

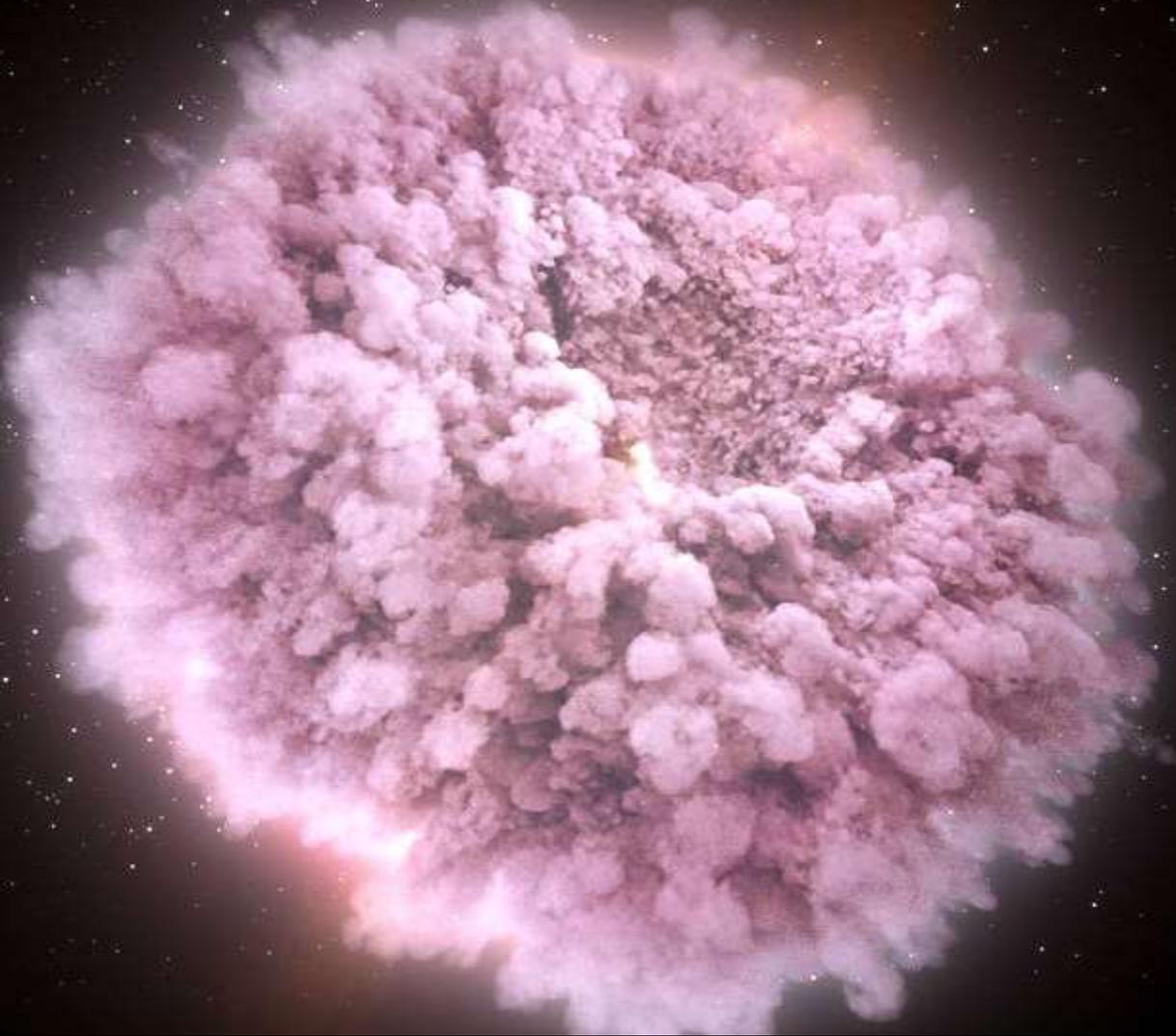
# THE WRIGHT STUFF



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The Official Newsletter of the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk ♦ NCC-1659

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## The Center Seat By John Troan

Brad's [Engineering Report](#) has a good review of the 2017 Crystal Coast Con and I have only a few things to add. First, Bill Blair was back again and "went Romulan" this year. Second, I've been told by a couple of the folks with *Star Trek Phase II / New Voyages* that William Shatner will be at their set location in Ticonderoga, New York, during the first weekend of May. Lastly, more Con pictures will be posted to the [web site](#) in the very near future.

The proposal to start a treasury has passed and our PayPal account is setup.

Our fall charity drives continue through the fall. The November meeting will be the last collection for the Food Bank donation, which is intended to be given to them before Thanksgiving. The December meeting is the last time to contribute for our Toys for Tots donation.

Due to a change in circumstances, our December meeting won't be able to be combined with a Christmas party. Instead, we'll be at our usual meeting spot – Texas Steakhouse.

The annual anniversary dinner will be on Sunday, January 14 (in 2018) at 6pm at the Crabtree Kanki. RSVPs are now being accepted as we confirm a final headcount for the reservation.

*Esse Quam Videri*



## Comp Ops Report By John Troan

Another round of updates to the web site are queued up, going back to our [Raleigh Supercon appearance](#) and will include our [Crystal Coast Con appearance](#).

Also in the works, late in the year, is the conclusion to the [first of Brad's narratives](#).

The long-intended plan to build a database to manage the web site content is still in the works, but I'm likely to quickly build a temporary solution so that I can get some design changes done sooner rather than later.

This is due to a new need to make some changes on the servers that will likely be done before my longer-term plans for the [Kitty Hawk](#) and [my football stats](#) web sites.

## Engineering Report By Brad McDonald

This will be a combination, engineer's report and convention report. I'll begin with the convention.

John Troan and I made the annual pilgrimage to the Crystal Coast Convention this year. We actually went down the day before and stayed the night. This allowed us to do a bit of prep work Friday afternoon, which helped. We met J.R. and had dinner together, then to the hotel for a much needed rest.

Early the next morning, I checked on hurricane status. At the time, there were two active storms and it was a last minute check to be sure we would not be bothered. Then it was off to the con. John and I finished the *Kitty Hawk/White Eagle* tables, then helped J.R. move in and set up his sales area.



From the opening moment, attendance was light, about the same as the previous year. I did not know many of the guests but was delighted to spend time with Denise Crosby. I managed to catch her during a lull and had her to myself for about fifteen minutes. We discussed her leaving *Next Generation* and then returning in a different role. While she signed a picture for me, we also talked about *Deep Impact* and *Trekkies*, her

documentary about *Star Trek* fans. She was very friendly and gracious.

At this point, she went to a Q & A session. The room was nearly full and she spent about an hour discussing many topics, relating a few items we had already covered earlier but adding a few details. Her comments regarding the first season of *Next Generation* were very enlightening and surprised a number of people. It seems the network executives weren't sure if *Next Generation* would survive and so they low-balled the production and pinched the pennies extremely hard.

She had the group laughing on a regular basis throughout the session. I suppose the most interesting point she made involved her return to *Next Gen* for the episode "Yesterday's Enterprise". She had been surprised by the offer after leaving the show, but after the episode was finished she suggested her return and pitched a story idea to the producers. After several months, she forgot about it, then she got a call... the rest is history and Sela was born, so to speak. Her follow-up appearances, as she put it, were a lot of fun. She explained that in two ways. First, playing the bad guy is always more fun, but also, by this time the studio executives were now firmly behind *Next Gen* and it was an entirely different, and much better, atmosphere.



Meanwhile, William was made up as a Klingon and taught a Klingon language class. He really looked the part! I could not attend but when I

looked in (on the way to a bathroom break) the classroom was full.

John and I talked to many guests but whether it translates into new members remains to be seen. I hope so, as several seemed interested.



Crystal Coast Con was good, just short and sparsely attended. However, it was very well organized and the costume contest was great. As far as attending as the *Kitty Hawk*, that will be discussed at the next few meetings

For my engineer's report, I will start with a humorous sci-fi story. I read about it, surprisingly, in the Wall Street Journal. I had never heard of the *Blade Runner* curse before reading the

article, which explained how brand names that were prominently featured in the movie failed after the movie's release. Listed as part of the curse were Atari, Koss, Cuisinart, RCA, Bell Telephone and Pan Am. Ironically, the magazine, *Premiere*, outlined the curse in an article, then they went out of business as well. The only prominent featured survivor was Coca Cola. That's remarkable considering the New Coke fiasco.

*Blade Runner 2049* is now faced with a real question; will the curse continue as many brands are featured again. Time will tell. By the way, do you remember what year *Blade Runner* was set? Well, it's only two years away, 2019.

The biggest news of the future is the announcement by Elon Musk. He intends to put men on Mars in five years! If that isn't enough, he's not talking about just a landing, but a colony!!! Personally, I think that may be just a bit unrealistic, but time will tell.

Time to go. My youngest daughter is getting married in two weeks and I'm still not ready! Hopefully, by November's meeting, I'll be back to normal, if I ever was. I will miss October's meeting, due to another wedding, but I will be back in November.

Live Long and Prosper!



# *Star Trek: TOS* – “Iowa”

By Brad McDonald

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. EARTH – RIVERSIDE –  
CEMETERY – MID MORNING

OVERCAST – WIDE ANGLE

There is a large crowd present for the funeral.

NEW ANGLE – ON GRAVESITE

Present are Kirk, Lockheart, Brown, Blanchard, Peter Alexander and Alfred. The services have just ended, each of the above lay a rose on the coffin, then walk away slowly. All are emotional, Kirk is silent as he walks alone, behind the others. A LADY approaches him and speaks quietly and reverently.

LADY  
(moving)

I'm sorry for your loss, but then it wasn't totally unexpected, right?

She moves off and Kirk stops, bewildered.

EXT. KIRK HOUSE – MID DAY

INT. KIRK HOUSE – PARLOR

Seated are Alexander, Alfred and Peter. Kirk is standing and conversation is in progress.

KIRK

From what I understand, my mother left her estate... to my discretion...

He's a bit uncomfortable with the situation.

KIRK

(continuing)

The Kirk house has been in the family for over 300 years. I'd like to continue the tradition, but someone needs to live here and I'm not in a position to make that happen.

(beat)

Would any of you be interested?

THREE SHOT – ALEXANDER,  
ALFRED AND PETER

They look at each other nervously, then:

PETER

I'd like to... but my plans are a bit... uncertain.

ALFRED

(disinterested)

My business requires me to be... elsewhere.

Alexander looks happy and relieved.

ALEXANDER

Actually, Uncle Jim, I'd like to continue the Kirk tradition.

KIRK (O.C.)

(pleased)

Good. What about the furnishings?

ALEXANDER

(interrupting)

Most can stay, sir, if that's okay with you.

ON KIRK

He's smiling and relieved.

KIRK

Well, that went easier than I thought it would...

(beat)

Mrs. Lockheart has asked for a few items...

NEW ANGLE

The nephews exchange confused looks.

KIRK

(continuing)

Grandmother Kirk and she were best friends; I think it's appropriate.

ALFRED

Are we allowed to take something, Uncle Jim?

KIRK

I don't see why not?

Peter and Alexander exchange a nervous look.

PETER

Except for the basement.

Peter finishes with a smile; Kirk is confused.

KIRK

Why not? What's in the basement?

The nephews exchange glances of conspiracy.

ALEXANDER

Better have a look for yourself, Uncle Jim.

Kirk shrugs and exits to basement stairs.

BASEMENT – ON STAIRS

Lights come on and we see Kirk descend slowly. He's looking around, then freezes and stares.

KIRK'S P.O.V.

Two walls are covered with memorabilia, pictures, trophies, awards, medals and framed letters.

ON KIRK – CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION

Kirk continues down the stairs slowly, then stops in front of the display, staring.

AS BEFORE – KIRK'S P.O.V.

Banner reads George B. Kirk. There are many pictures of the man at different ages. The display is impressive and overwhelming.

AS BEFORE – ON KIRK

He's moved by the display and smiles, then turns to look at the adjacent wall and is surprised again.

AS BEFORE – KIRK'S P.O.V.

The banner reads James T. Kirk. There are even more items displayed. In B.G. someone is descending the stairs quietly.

AS BEFORE – ON KIRK

He's staring at the display when he becomes aware of another person and turns.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND LOCKHEART

LOCKHEART  
(quietly)

Quite impressive, isn't it?

Kirk is still overwhelmed and quiet.

KIRK

I had no idea this was here.

LOCKHEART

Abby was very proud of her men... always was.

Kirk smiles at the statement. Lockheart stares at Kirk for a moment, then:

ON LOCKHEART

LOCKHEART  
(continuing)

The loss of your father was very hard for her, but she muddled through. I like to think I helped some with that...

She indicates the James T. Kirk wall with a nod.

LOCKHEART  
(continuing)

She followed your career religiously.

ON KIRK

He's moved by the collection and Lockheart's words.

KIRK

I had no idea this was here.

LOCKHEART (O.C.)

How many times have you been home, far less down here.

KIRK

(embarrassed)

You're right. I should have come home more often. I guess I was... reluctant. Guilty feelings I suppose.

LOCKHEART (O.C.)

Why?

KIRK

I was... so much trouble for her.

ON LOCKHEART

LOCKHEART

Funny you should say that. She felt guilty too.

Kirk is surprised.

KIRK (O.C.)

Her? Why?

LOCKHEART

She realized too late, why you were such a—

KIRK (O.C.)

(interrupting)

Pain in the... neck?

LOCKHEART

She realized she was comparing you to your father. After all, you two were the same in many ways. It was intended as a complement.

(beat)

You were living in your father's shadow. At least until he died. That's when you joined Star Fleet and put your abilities to best use.

ON KIRK

KIRK

(thoughtfully)

And Sam became a research scientist just to do something other than Star Fleet.

AS BEFORE – ON LOCKHEART

LOCKHEART

You didn't like comparisons and felt it was unfair. But as your own man, you rose above the comparisons.

(beat)

There are a few who feel that your career may be an attempt to outdo your father.

TWO SHOT – KIRK AND LOCKHEART

KIRK  
Are you one of those?

LOCKHEART  
(nodding)  
As was your mother, and she blamed herself for setting your father up as a standard for you and your brother.

Kirk studies Lockheart carefully.

KIRK  
You sure you majored in history and not psychology.

LOCKHEART  
I was just a good friend and an even better listener.

Kirk smiles in understanding and appreciation.

KIRK  
I'm glad she had such a friend, which is why I asked you to come here today.

LOCKHEART  
What is it, Jimmy?

KIRK  
Only you can get away with calling me that...

(beat)  
... but not in front of anyone else, okay?

LOCKHEART  
It's a deal.

ON KIRK

KIRK  
Alexander said he'd like to take over the house, so it will stay in the Kirk family. Anyway I'd like you to keep an eye on things, okay?

AS BEFORE – TWO SHOT – KIRK AND LOCKHEART

Lockheart becomes defiant, arms folded across her chest.

LOCKHEART  
How does Peter feel about that?

Kirk looks confused and Lockheart is exasperated.

LOCKHEART  
(continuing)  
He's been living here since his parents died. What about him?

Realization hits Kirk.

KIRK  
I should have known...

ON LOCKHEART

She shakes her head in disbelief.

LOCKHEART  
You can lead a ship full of people into danger and handle multiple problems at once, but you can't do the same for your own family.

KIRK (O.C.)  
He never said anything.

LOCKHEART  
Did you give him a chance?

(beat)  
He lost his parents and found a safe haven in this house with a lady who took care of him and helped him deal with a horrible loss.

(beat)  
Alfred was all caught up in his own world and business with little time for his orphaned brother. Alexander was willing but with small children and twins on the way. Your

mother gave him a home and someone to listen to all he was going through.  
(beat)

I think she did a great job, but she's gone and he's alone again. Where does he go now? With you?

ON KIRK

He's stunned and a bit guilty looking.

KIRK  
(thoughtfully)  
You're right.

LOCKHEART (O.C.)  
I know you didn't mean to overlook Peter, but...

Kirk is caught up in thought and emotion.

KIRK  
He must think I'm an idiot.

ON LOCKHEART

She adopts a more sympathetic tone and puts her hand on his shoulder.

LOCKHEART  
Probably not, but you need to take care of the situation. You're the head of the family now.

ON KIRK

He's nodding in agreement.

Off his reaction...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

## Upcoming Events

Nov	4	4 p.m. Ship Meeting Texas Steakhouse, Morrisville
Dec	2	4 p.m. Ship Meeting Texas Steakhouse, Morrisville
Jan	6	4 p.m. Ship Meeting Texas Steakhouse, Morrisville
Jan	14	6 p.m. Anniversary Dinner, Kanki @ Crabtree <i>Friends and Family are Welcome!</i> <i>Please send RSVPs to John Troan</i>

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

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