

THE WRIGHT STUFF

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S.S. KITTY HAWK NCC 1659

A VIEW FROM THE CATBIRD SEAT

By J.R. Fisher

GREETINGS!! Happy Birthday America! Every year at this time, I get my spirit renewed when we celebrate the birth of our nation. Why? Because, when you look at all that our country and its people have been through, it is amazing that it has survived at all. When you look at all the other countries in the world and what they go through and **don't** always survive, it makes me thankful. As much as we complain about what is wrong with our country, it **is** so much better and more than what other countries are, it gives me pause as to the reason to complain. But, there is always room for improvement and that is the reason. We can be bigger, better, stronger, fairer, and we will, as long as someone can see the dream and is willing to step forward and say so.

So it is with a starship. The U.S.S. Kitty Hawk is only a shell without its crew. Without the crew it does not function. So, yes, I am excited about our country's birthday because it gives me hope and energy to drive the Kitty Hawk and make it make a difference! You make the difference! **You** are made of **STAR STUFF!**

We have reached another crossroads in our journey (read trek). We can continue to move along at a snail's pace and let the politics of fleet and the world toss about on a sea of indecision, or we can take control of our destiny and steer a course that will bring credit to our ship and ourselves (what is he talking about?)

First, we need to decide what community projects (both long term and short term) we are going to undertake and support. By support, I mean support. Once a year efforts at the PBS Telethon or the Duke Telethon are **nice** and only take that one time commitment. We need to

make personal decisions that we are going to contribute to the quality of life in this community and determine that we will donate a specific amount of time on a regular basis. Some of us do this on a personal basis already. Now we need to do this as a club, a ship. By pooling our efforts we can accomplish more and we can focus the attention of the community on the cause we are helping.

We need for each member to give serious thought to this project and to voice those thoughts to the rest of the crew. If does not serve the crew well for only one or two people to speak their minds; everyone needs to get on board on this project and make it work. We know from past experience that when the entire crew is involved we can have fun and accomplish anything we choose to do.

Second, we need to refocus our attention to our stated original goals; which was to bring fandom what it wants in this area. We have had too many failed efforts and half-baked efforts to bring STAR TREK and science fiction fans in this area a quality convention with all that such a show entails. Last weekend, many of our crew attended various conventions in a four state area and came away with many different impressions. In my discussions with the attending crewpersons, I have had nearly all of my convictions about cons reconfirmed.

We will see several more conventions come close to our area, but not in it, in the coming months. We should attend them and learn all that we can about them and from them.

Over the next few months, I will meet with the department heads and any interested parties on or off the ship, to form a committee to plan a concerted effort by this organization to bring a convention to Raleigh with both stars we want to see and

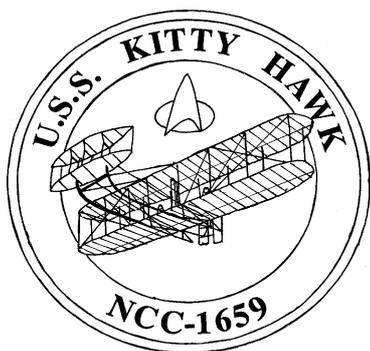
support personalities that the public will enjoy and support.

We will most likely have to approach someone who is already doing conventions for at least the first one or two times. We will have to establish a base of working personnel and contact people. We will have to learn how to do certain jobs and match people to those jobs. This will require real dedication on the part of everyone! The goal and the job will have to come first if we are going to succeed; and we will.

Look at all the successful cons we do attend. They all started the same way: not with Daddy-warbucks throwing a wad of money at some people and saying he wanted a convention; but with a group of fans like us who have a common dream, who are really willing to work to see that dream come true. They do a small one day convention that draws a few hundred people and they see what went right and what went wrong. Then they do another one, a little larger and a little better. They grew. And somewhere down the line they are a huge convention, drawing people from hundreds of miles away because it is a good con for the fans.

We have analyzed it to death. The only way to ever have the convention that we want in Raleigh is to do it ourselves. And we will have to crawl before we walk and before we run. We know what not to do, but we will have to make mistakes anyway because that is the best teacher, and the lessons learned early are the ones that will serve us best.

Happy birthday, happy Independence Day. It has been a long time coming. Let's celebrate and eat and party. Come September it is time for us to roll up our sleeves and show everyone that the crew of Kitty Hawk **"is" The Wright Stuff.**



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VOLUME 9

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FIRST OFFICER'S LOG

By Carey Muse

Nothing really to report on. Summer is here and that means a lot of vacations and traveling. Hope you will all have a safe summer as you go out and travel. While we have no conventions in the Raleigh area, as I write this it is early June, and we do have three conventions scheduled for the same week end along different areas of the east coast. There is one in High Point, one in Maryland and one in West Virginia. If you can and want to, please make plans to attend one of these conventions because it will probably be the closest convention near us. There are also comics conventions, there is one scheduled for Charlotte in July (this is always a big convention and heavily attended) but there is nothing of a science fiction nature scheduled after the High Point show.

I would like to thank everyone who helped in some form for the Duke Children's Telethon this year.

Again, I hope everyone will have a good and safe summer.

SCIENCE REPORT

By Elaine Pischke

The Chief Science Officer and the Chief of Operations recently led an away team to Atlantic Beach for a week of much needed R&R. However, younger crew persons along for the trip pretty much prevented that from happening by running amok and causing general chaos. So we did some surveying and recognizance instead. If you have never been to the North Carolina Aquarium in Pine Knoll Shores, it's an inexpensive way to pass an hour or so. The kids loved it. It's a small but growing exhibit. And it's air conditioned. Sorry we missed the telethon/radiothon. This was the only time we could get to the beach this summer. Here's a bit of trivia for you - did you know that DeForest Kelly has a part in the new Disney direct-to-video release **The Brave Little Toaster Goes to Mars**? He plays the voice of Viking I. Have a happy summer, everybody.

ENGINEERING REPORT

By Brad McDonald

Time passes so quickly! It seems only yesterday I related the woes of James Cameron and the Titanic film project. Now, with Cameron having the last laugh, its release on video is close at hand. Rather strange considering it's still in the top ten money makers in theaters. In any event, the film will be available in either widescreen or standard pan and scan. But wait, Cameron announced that he will personally supervise the special edition which will reinstate missing footage and return the running time to about four hours.

While I'm talking about movies, Twentieth Century Fox (I wonder if they will change their name in two years?) is in the process of re-releasing some of its classical films in widescreen versions and with restored soundtracks. The first group included several classic war films, but watch for some sci-fi favorites. Also, M G M is re-releasing a new group of soundtracks on CD. Again, the first group was a mix of westerns, musicals and such, but keep an eye out for such greats as 2001: A Space Odyssey,

Forbidden Planet, Logan's Run and others.

Construction on my house has slowed considerably due to the long hours spent at Kanki. My boss owns it and I have been up to my eyeballs in drawings, planning, flooring installations, materials procurement and on and on. Hopefully, the Kanki project will eventually reach an end so I can finish the house. Perhaps I'll even get done in time for the next Halloween. (By the way, once the new Kanki is open, take a look. It's going to have a 1000 gallon salt water aquarium, complete with a coral reef! The interior is really special and the new Kanki will have a mall entrance. Take special note of the outstanding tile, marble and granite work!)

On the Star Trek front, the next film has started production! This one is supposed to be lighter, similar to IV. After the last two darker ones, it will be a welcomed relief! The IMAX production is also under way but progressing much slower. Deep Space Nine has one year left and I suppose everyone knows Dax is scheduled to die in this weeks

episode. Voyager is still plugging along, ratings have increased since the introduction of Seven. While I am on the subject of Voyager, the book A Vision of the Future: Star Trek Voyager, is pretty good. It gives a real inside look at the current production process and incorporates a look at the selection of actors and designs of ships, shuttles and so on.

Sliders is back on TV on the Sci-Fi channel. So far so good. The show has a new look and new direction. I'll take a wait and see attitude, but it looks as if they are really trying hard to make it work.

Last note, I plan to attend the convention in Winston-Salem during the last weekend of this month. This convention will feature one of the script supervisors from Star Trek. There will be a how to write session and Janet Nemecheck will have release forms in case you have a script ready for submission! Writing session will have a small fee of which most will go to charity. If anyone is interested, give JR or myself a call, maybe we can car pool!

See you later; live long and prosper!

MY LIFE AS A PA STUDENT

By Margaret A. Hale

I left the Old North State for the Pacific Northwest last summer, having been accepted by MEDEX Northwest for Physician Assistant training. I had wanted to be a PA for a long time, and was thrilled to be accepted as the lone southerner for the Yakima, Washington satellite. I had never laid eyes on Yakima in my life, and had no idea what to expect. Some people told me it was a desert; others said that was bull, it's all green hills and orchards. The truth, it seems, is both. Yakima is a lush, flowering valley due to constant irrigation, surrounded by sagebrush-dotted hills that could have come from a Remington painting. One windy day, a tumbleweed blew across Yakima Avenue.

As for PA school: it's been wonderful, the best ten months of my life, so far. And it's going by so fast! During our first quarter, we concentrated on Basic Clinical Skills (BCS), learning a different physical exam each week. We got a wide and shallow introduction to pathology and anatomy, which was frustrating because we knew there was more to learn about these subjects. But our instructors kept saying, "You'll learn all that in Adult Medicine next quarter." And they were right. The seemingly unconnected facts we learned in the first quarter all started coming together in the Winter and Spring quarters. While we do not know everything, I am amazed at how much we have all

learned. Most amazing of all is the shift in our thought processes: after nearly three quarters, we are thinking like clinicians instead of like nurses, hospital corpsmen, or medical technicians.

We will all be going on summer vacation after this quarter ends. When we return for the Fall Quarter in September, a new class will be starting their didactic year while we begin our clinical year. We will spend six months working at a clinic with a preceptor, then spend another six months doing rotating clerkships around the country. We will graduate August 5, 1999. I am looking forward to sharing that day with my family and friends.

When I get my first job as a PA, I won't really be done with school: I will just be entering a new phase of learning. They tell us a MEDEX that if you can do a good physical exam, and you're willing to be a lifelong learner, you'll be a good PA.

SECURITY REPORT

By Spring Brooks

As acting Security Chief, I felt that the USS Kitty Hawk should have one more link to the rest of the world. Like a computer link. There have been several offers to put up a website by several people including myself. I brought up the idea again at our last meeting. Jeff Cohn said he had one ready to go and in fact had a handout of the site.

A temporary website has been put up at <http://home.att.net/~Jeffcohn/kittyhawk/>. It looks good, but is still under construction. At least there is now a link from Starfleet to the USS Kitty Hawk. If you have any comments, e-mail Jeffcohn@worldnet.att.net.

Also in the area of security, some of the crew got together for Lazertag. Namely, our Captain, Bill and myself. The Captain and I were severely outgunned, outmaneuvered, outwitted...anyway we lost...several times. As usual, Bill was humble in victory. I suggested blindfolding Bill, but the management was afraid he would run into walls.

OPERATION'S REPORT

By Larry Pischke

Welcome to the heat of summer. It's hot and humid, and the rain doesn't do anything but make it worse. Look at the bright side; it has just started. Purgatorial, isn't it?

I've missed the past couple of meetings for a variety of reasons, from work to golf. I trust everything has been going well without me. We haven't blown up yet, at least. This is a good sign. Does this show that I have trained my people really well, or that I am just really unnecessary?

Don't answer that; I don't want to know.

For any of you who really care, there have been a couple of models released in conjunction with the movie "Lost in Space." Both the Jupiter 2 from the television series and the Robot from the movie are available. Unfortunately, I don't have any of the vital information about these two kits with me now. I guess I'll have to do another article for the next newsletter. Yippee.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July	4:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.	Oct.	3:	NC
	5:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.		4:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	2-5:	Star Fleet International		9-11:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	10-12:	Conference: Lubbox, TX		24:	Rising Star Con 7: Salem, VA
		Toronto Trek: Toronto, Canada		31:	U.S.S. N.C. Wilmington, NC
	25-26:	Nova Con 8: McLean, VA	Nov.	7:	Halloween Party
August	:	NO KITTY HAWK MEETING/DEPT. ONLY		8:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	5-9:	WorldCon: Baltimore, MD		6-8:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
		B-5 Con: England	Dec.	5:	Sci-Con 19: VA Beach, VA
Sept.	5:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.		6:	Kitty Hawk Meeting 4 p.m.
	6:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.		17:	Laser Tag 5 p.m.
	3-6:	Dragon Con: Atlanta, GA		31:	Anniversary Party
	12:	Maritime Museum: Beaufort,			1st Night Raleigh

U.S.S. KITTY HAWK IS ONLINE

By Jeff Cohn

The Kitty Hawk now has her own web site. Its purpose is to provide a central location where members and non-members can obtain information on the ship, group activities, and areas of common interest. Log onto:

<http://home.att.net/~Jeffcohn/kittyhkw/kittyhkw.htm> for an early look. The site is divided into 4 main sections. Who we are: History, organization, mission; Schedule of Activities; Ship news and current events; Links to relevant areas such as Sci-fi, technology, history, community service activities, things to do in the area, etc.; and Fan Fiction.

You'll notice that the site is essentially a framework at present. Many pages are blank or absent. This will change over time; however to expedite the process we will need your help. Specifically, our needs are as follows:

1.As each department will have its own page, department heads should think about content and appearance. It might be a good excuse for departments to have their own meeting.

2.A volunteer is needed to coordinate a "collector's page". This would include announcements about upcoming items (possibly w/ photos?), items for trace/sale, etc.

3.A volunteer is needed for a "Fan Fiction Page", to contribute his/her stories, and solicit contributions from others.

4.A volunteer is needed to search for upcoming conventions, so links to those sites can be added as needed.

5.Anyone who would like their Email address included on a Contact page should send in their address. Note that no personal info about members will be included other than an email address, and that only with permission.

Anyone who has gif files, ideas, links, stories, etc. that would be fun to include should send them to jeffcohn@worldnet.att.net

See you on the web!

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

By Carey Muse

This will be a very brief Corner this time.

There is really nothing of a collector's nature to report on. Paramount, around the first of June, released some more NEXT GENERATION episodes to video tape. They are available at your local video tape dealer such as Sun Coast, Best Buy, etc. One thing I want to report on, I found this out after I wrote my last column, even though it is June as I write this, we must look forward to Christmas and the annual Hallmark ornaments coming out. This year there will be two STAR TREK ornaments: one is of Captain Janeway and the ship this year is Enterprise 1701E. In Star Wars news there seems to be more Star Wars ornaments this year, there is going to be a set of miniature ornaments this year. This will be the Ewoks. There will be three Ewoks in the miniature set. In the larger ornaments they are going to do two figures this year: Boba Fett & Princess Leia (as she appeared in Star Wars). Also the ship they are doing for Star Wars this year is the X-Wing Fighter.

The NEXT GENERATION movie comes out in November, so we can expect to see some collectibles from that movie. Also, we are less than a year ago from the next Star Wars movies, so we can look for some collectibles coming from that as well.

of further heat exposure.

Heat strokes represents loss of body temperature control. The increase in temperature can cause significant damage to the cells and organs. Professional help is required as soon as possible. Even with rapid, extensive treatment, the death rate is almost 80%.

The best way to treat any condition is to prevent it from occurring. This summer, be sure to drink plenty of fluids (especially before, during, and after exercise), and avoid overexposure to the heat. Try to plan exercise and outdoor activities in the early morning or evening hours when it is cooler.

To help avoid heat exposure, all holodeck programs have a preset atmospheric upper limit of 21°C. But remember, you are on you own when on leave.

Be safe, be healthy, and be happy.



MEDICAL REPORT

By Amy DeJongh

As summer approaches, we all need to be aware of problems that may arise due to excess heat exposure. Many factors may come into play to cause an array of disease states. Environmental risk factors include elevated ambient temperatures, high humidity, and a large radiant heat source (i.e. from streets and buildings). Individual risk factors are advanced age, heart disease, obesity, increased internal heat production due to fever or exercise, abnormalities of sweat glands or skin, dehydration, and drugs with drying effects (i.e. antihistamines).

Heat cramps are the mildest form of heat related illness. These cramps usually occur in the most frequently used muscles, although any may be involved. They occur most often in people who inadequately replace fluid loss. The cramps may occur during exercise or even a few restful hours afterwards. Treatment consists of drinking fluids and rest in a cool environment.

Heat exhaustion often develops over several days. Symptoms are general and may include any of the following: Headaches, giddiness, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, thirst, muscle cramps, irritability, and impaired judgement. Increased heart rate and fainting may also occur. Professional help is usually needed. Treatment consists of rest in a cool environment, fluid replacement (usually IV), correction of any salt imbalance, and avoidance

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