

THE WRIGHT STUFF



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THE WRIGHT STUFF

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Publisher J.R. Fisher
Editors Jane Fisher
John Troan



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Wright Flyer from NASA/Ames PAO photo archive; *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* (USN CV-63) from navicp.navy.mil; *Constitution* class cruiser from gwu.edu/~rljones/khawk.

IMAGE - Featured Front Page

Shuttle *Discovery* on Pad 39B after roll out from the Vehicle Assembly Building; photo from NASA/KSC.



A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher



Spring is rushing by at an alarming pace! Mother's Day is upon us and summer is just around the corner.

We are sending out this newsletter because of the "time sensitive" nature of our yard sale at the state fairgrounds on May 14th. Hopefully, everyone is saving items for this event and will show up that morning with said items to spend the day trying to sell same. If you do not know how to get to the fairgrounds, you can come to my house by 7:00 a.m. and follow us over there. Please have sunscreen and a hat, etc. and please pre-price your items in a manner to make change-making a minimum. You will need some change and we will pool the funds at the end of the day.

Obviously, we do not all need to be there all day, so everyone should expect to be able to wander off and

experience the other events at the fairgrounds during the course of the day. If you wish to bring your own food and drink in a small cooler, please do so; otherwise, there are a lot of food vendors out there.

Since no one has expressed an interest in going to Con-Carolina the first weekend in June, we will have our meeting that day at the Fisher home and it will be a cookout with us providing hot dogs and burgers and all of you bring appropriate side dishes, drinks, desserts, etc.

We have been contacted by UNC-TV to do another 30-day festival in June; if you wish to participate as a group, please let us know as soon as possible so we can schedule it with them.

We are up for some day trips in the next two months before it becomes too hot; so if you want to suggest a short day trip to something close by, send it to me or John Troan and let's get it on the schedule.

We mentioned earlier in the year the possibility of having a ship reunion in October when we celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of our commissioning. We are looking for a facility to use that could accommodate a large number of people as well as provide some activities (volleyball, swimming, etc.) If you have any ideas, please let me know.

We wish to remind each of you to stay current with your Starfleet membership and that if you have not paid your '05 Kitty Hawk dues of \$24.00, they are now due.

We hope to see everyone at the giant yard sale on the 14th (don't forget to bring a folding table) and remember that the proceeds will go to Raleigh Battered Women's Center. Until then, remember that you do have "The Wright Stuff" and you do make a difference.

Esse Quam Videri

Medical Report

By Amy DeJongh

May 14th – Yard Sale Information

Date and Time – May 14th, 9 am to 5 pm (time of sale – set up and clean up before and after)

Where – NC State Fairgrounds Flea Market

Why – All proceeds to benefit charity (I believe we decided on the Battered Women's Shelter)

What we need –

1. Tables for merchandise – if you have a table that we can use, please bring it to the fairgrounds between 6 and 7am on the day of the sale. Also, please send me an email (adejongh@nc.rr.com) so I know how many tables we will have.

2. Signs (who we are, what our charity is, etc.) – For all of you creative people out there, here's a job made just for you!

3. Stuff to Sell!!!!!! - We will begin setting up for the sale at 6 am on the 14th. All items must be there by 8 am at the latest.

All items must be marked with a price. If it is not marked, management (i.e. JR) has the authority to sell the item for any price. Also, please make note if the price of any item is not negotiable.

Our goal is to sell every item we have in order to make as much money for the Shelter as we can. If you would like any of your items back if they do not sell, then you must pick them up at 5 pm the day of the sale.

Anything left over will be donated to charity.

4. People to sell it! (And set up and clean up...) Please email me with your availability on the 14th and how long you are willing to work. I would like to have at least 3 people on hand at all times, and the more people we have means the less the rest have to work. We can also do a rotating schedule (for example - work for 2 hours, off for 1). We need people there as early as 6 am (so we can get a good spot) and as late as 5:30 or 6 pm (the faster we clean up, the faster we get out of there!)

PLEASE, PLEASE sign up as soon as possible. We need as many crewmembers as we can get to make this fundraiser successful.

Thanks!!!!

Security Report

By Spring Brooks

Producers Defend *Enterprise* End

Star Trek: Enterprise producers Brannon Braga and Rick Berman told SCI FI Wire that they understood the recent disparaging comments made by cast members about the final episode, but stood by their execution of the series finale. "You have to remember, under normal circumstances, most people probably would have thought this was a very cool episode, because it has a great concept driving it," Braga said in a conference call with reporters. "But when it's the final episode of a series, emotions are running very high."

The most vocal objection came from cast member Jolene Blalock, who plays T'Pol on the show. "I don't know where to begin with that one," she recently said of the finale. "The final episode is ... appalling."

The episode, titled "These Are the Voyages," features *Star Trek: The Next Generation* stars Jonathan Frakes and Marina Sirtis, who reprise their roles as Commander Riker and Deanna Troi. The pair will view the episode's historic events through a holodeck recreation. Berman said he thought that the opinions expressed by Blalock had to do with the episode's references to the previous *Trek* series. "The feeling was that if this was going to be the finale of *Enterprise*, then why bring characters in from another series?" he said. "But I think when people see the episode and realize that to be able to truly pay the respect to our characters that we have, we've couched it in a unique fashion of being able to look back on them, and I think it's going to be a very positive response towards the *Enterprise* crew."

Braga said that he was aware that the *Enterprise* cast had some minor issues with the story line, but there were no serious objections during the production. "There were a couple of people who were slightly uncomfortable with the fact that we have *Next Generation* characters in

the show, and it is a different kind of episode," he said. "But there were no serious complaints. And none of the actors have seen the episode, so they can't be dissatisfied with how it turned out." *Star Trek: Enterprise* ends its four-season run May 13 on UPN at 9 p.m. ET/PT.

DATA on a new show?

Brannon Braga confirmed to SCI FI Wire that his first post-*Star Trek: Enterprise* project will be *Threshold*, a genre pilot for CBS that centers on a possible alien invasion. Braga co-executive the script and is co-executive producing with David Goyer (*Blade: Trinity*), who is also directing. "It's all from the point of view of a woman who works at a think tank as a contingency analyst," Braga said in an interview while promoting the May 13 series finale of *Enterprise*. "Basically, it theorizes about what-ifs, and alien invasion is something that think tanks really do contemplate as thought experiments, but no one ever really thinks they might happen."

Braga added, "So it is told from her perspective and that of the team that she puts together to handle situation. And that team includes Charles S. Dutton [*Gothika*] and Brent Spiner [*Star Trek: The Next Generation*] and Peter Dinklage [*Eff*]. It also includes a guy named Rob Benedict [*Birds of Prey*] and a guy named Brian Van Holt [*House of Wax*]. It's a really excellent cast. And the woman is played by Carla Gugino [*Spy Kids*, *Sin City*]. That's the basic premise, but I don't want to reveal too much because I don't want to jinx it. It was a good concept, and I really liked David Goyer and David Heyman [*Harry Potter*], our other executive producer, and the other people involved. It's a one-hour pilot. It's been a great experience and I think it's turning out great. We'll find out in May if we've made the cut."

Comp Ops Report

By John Troan

First, here's the caption for the cover photo:

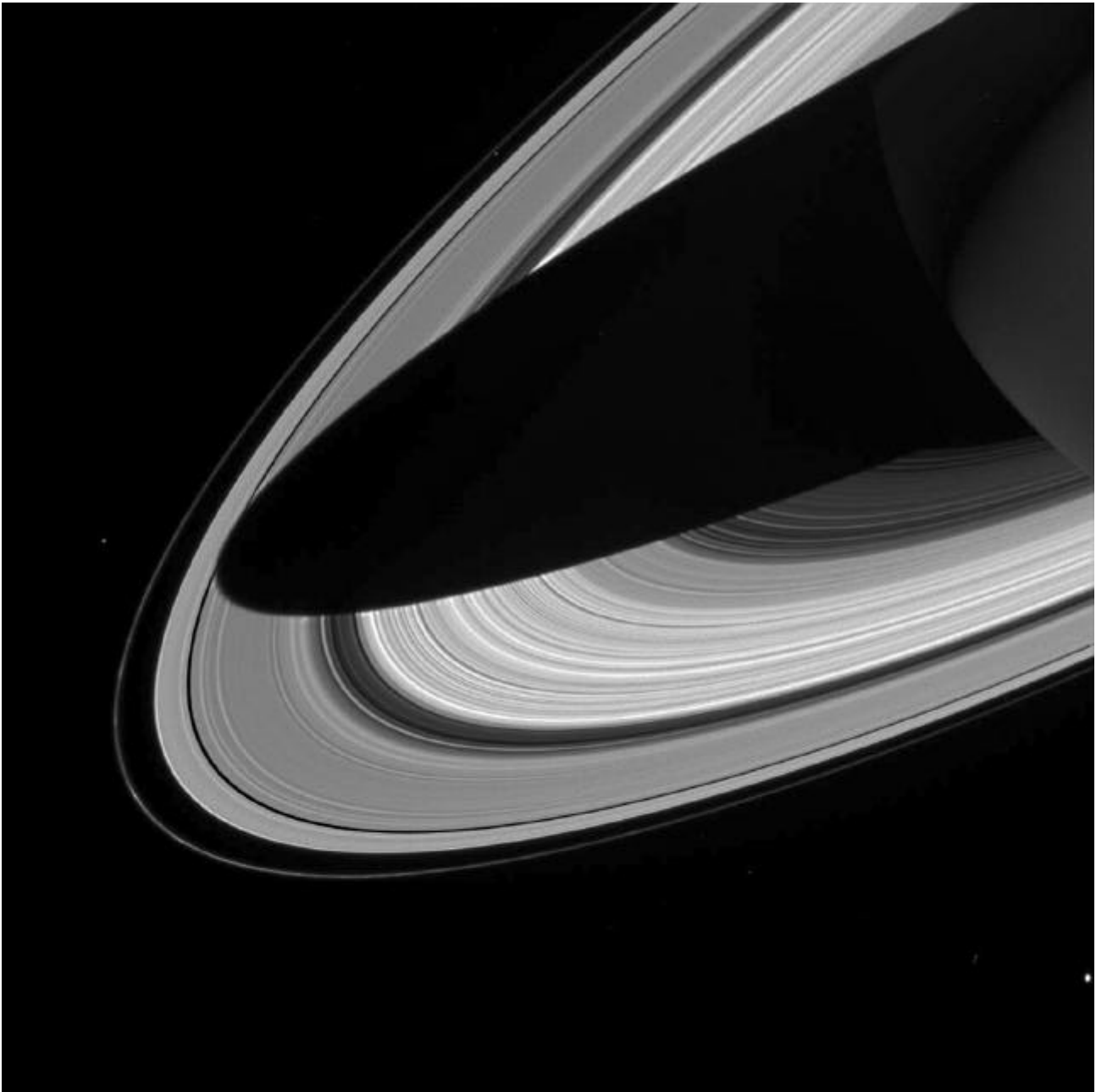
Space Shuttle Discovery approaches the Rotating and Fixed Service Structures on Launch Pad 39B after roll out from the Vehicle Assembly Building. First motion began at 2:04 p.m. EDT April 6, and the Shuttle was hard down on the pad at 1:16 a.m. EDT April 7. The Shuttle sits atop the Mobile Launcher Platform and is transported by the Crawler-Transporter underneath. Launch of Discovery on its Return to Flight mission, STS-114, is targeted for May 15 with a launch window that extends to June 3. During its 12-day mission, Discovery's seven-member crew will test new hardware and techniques to improve Shuttle safety, as well as deliver supplies to the International Space Station.

The latest status from Florida is that NASA has pushed the mission back to the July launch window because of some concerns over ice formation on the external tank. The shuttle stack is expected to be rolled back to the VAB shortly, then return to Pad 39B next month. (The short visit to the VAB is to install a heater at the potential problem spot on the tank.)

To close this edition's column, I'll touch on the end of *Enterprise*. As of this writing, there are three episodes left -- one on May 6 and a pair on May 13.

SPOILER ALERT The last episode includes appearances by Will Riker and Deanna Troi from *Next Generation*. According to the production report, the episode appears to be a holodeck recreation that looks back to six years after the bulk of the *Enterprise* episodes. Jeffrey Combs also appears as Shran, but there aren't any hints as to what the character is there for. **END SPOILERS**

These are the Voyages... is scheduled to air on May 13 at 9 p.m.



This dramatic view of Saturn's rings draped by the shadow of Saturn, shows brightness variations that correspond to differences in the concentration of the ring particles as they orbit the planet.

The planet's western limb is visible in the upper right corner. Three of Saturn's moons can be seen here: Bright Enceladus (499 kilometers, or 310 miles across) is visible near lower right; Epimetheus (116 kilometers, or 72 miles across) appears at center left; and interior to the F ring, near the top of the image, is Prometheus (102 kilometers, or 63 miles across). The F ring, the outermost ring shown here,

displays several knot-like features near the left side of the image.

The image was taken in visible light by the Cassini spacecraft wide angle camera on July 3, 2004, from a distance of 1.5 million kilometers (930,000 miles) from Saturn, at a Sun-Saturn-spacecraft, or phase, angle of about 108 degrees. This is the first processed wide angle camera image to be released since Cassini's encounter with Jupiter in 2000. The image scale is 87 kilometers (54 miles) per pixel.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the

Italian Space Agency. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the Cassini-Huygens mission for NASA's Office of Space Science, Washington, D.C. The Cassini orbiter and its two onboard cameras were designed, developed and assembled at JPL. The imaging team is based at the Space Science Institute, Boulder, Colo.

For more information, about the Cassini-Huygens mission visit, <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov> and the Cassini imaging team home page, <http://ciclops.org>.

Upcoming Events

May	13	9 p.m. <i>Enterprise</i> Series Finale
	14	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Yard Sale at the N.C. State Fairgrounds Flea Market
Jun.	4	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home

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U.S.S. KITTY HAWK
P.O. BOX 52112
RALEIGH NC 27612-2112