on page 10

"Hollywood Sneak Previews" which is a great chance to preview upcoming movie releases and get some neat behind the scenes information. Arne is also an expert on Babylon 5 and can tell you all you ever wanted to know about Babylon 5!

Third, we have invited Alice Krige (yes the Borg Queen herself!), to our Orlando show on November 12-14, 1999. Join us for this not to be missed appearance. She promises to "Assimilate" all of us (and as charming and beautiful as she is, she can assimilate me anytime!). We have also invited a star from "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (sorry I cannot disclose whom it is yet, we are still in negotiations with the agent) I will update you when we know for sure. In the meantime you'll just have to suffer!

That's about it for now. Please forward this letter to any of your friends who are not on our mailing list.

Until next time, Live Long and Prosper.
Fernando and Joe/Vulkon Entertainment ♡

Star Trek Continuum News *submitted by Mike Henigan*

Here is the latest news that we gathered from the Star Trek Continuum Web Site. Our thanks to them for sharing this information!



Gene Roddenberry Honored by Easter Seals Foundation

Even years after his death, Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry continues to be honored by charities and organizations from across the spectrum -- including a recent award from the Easter Seals Foundation to be telecast nationwide. Come March 27, fans should look for the gala special "Hollywood Salutes Easter Seals" in their local TV markets for a glimpse of the honor, the Easter Seals Hollywood Lifetime Achievement Award, and its presentation to GR's widow, Majel Barrett Roddenberry. On hand to present the award were three of Star Trek's best known: James Doohan ("Scotty," Star Trek), Jeri Ryan ("Seven of Nine," ST:VOY), and Avery Brooks ("Captain Sisko," ST:DS9.)

Colm Meaney Returns to New York Stage

Wasting no time after the wrap of filming his series, Colm Meaney ("O'Brien" on ST:DS9) opens the New York premiere of The Cider House Rules, Part I: Here in St. Cloud's at the Atlantic Theater Company on May 6. Previews begin April 17. Spanning decades and generations in rural Maine, the play looks into the world of Dr. Wilbur Larch, a kindly orphanage director and physician, and his beloved protegee, Homer Wells. Adapted by Peter Parnell from John Irving's best-selling novel, the play is conceived and directed by Tom Hulce and Jane Jones and ranges on topics from reproductive choice to family and parenthood. Playing Dr. Larch, Meaney joins Josh Hamilton and Jillian Armenante, who reprise their acclaimed roles as Homer Wells and his fellow orphan Melony from the Mark Taper production this past summer in Los Angeles. Meaney was nominated for a Golden Globe Award as Best Actor for the film The Snapper. He also co-starred in the films The Road to

continued on page 11

Wellville, *The Last of the Mohicans*, *The Commitments* and *Far and Away*. He returns to the New York stage having appeared on Broadway in *Breaking the Code*. A native of Dublin, he was a member of the Irish National Theatre. Performances of *The Cider House Rules, Part I: Here in St. Cloud's* are Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m. -- with the exception that Sunday, April 18's performance is 3 p.m., not 7 p.m. For tickets, call Tele-Charge at (212) 239-6200. Single tickets are \$39 for weekday evenings and weekend matinees, and \$45 for Friday and Saturday evenings

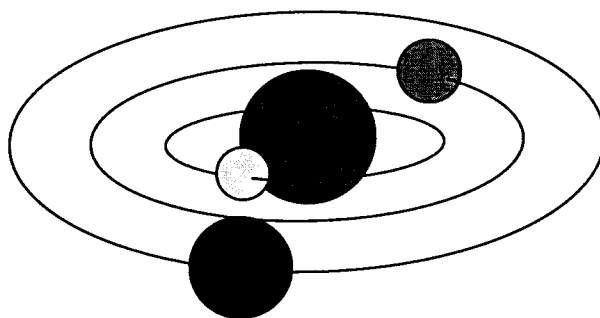
The Latest Star Trek: The Next Generation Video Episodes

Fans of the video series of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episodes come one step closer to finishing off the collection, thanks to the release of six more final-season episodes from Paramount Home Video April 6. Each comes with a special, all-new package design at the collectible price of \$14.95 (suggested retail) in both the U.S. and Canada. The cast, of course, features Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, LeVar Burton, Michael Dorn, Gates McFadden, Marina Sirtis and Brent Spiner. Episodes 165-170 include *Homeward*, *Sub Rosa*, *Lower Decks*, *Thine Own Self*, *Masks and Eye of the Beholder*. For more about the full line of *Star Trek* videos available, check out the PHV website at www.paramount.com/homevideo.

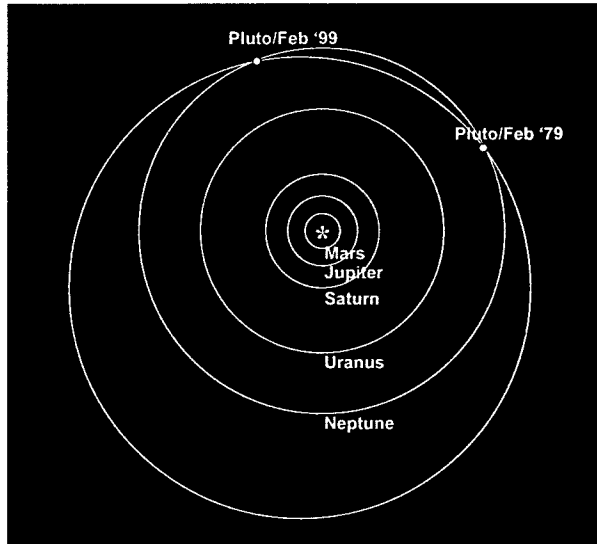
Hot News of Latest Star Trek Merchandise Items

In 1999, Target, Wal-Mart, and Toys-R-Us stores become a destination for Playmates' popular line of *Star Trek* toys. Numerous store exclusives will be offered throughout 1999, beginning with two 4.5" action figures

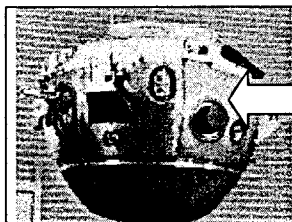
of "Captain Jean-Luc Picard" and "Lt. Commander Worf" in their movie uniforms. Also arriving on shelves this week are two 9" exclusive figures, "Seven of Nine" in her brown uniform and "Captain James Kirk" in the environmental suit as seen in the episode, "The Tholian Web". Even more exciting are the first wave of 1999 12", fully poseable deluxe action figures. The first items are "Captain Kathryn Janeway" from *Star Trek: Voyager*, "Lt. Geordi LaForge" as seen in *Star Trek: Insurrection*, "Mr. Spock" in original series uniform, his right hand posed in the Vulcan "Live Long and Prosper" salute from *Star Trek*, and "Andorian Ambassador Shras" from the *Star Trek* episode "Journey to Babel". Also coming soon is one of the most unique *Star Trek* model kits of all time: the lighted U.S.S. Yamaguchi. The Yamaguchi has appeared on both *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* and is a refit of the Enterprise-C, the Ambassador-class ship. What makes this kit exceptional is that it is the first spaceship kit ever molded completely in clear styrene. This will allow for complete customization in terms of how many lights are used and where they are located on the completed kit. The Yamaguchi should be in stores in April. ★



Keeping An Eye on the Universe



The "Discover" column in the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* for Sunday, February 21, 1999, carried a short feature titled "Celestial Crisscross." The article noted that the planet Pluto, with an extremely eccentric orbit that occasionally crosses the orbit of Neptune, has now reclaimed its position as the outermost planet of our solar system. Pluto had been inside Neptune's orbit for the last 20 years, since February 1979. For the next 228 years – until Pluto again "crisscrosses" Neptune's orbit – it will remain the farthest known planet from the sun.

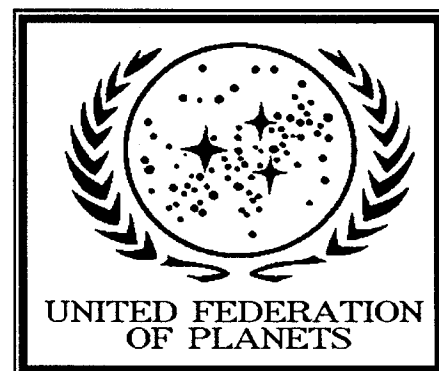


**Your
Name
Here!**

An article in the "Sunday Reader" section of the

Atlanta Journal and Constitution for Sunday, February 21, 1999, was titled "Name That Probe." In the place of forbiddingly acronymic names, NASA is now inviting the public to provide names for its deep space exploratory vehicles. The article

states: "The trend started with the Sojourner rover, which trundled across the surface of Mars with a historical name chosen by a 12-year-old Connecticut girl; her suggested name evoked abolitionist Sojourner Truth, with the connotation of 'a search for truth.'" Alan Bunner, director of NASA's Structure and Evolution of the Universe program, hit upon the need to involve the public in NASA's missions. Contests to "name that probe" kindle enthusiasm and a sense of connection with investigating the vast reaches of space. "So Bunner thought that a contest to rename the clunky-sounding AXAF – the Advanced X-Ray Astrophysics Facility – would be popular, and it was. 'The response was pretty amazing,' he said, generating more than 6,000 essays from around the world, including 500 from Tehran." The eventual name selected was the "Chandra X-Ray" probe, named after Indian astrophysicist Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar. The probe will be launched July 9, 1999 from a space shuttle. The article notes that entries are now being accepted to name two basketball-sized Mars probes to be launched from the Mars Polar Lander. To submit a suggestion, write an essay of 100 words or less choosing the names of people from history, mythology, or fiction, or places or things appropriately associated with Mars. Send your entries to Deep Space 2 Naming Contest, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Mail Stop 301-325, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109-8099. ★



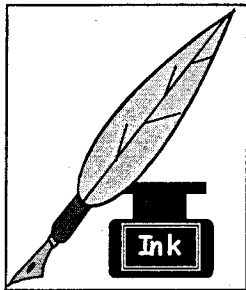


You know what to do: identify the movie and the speaker. Good luck!

- "I believe I speak for everyone here, sir when I say to hell with our orders!"
- "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few, or the one."
- "How can you have a yellow alert in Spacedock?"
- "Believing oneself to be perfect is often the sign of a delusional mind!"
- "Cry havoc and let slip the hounds of war!"
- "The more they overthink the plumbing, the easier it is to stop up the drain."
- "As I recall, I opposed your enlistment in Starfleet. It is possible that judgement was incorrect."
- "Assimilate this!"
- "God! I liked him better before he died!"
- "I'd give real money if he'd shut up!"
- "I don't need to be lectured by you. I was out saving the galaxy when your grandfather was in diapers!"
- "I have been, and always shall be, your friend. Live long and prosper."
- "I am a doctor, not a doorstop!"
- "Revenge is a dish best served cold."
- "You people, you're all astronauts, on some kind of star trek?"
- "Everybody remember where we parked!"
- "I've always known that I'll die alone."
- "The reports of my assimilation have been greatly exaggerated." ♣



Ravings From the Editor . . .



See No Evil

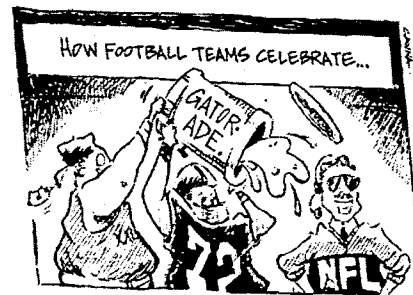
Like many people, I watched the recent TV miniseries "Storm of the Century" by Stephen King. I had some concerns about

the consistency of the show — Was this guy a genuine demon or some kind of sorcerer? The abduction scene with what looked like an evil magician in mystical robes with an enchanted staff rising into the night sky toward the moon cradling a child was gripping and horrifying, but everything else was a crashing bore. (I got so tired of him flashing his fangs every ten minutes.) At any rate, my point is that, as a *bona fide* ST fan, my perception of the universe doesn't really include this kind of supernatural evil. It makes dynamite television, certainly, and just like a carnival funhouse, we all love being chilled and frightened occasionally, but as the heirs of Gene Roddenberry's bright and humanistic vision of the future, do we Trekkers really believe in brooding, festering ancient evil? In all of ST, there are many, many references to the evil that comes from within men or which arises from the results of men's actions, but there are very few references to the kind of occult evil or supernatural horror for which writers like Stephen King or Dean Koontz are famous. The Classic episode "A Wolf in the Fold," which posits the existence of the immortal spirit of Jack the Ripper, is an obvious exception to this statement. Far more common are episodes which deal with the almost inhuman cruelty of which mere men are capable, even in the ST universe. Episodes like "Conscience of the King,"

which revolves around exposing the mass murderer Kodos, and the recent Voyager episode "Nothing Human" (discussed in this column in the November/December 1998 issue) in which the Doctor must deal with the heinous medical "research" of a Cardassian physician are far more typical of what constitutes "evil." It seems that in Roddenberry's concept of the universe, evil is merely the result of bad actions by bad men plagued by their own "inner demons"; evil as a supernatural concept does not exist. Therefore, men have the ability — and the responsibility — for correcting their own actions and undoing the evil they have caused. This is true redemption, not just the vanquishing of a terrifying demon from some nonexistent netherworld. ★



WARPED



HOW NASA TEAMS CELEBRATE...



Cybernetics: Are We the Borg?

"A cyborg is a science fiction chimera from the 1950s and after; but a cyborg is also a powerful social and scientific reality in the same historical period. Like any important technology, a cyborg is simultaneously a myth and a tool, a representation and an instrument, a frozen moment and a motor of social and imaginative reality. The cyborg is the figure born of the interface of automaton and autonomy." (Donna Haraway. "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century," London: Free Associations, 1991)



This mouthful of prose aptly expresses the ambivalence many thinkers and scientists have toward computer-enhanced flesh-and-blood organisms. The philosophical and social dilemma is where to draw the line between a mechanism which still encapsulates an essential humanity—a "bionic" entity (to employ the phraseology of a sci-fi TV series popular some years ago, or a "robocop"), an entity which still utilizes a self-aware human consciousness to motivate itself, or the ultimate machine intelligence which uses flesh-and-blood components as no more than spare parts as extensions of itself.

From Homo Sapiens to Homo Cyberneticus:

The Future of Our Evolution (from an essay by Daniel Bernardi, professor of film, television, and cultural studies in the Department of Film and Television, UCLA)

Homo Sapiens Moves Closer to a Cybernetic Experience. As microprocessors become smaller and more powerful, and as the medical profession finds more ways to augment the human body with prosthetics, we Homo Sapiens move closer to a cybernetic existence. Indeed, humanity is about to become one with machine, ushering in a new phase in our evolution: post-human embodiment, or Homo Cyberneticus. "I think, therefore I am a cybernetic organism."

This is not just the stuff of science fiction. The idea for cybernetic organisms emerged in the 1960s when NASA scientists, Manfred Clynes and Nathan Kline, suggested that altering the human body with machines would be an advantage for space travel. It was Kline who coined the term "cyborg," an abbreviated form of "cybernetic organism." The idea and the term were later picked up by science fiction writers. [This happened again in the early 1980s when SF punk writer William Gibson used "cyberspace" for the first time; a concept was born and has been picked up by scientists and writers worldwide.]

A cyborg-reality is closer than you might think. Many of today's scientists, not to mention budding capitalists, are diligently working to "make the blind see and the lame walk." Some companies are developing retinal implants. Others are working on neural stimulators. And still others are working on hard-wired prosthetics. As Jeffrey H. Greiner, president of Advanced Bionics, told the Los Angeles Times: "In the next five years, we are going to move all across the body." For science and industry, the goal is to raise the quality of life for all those who are in need.

What Will a Cybernetic Future Look Like? But before we get carried away, let us not forget the lessons of Star Trek's Delta Quadrant. In this faraway space-time, one of the most menacing forces is the Borg. The Borg are comprised of numerous humanoid species who are as much living tissue as machine. Possessing a collective or hive-like consciousness, their only goal is to "assimilate" other humanoids into their mechanistic way of existence. To them, the cyborg way is the best way—and individuality is utterly foreign. According to Locutus of Borg, they also "wish to raise quality of life for all species."

Are we destined to the gloom and doom of the Borg's space-time? What will a cybernetic future look like? Will it be grotesque, with a lot of Frankensteins walking around like crazed beasts? Will it be more rigid and mechanical, where human bodies are more machine than biology? And who will control who gets the cybernetic implants and who doesn't? Will it be the government? Will it be the scientist and capitalists?

SECURITY



by Captain Tonya Spanks

(addendum to Capt. Tonya's original report)

Region Two Summit

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend this year's Summit. I will keep my report short as I know that Mike, Kelly, and possibly Leon will comment on the same. The hotel was gorgeous!! Jackson Mississippi is a small town but the hotel and their staff (The Crown Plaza) were wonderful. Opening ceremonies was a hoot as this strange Tennessean took the podium and entertained the room. The Pie Toss was canceled. Fred Haise, an Apollo astronaut, is a very personable

individual. Mike and Kelly may say the high point of the conference was at the awards ceremony when I was promoted to Captain, but my high point was getting Mr. Haise's autograph. By the way, note to the editor, we were the recipients of the Newsletter of the Year Award!! Congratulations Edmund :-)



By Vice Admiral Mike Henigan

April 17-18, 1999 Vulkan Orlando
Orlando Hilton North Guests: Nicole deBoer and Jeff Conaway
Daily Admission is \$20 Phone: 954-441-TREK
email: joemotes@aol.com
Website: <http://www.vulkan.com/upcoming.htm>

April 17 - 18, 1999 Dinner With The Stars / Star Trek Federation Science Exhibit
The South Carolina State Museum, 301 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC 29202,
Daily Tickets : \$25 Seating Limited to 240 Seats!!!

For information and tickets: (913) 327 - TREK (8735) For Directions only: (803) 898 - 4921 Guests: George Takei, Inge Heyer (NASA) AND admission to the Star Trek Federation Science Exhibit
Saturday night Dinner with Mr. Takei...ONLY 100 seats Tickets \$35

Explore "Strange New Worlds" at the Star Trek Federation Science exhibit at the State Museum in Columbia, SC. The national touring exhibit based on Paramount Pictures' TV series STAR TREK will be on display until May 2, giving visitors an opportunity to "boldly go where no one has gone before."

*Admission to this special exhibit is included in your convention ticket price.

Get more info at WWW:<http://www.sfedora.com/newpage1.htm>

May 16-23, 1999 Seatrek'99

Miami to Mexico, Grand Cayman & Jamaica

Carnival Cruise Ship Destiny

Guests: Tim Russ, Jerry Doyle, William Campbell, Majel Barrett, Max Grodenchik, Aron Eisenberg, Chase Masterson, Robin Curtis, Eric Menyuk, Jeff Conaway

Phone: 800-326-TREK

Email: CPaigeTvl@aol.com

May 28-31, 1999 Tachy10Con

Orlando Renaissance Airport Hotel, 5445 Forbes Place, Orlando, FL

75 tbs, \$95/85, A-\$15-50, Friday-Monday, 1 pm Friday til 7pm Monday

Guests: Walter Koenig, Julie Newmar, David Prowse, Margaret Weis, Don Perrin, Peter Telep & more to be announced.

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Contact: Lori Brown
Call: 407-628-1454, Fax: 407-678-6962

July 1-4, 1999 Dragon*Con

Hyatt Hotel, Atlanta

Guests Include: Anthony Daniels, Peter Jurasik, Mira Furlan, Richard Biggs, Julie Caitlin Brown, Kevin J Anderson, Ann C Crispin, Frank Gorshin, Adam West, George Perez, Wortham Krimmer, Maggie Egan, Richard Hatch, Ronin Atkin Downes, Bill Dee Williams, David Prowse, and Kenny Baker.

Tickets: \$45 through April 15th, \$50 through May 15th, and \$60 at the door.

Contact: Dragon*Con PO BOX 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0696

Website: <http://www.dragoncon.org>

July 9-11, 1999 Shore Leave 21

Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD 21203

Telephone: 410-785-7000

To make your hotel reservations: please call the above number (not the 800 number). Be sure to mention Shore Leave for the special room rate of \$92.00 plus 13% tax per night. The reservation cut-off date for the convention rate at Hunt Valley Inn is June 11, 1999.

Guests: Tim Russ (Tuvok), Alyson Hannigan ("Buffy:TVS"), Eric Pierpoint ("Alien Nation"), Barbara March (Lursa), Gary Lockwood (Gary Mitchell TOS)

Deadline for preregistration is: May 31, 1999

Thereafter, registration (limited to 1500) will be available at a higher price.

Pre-registration costs: Adults: \$45, Children (5-12): \$12, Children (under 5): Free with paying adult

At the Door Costs: Weekend: \$50, Friday Only: \$15, Saturday Only: \$30 (includes Masquerade and Ten-Forward), Saturday Evening Only: \$10 - For admission to Masquerade (viewing attendance) and Ten-Forward only. To participate in the Masquerade you must have at least a full Saturday membership.

Sunday Only: \$25, Children (5-12): \$12, Children (under 5): Free with paying adult

Supporting Membership: \$10

Supporting Membership receives a copy of the Shore Leave 21 Program Book and a Shore Leave 21 Membership Badge

More Info?

Mail: Shore Leave 21, P.O. Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809

Phone: (410) 496-4456

WWW: www.shoreleave21.com

WWW: Shore Leave 21 Home Page

July 24-25, 1999 Vulkan Saint Petersburg

Saint Petersburg Bayfront Hilton

Guests: James Darren and Peter Jurasik

Daily Admission is \$20

Phone: 954-441-TREK

email: joemotes@aol.com

Website: <http://www.vulkan.com/upcoming.htm>

November 13-14, 1999 Vulkan Orlando

Orlando Hilton North

Guests: Andreas Katsulas, others TBA

Daily Admission is \$20

Phone: 954-441-TREK

email: joemotes@aol.com

Website: <http://www.vulkan.com/upcoming.htm>