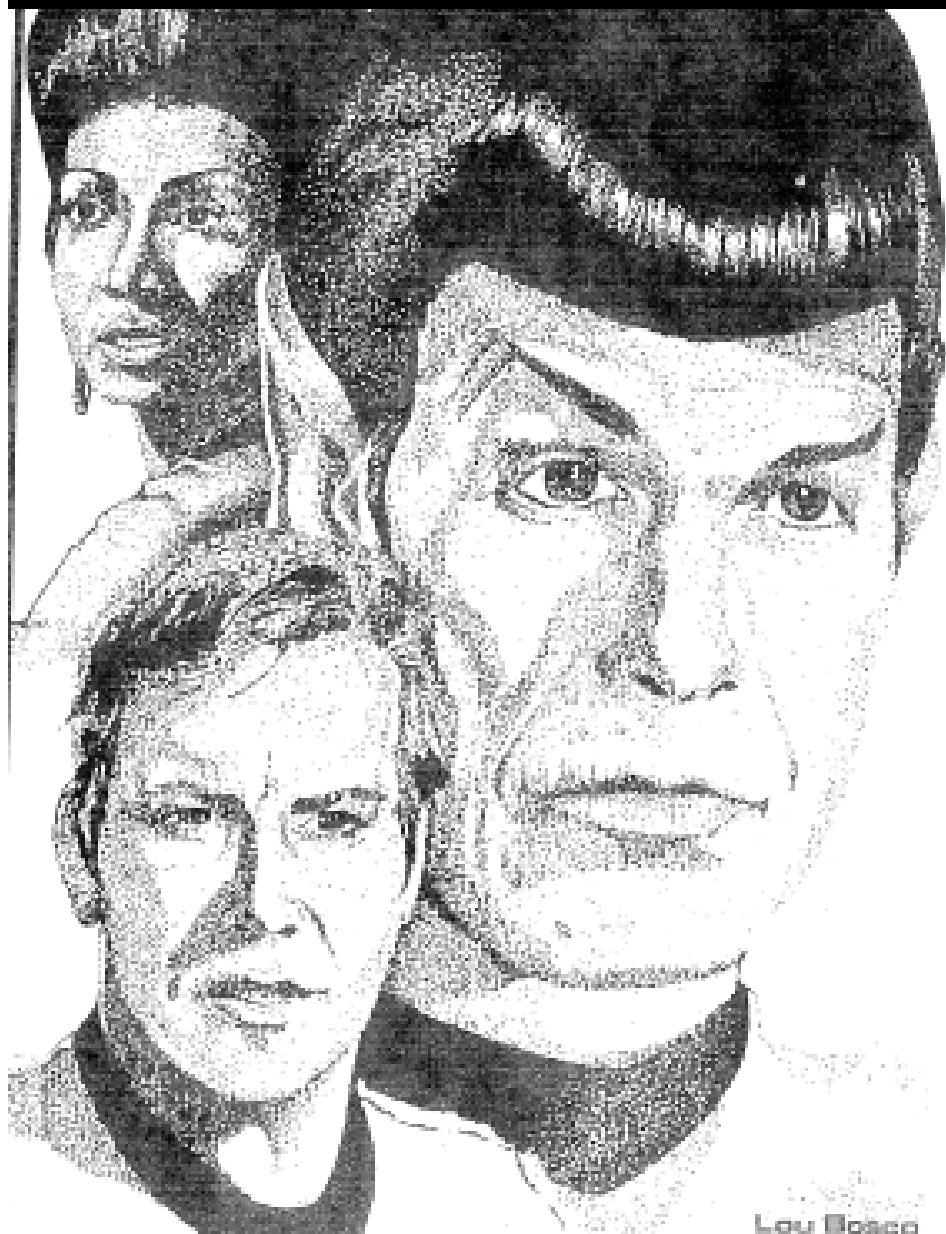




STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE'

AUGUST 1987

ISSUE 22



Lou Mosca

STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE

Well, here I sit as "Fill-in Editor." Once again I write this Masterpiece that has become known as THE STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE! Yes, it is I, Fleet, Admiral Steve Smith. Why am I typing up this Communique you ask? Very simple to answer; to give my HARD working Communique staff a break. The constant delays and over-time involved in getting this publication out has taken it's toll. So for this issue, ride with mc as I man the helm and give our staff a well deserved rest!

Many thanks for the articles sent in. Remember to keep them coming! Thanks also for the support and patience shown during these trying: times (referring to late Communique's and lost mail). Our computer has been the biggest headache. The computer never seems to have anything ready when we need it, or is always eating our disks! But that problem should be solved by the time you read this thanks to new programming and a back up computer. Just one of those "Giant" problems that hopefully won't bother us again!

Enclosed in this issue is information on the Long Term Research Institute which you may have received a flyer on. Please read and support with a membership. They also produce an album intitled Whales Alive which is well worth the money.

The STARFLEET NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT is in this issue. A FUN time was had by all! The National Conference for next year, 1988, is planned to hit the Cleveland, Ohio area. Not sure of the dates yet but will keep you posted. For 1989, we will shoot for a West Coast area. So if you know of any Cons in your area, let us know.

Star Trek-The Next Generation is slated to hit television October 3rd or 4th. Though some people may have doubts about the new series, I am looking forward to it. The old Star Trek is the legend where it all started, but the new show will allow us to see what THEIR future holds. Plus it will allow a new generation of fans to grow up and follow the new show in OUR footsteps.

Well, thanks for letting me sit in as Editor, It's been fun! Look for more issues from "Yours Truly" in the future. I figure if I do an issue now and then, it will lighten the work load, on my staff. The breaks I give them will be well deserved. Until next time remember; HAPPINESS IS A WARM TYPEWRITER!

ATTENTION! ALL STARFLEET MEMBERS. PLEASE NOTE: In the April 1987 issue we mentioned that ALL Address Changes should be sent to Admiral Christopher Smith. Well, BELAY that order! Chris no longer handles mailing labels. PLEASE send your change of address cards (soon as possible!) to: Nike Destro, 1412 Grant Street, Akron, Ohio, 44301-2066. This will save us countless hours of labor and insure safe delivery of your newsletter. Thank you for your attention.

You thought I was signing off two paragraphs ago, didn't you? Sorry, more items have come to my attention. I promise this is the last SPECIAL NOTE. Just wanted to let you know about renewal cards. We are sending them out early. For example; August renewals were mailed out the first week in July. This will help to keep from missing any issues of your newsletter. So when you receive your card, PLEASE try to get it back to us within 30 days, if monies permit! It sure will help us out! Thanks. Now for more STUFF on the pages to follow!





HQ MEMO

P.O. BOX 343, NEWTON, IOWA 50208-0843

This is just to explain certain items that might be bothering some people. Number One is phone calls. My hours at the Meat Shop where I work Full time are quite long. So if you call some night, and I'm busy with my family, supper, etc., please understand. Or if I don't return a call that night, don't worry, I'm not trying to avoid you-or put you off. I just can't drop everying to get to the phone. But I do try. If it's a freindly chat, that's fine. If it's some problem, put it down on paper if you can. Those letters get answered first. Plus it's eaiser to see the problem in black and white. I just don't want phone calls dominating my private life. I'd hate to get an unlisted number. Thanks for understanding.

We still plan on getting the Cornmunique's out on time. (No luck yet but we're trying!) As mentioned earlier, we are lining up another computer for back-up. Plus this other computer will help in getting out those Regional list that everyone has been waiting so long for. For people who are unsure when the Communique's come out, here's the schedule: Feb., April, June, August, Oct., December. Some people had the impression they came out once a month. They don't, just six times a year.

In closing, remember to be freindly and civil to everyone. Being a member in this club, you have the chance to make the 23rd Century a possibility! So let's set an example for everone to follow!

Bill Kraft of the STAR TREK STAMP COMMITTEE is still pushing strong for a postal stamp. Find article inclosed. If you need more information, write Bill at: Box 452, Strasburg, N.D. 58573. Please write to your Senators and Congressmen.

LAST MINUTE NOTE: Remember to write Paramount (Don't put Star Trek or our name on the envelope) to help keep Robert Fletcher in as costume designer for Star Trek V! I'd hate to see major changes in the uniforms!



For you concert fans planning on good entertantment this year, don't forget to check out the Monkees and opening act Steve Smith, er...uh, "Weird" Al Yan-kovich this summer. (Sorry, but; rumor has it that Steve Smith could pass as Al's twin brother.)



STARFLEET OPERATIONS
ADMIRAL C.L. SMITH - CHIEF

FLEET REPORT

Ok folks. Since this issue is being put together by Fleet Command [to give the folks in Communications a bit of a break], there will be no Fleet Report. However, we at Operations do have some things you need to hear.

First off, your commanding officers should all have the latest edition of the Command Division New Bulletin "General Orders". As you may not know, STARFLEET is preparing to upgrade the Membership Handbook once again [both the Constitution and rules and regs section] since we have grown so much in the last 18 months. In "General Orders" we have asked your Cos for their ideas for changes, additions, deletions, and so on, concerning the new Handbook, and ultimately, the direction of STARFLEET. We have asked them to solicit ideas from their crews as we want EVERYBODY to have a hand in guiding the organization. Please, check with your chapter leader for details. All we ask is that your ideas be sent to us THROUGH your CO. The way we won't be getting packages from thousands of people, and since your COs know more about the organization, they will be able to weed out the impractical suggestions BEFORE it comes to Operations HQ.

Also, for those of you who operate a shuttlecraft/chapter, your commanding officer also has a copy of the newly revised Shuttlecraft's Data File. These are the new rules and regulations governing the Shuttlecraft Program and were voted in unanimously by the Admiral Board on Earthdate 8707.13 and supercedes any predated or undated rules on the Shuttlecraft Program.

Lastly, if you have been waiting for the membership lists for your area, we are sorry you had to wait so long! Each Region's list of card-carrying STARFLEET members [and their renewal dates] will be to your regional coordinator by the end of August. It will be the RC's responsibility to distribute the necessary information to the chapter as requested. Updates are available to RC's at any time by sending a large SASE [with a dollar postage] to STARFLEET Operations.



Next summer, Cleveland, Ohio is going to be celebrating the birth of one it's most famous sons. 50 years ago, he literally began a trend that has blossomed into the world of pop media Science Fiction and Fantasy culture which includes everything from comic books to Star Trek. Next summer, many of the people who have helped shape the course of this culture will be gathering together to throw this guy one heck of a birthday party....and you're invited.

The size and scope of this even is so expansive, you will hardly believe you eyes and ears! Fans of all aspects of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror from around the globe will be making the journey to Cleveland for this exposition, so what better place to hold the 1988 STARFLEET National Conference! Every issue of the STARFLEET Communique will keep you up to date on this event, so stay tuned and save those pennies!!

SPECIAL SECTION:



EARCH

Long Term
Research Institute

191 Weston Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
(617) 259-0423

The most pressing problem affecting all living systems, all life on earth, is the catastrophic rate at which animal and plant species are being destroyed. Even though only a handful of large, long-lived animals live to stable wild populations, there is only a pittance of funding available for research into the basic needs of endangered species or into attempts to develop approaches that will avoid their loss.

Even when we do try to save an endangered species, we usually know so little about its critical habitat needs that our approach is, at best, inadequate or does more harm than good. Learning enough about the requirements and vulnerabilities of a species, particularly a long-lived endangered species, is a slow process. Yet without such knowledge, real recovery can never be assured.

THE LONG TERM RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Long Term Research Institute was founded in reaction to this state of affairs. Our focus is on conservation and education based on good science. Our approach differs from that of many field researchers in that we focus on studies lasting for enough years to provide observations on at least two lifetimes of the species in question.

Research

The Institute specializes in sustained biological studies of whales. Its research on four endangered species -- humpback, right, gray and minke whales -- has given LRTI a respected voice in national and international forums.

Conservation

The intriguing things that the Institute has discovered about several whale species have helped significantly in moving the public to become more involved in whale conservation.

Through governments, through setting aside marine sanctuaries and through international organizations like the International Whaling Commission, LRTI works to insure the survival of whales at local, national and international levels.

Education

As part of our education program, LTRI works, not only with scientists, but with poets, composers, film makers and the press weaving whales into all of human culture. LTRI maintains an outstanding library on whales, as well as audio/visual presentations and publications.

The Long Term Research Institute is committed to knowledge. To keep humanity interested in the most visible and interesting creatures, the human race will have to know more about them. This means that new results from scientific studies must be presented in new and fascinating ways, in order to build whales and other long-lived endangered species into our lives.

LRTI is an affiliate of the World Wildlife Fund.

MUSIC

MUSIC REVIEW

CAPT David J. Smith
USS ENCOUNTER NCC-2164

WHALES ALIVE

Paul Winter and Paul Halley
Narrated by Leonard Nimoy
Living Music, Inc., 1987

My fellow-filkers might, indeed, be wondering why on earth (or anywhere else, for that matter) Smith would be setting himself up as a music critic. Actually this is not so much a critique as It is a resounding, enthusiastic endorsement!

Whales Alive is a treat for the ear, the imagination and the spirit. It is an amalgam of fine readings by Leonard Nimoy, "voices" of humpback whales, sounds of the sea, and appropriate music, arranged to perfection by Messrs. Winter and Halley.

"They say the sea is cold,
But the sea contains the hottest blood of all
And the wildest -- the most urgent."

Mr. Nimoy's voice is electric and the words of D.H. Lawrence vividly introduce those alien behemoths that live beyond our shores. And we hear their unearthly voices who tones we try to interrelate and anthromorphize. Where this album is superior to others of its kind is in the excellent musical interpretation provide by Mr. Winter and Mr. Halley. Songs of the Humpback Whale (Communications/Research/Machines Inc., 1970) by Dr. Roger S. Payne (who is also Creative Director of Whales Alive) leaves the listener to explore these sounds on his or her own. Sounds and the Ultrasounds of Bottlenose Dolphin (Folkways Records, 1971 by John C. Lilly, M.D. is presented more as a scientific primer. Whales Alive frees us from the intellectual "work" of listening to these "voices" that were not meant for human ears or tastes by giving us a musical "translation". The listener's mind is free to roam the ocean depths on an emotional level, to experience the sounds and imagine the sights and smells of this other world and ponder these strange creatures and their magnificence. And to reflect in our private selves on the wonders of this planet we've inherited. And that's the whole idea behind Whales Alive, a project of the Long Term Research Institute of the World Wildlife Fund's Whale Program. I can only add that Whales Alive is a "fantastic voyage" I plan to enjoy over and over again.

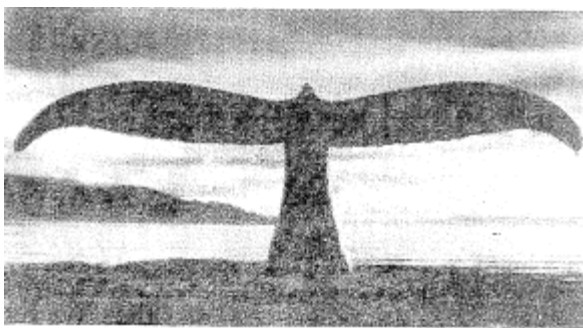
★★★★★

*"What happens to beasts will happen to man,
All things are connected. If the great beasts
are gone, men would surely die of a great
Loneliness of spirit"*

-Chief Seattle

Paul Winter/Paul Halley
WHALES ALIVE

Narration by Leonard Nimoy
 WITH
 Voices of the Humpback Whales



WHALES ALIVE Purchase Information

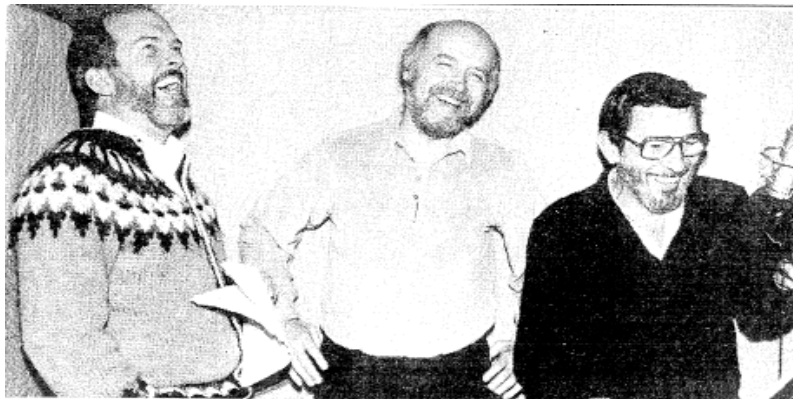
Profits when you purchase **Whales Alive** from the Long Term Research Institute directly benefit its research, education and conservation programs. Artist royalties from store purchases benefit LTRI through the World Wildlife Fund's Whale Program.

To order records, cassettes or compact discs of **Whales Alive**, please fill out the following form:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____

_____ LP record (s)	\$10 @ _____
_____ cassettes (s)	\$10 @ _____
_____ compact disc (s)	\$15 @ _____
	Subtotal \$ _____
	Postage (\$ each) _____
	Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Long Term Research Institute and mail, with this order form, to Whales Alive, LTRI, 191 Weston Road, Lincoln, MA 01773.



Whales Alive recording session with (from L-R) Roger Payne, Paul Winter and Leonard Nimoy.



STARSHIP FILE

USS ENCOUNTER

CHAPTER PROFILE
SERIES No. 10

NCC-2164

REGION: 02



CLASS:



DREADNAUGHT

The USS ENCOUNTER celebrated its first anniversary in May and a lot of anti-matter has passed down the main stage flux chillers since we were commissioned. We started out as the Science Shuttle CALYPSO attached to the USS JAMESTOWN in Region One and, after a nine month gestation, emerged full-grown as the "awesome dreadnought" ENCOUNTER and the focal point of Star Trek fan activity on Region Two's Florida Gold Coast. In April we launched our first shuttlecraft DIONYSUS in Tallahassee, Florida. We charge no ship's dues to our members and no subscription rates for our award-winning newsletter, Interphase.

As of this writing we are fast approaching fifty members and the reason for this success has been the recruitment of very talented and active people. CMDR. Sherry Bowen, not content to merely run our large and busy Science Division, has taken on the job of Region Two's Region Division Chief Coordinator and Director of the Starfleet Academy College of Medicine. CMDR. Joe Motes, our very Special Services Officer is a renowned Star Trek convention promoter and has had a number of our crew working as staff on his Miami and Tampa Trekcon's as well as his recent historic Miami Star Trek Cruise. His new all-Star Trek conventions, called VULCON's, plan to include other Starfleet chapter members in Region Two as well. LTJG Bill Wilson is better known to science fiction fans as President of the South Florida Science Fiction Society which puts on the local TROPICON's that brings noteworthy authors to this area. Our Engineering staff is among the finest in the fleet, with CMDR. Paul Frenczli and LT CMDR Mike Cowart working on minutely accurate technical drawings of all the various starship classes. CMDR David Folsom has just taken on the job as Regional Division Chief of Security for Region Two. A very busy group!





These hard-working ENCOUNTER members are hard-playing too and our Star Trek "pilgrims" could be found at many cons and sites of interest around the country: RoVaCon, Clippercon, Worldcon, Magnum-Opus Con, Anaheim--from George Takei's "Star Ceremony" to "on location" for the filming of Star Trek IV to the high seas as host chapter for TREKUISE '87. It was quite a first year!

In summary, the mission of the USS ENCOUNTER is to facilitate and maximize the celebration of all things "Star Trek" for our fan members. And we are eager to share our "goodies" with those of other Starfleet chapters in fun-filled fair exchange.

Captain David J. Smith
1721 NW 45th ST.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33309

CONVENTIONS

GENESIS KHAN II (September 19-20, 1987), The Raleigh Inn, Raleigh, NC. Relive the adventure as the USS ENDEAVOR of Starfleet host the Convention. SPECIAL GUEST STAR-MARK "SAREK" LEONARD. Other special guest include: Richard Arnold (ST Archivist), Bob Greenberger (Editor, DC ST Comics), Florence Butler (Pres. Nichelle Nichols Fan Club), Matt Feazell (Fan Artist), and Dr. John Kessel (NCSU Professor - Writer), Memberships: \$10.00 until June 30, 1987 and \$15.00 thereafter, Hotel rooms at special convention rates: Call the Raleigh Inn - (919) 782-4433 for reservations, \$42.95 single, \$47.95 double. Send a SASE for more information to: USS ENDEAVOR-GENESIS KHAN II, PO Box 757, Garner, NC 27529.



ACADEMY NEWS

Christopher Lotito and Rob Lerman are looking for help in processing the Officers Training School materials. Due to the overload of applications at their offices, they need help! They are looking for seasons Regional Coordinators and Sector Chiefs to lend a hand. If you feel you'd like to help process manuals and tests, send in a resume. This will help speed up tests and take a BIG LOAD off them! Thanks!

Just remember though, you will be NOT grading the test, that job will still be left up to Rob Lerman and Chris Lotito. Just making copies of the manuals and test papers. Rob and Chris will have more details for you.



★ THE FEW, THE PROUD,
THE FURRY. ★

REPORT

BY CDR. T. BURTLOW, SR
SHUTTLE STAR LEGION

Trek Fest III was held in Riverside, Iowa on June 26 and 27th; celebrating the future birth place of Admiral James. T. Kirk.

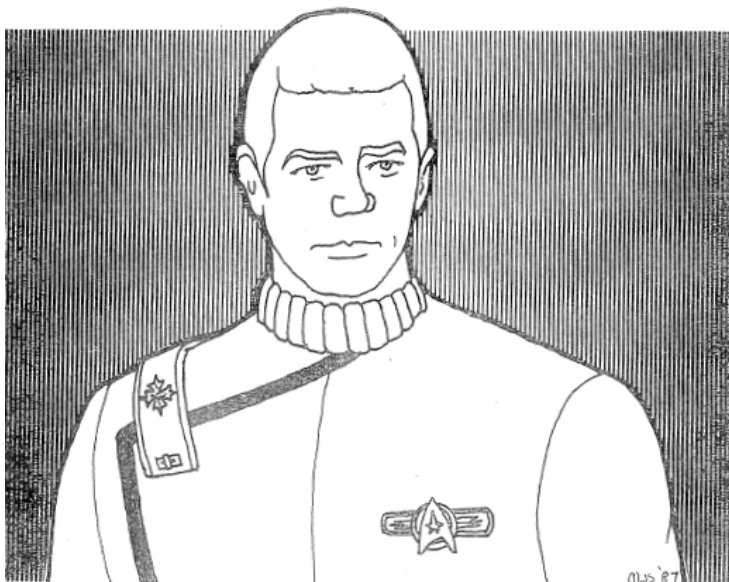
A parade was held Saturday morning at 10:00. And what a parade it was as Star Trek groups from all over participated! After the parade we headed back to the Starfleet recruiting table. With the membership kits on display and the NEW Starfleet enamel gleaming in the sun, we began! Manning the table was Commodore Mark Schmadeke, Captain Larry Rooda, and of course, Fleet Admiral Steve Smith. The recruiting effort for a small town wasn't bad with five new people joining the ranks! Plus the sale of uniform chain and Starfleet pins made for a worthwhile day!

Of course, much more was happening in Riverside that day. As mentioned before, MANY clubs were there. Captain Don Munch of the USS RIVERSIDE, along with his Vulcan First Officer was busy with TV reporters all morning. Hey! Don's First Officer could pass as Spock's twin brother! No kidding! Good make-up job!

And for the collector, lots of dealers on hand. Everything from old models to bubble-gum cards were on display. Better bring lots of money if you plan on attending next year!

Later in the evening a costume call was held. Lots of nice looking outfits! Everything from Starfleet uniforms to Vulcan clothing.

Anyone thinking about attending should. There's something for everyone and the townspeople really care about what's happening around them. I'm proud of the fact that I'm a member of Starfleet and had a chance to finally meet everyone there! I joined Starfleet back in November of '86 and I am presently trying to form a club in Ottumwa, Iowa to be called the USS STAR LEGION, which is currently a shuttle of the Fleet Admiral's ship, USS EXETER. I am looking forward to joining the fleet someday soon!



STAR TREK STAMP COMMITTEE

NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION

(701) 336-2655

Dear Star Trek Fans!

I am writing to ask for your help! For almost two years the Star Trek Stamp Committee has urged the Postal Service to issue a stamp honoring the space shuttle Enterprise and the starship Enterprise of "Star Trek". In spite of outright endorsements from federal and state government officials, widespread media attention, endorsements from science fiction writers Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, C.J. Cherryh, Roger Zelazny, and Michael Kube-McDowell, Ann Landers, and the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh at Notre Dame and about 15,000 petition signers the Post Office has rejected our proposal on the grounds that Trek is a commercial enterprise. They have done this even though other commercial enterprises such as the Laurel and Hardy stamp and other similar commercial enterprises have been approved or in fact, had stamps already issued.

That is why we are now asking the U.S. Congress to pass a Congressional resolution in favor of the stamp. While such a resolution would not bear the force of law, it would, in effect, constitute a statement virtually impossible for the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee in Washington to ignore.

Our committee has sent out the enclosed cover letter to all 100 U.S. Senators to "test the waters" for a possible resolution in favor of the stamp. Now is the time for you to help us open all hailing frequencies. We need you and all Trek fans to write to your respective U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives to ask for support of the resolution. That resolution has not yet been proposed. That is why Trek voices need to be heard now, so that a resolution will in fact be proposed!

If you will help us "give the word" in your newsletters, at your meetings, or by word of mouth, this marathon struggle can be won. It was Captain Kirk who in Star Trek the Motion Picture extended an imploring hand to Bones and declared, "Bones, I need you-Badly!" We are extending our hand. Which of you will take it?

For additional details, feel free to call me at the number above. or write to me at my address: Box b52, Strasburg, ND, 58573. Feel free to use cover letter on next page.

Live Long and Prosper,
William Kraft

Cover letter for Senator on page 12.

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Date

United States Senate
Washington, D.C,

Dear Senator,

For nearly two years an effort has been underway to urge the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp, bearing the likenesses of the starship Enterprise of Star Trek and the space shuttle Enterprise as an expression of the peoples support for America's space Program.

This effort has been rejected by the postal authorities as a commercial enterprise and a dubious candidate for a "special issue" stamp. The postal service has clearly defined its criteria for a commemorative stamp but has not done so for a special issue stamp. Nonetheless, commercialized stamps such as the Laurel and Hardy stamp, gift card stamps, and others have been either approved or issued.

Despite nearly 15,000 signatures on petitions, widespread media exposure, endorsements from writers, academicians, statesmen, and the general public, the postal service ignores the issue with rhetoric. Examples of some of the endorsements received have come from the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh at Notre Dame, renowned writers Arthur C. Clarke, Ray Bradbury, and Isaac Asimov, advice columnist Ann Landers, members of congress and governors of several states. A few of these Endorsements are enclosed for your review.

Unlike previous stamp proposals, this one has elicited unprecedented support from a concerned cross section of the American public. A space stamp has not been issued since 1981 and our space program needs support now more than ever before. Due to the postal service's intransigence in this matter, it has been suggested that a congressional resolution be proposed in favor of the stamp. Before we proceed with this approach we need to hear from you. Enclosed in a postcard on which you may indicate your approval or opposition to our proposal. A prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

(Postcards mentioned above I have at my office. Just enclosed a SASE and I'll send them out to you.)

STAR BASE CENTRAL:

125 SAN ANTONIO CIRCLE
MTN VIEW, CA 94040





REPORT BY CAPT. STEVEN D. STEIN /
VICE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS/STARFLEET

Eighty-eight degrees and ninety percent humidity. Can't we have a national conference someplace cool? Though unlike last year in St. Louie, the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn in suburban Baltimore had a good air conditioning system and STARFLEET members and conventioners alike rode out SHORE LEAVE IX in relative comfort.

The 2nd Annual STAFFLEET National Conference, and all the peripheral activities, were almost as good as four straight days off from the rat race (which, incidentally, I had -- which was great)! Lots of fun was had (as were a few dealers), business was conducted, and faces were finally put to the names.

The excitement started Friday afternoon and evening as STARFLEET personnel began to arrive and seek each other out. My first find was during check-in at the hotel as I spotted Admiral Chris Lotito trying to sneak inconspicuously across the lobby, apparently hoping no one would recognize him.

"Hey Lotito!" I yelled, "Where's my OTS manual?"

The panicked Academy Director Froze and turned, immediately beginning to explain that it was in the mail (sure). He breathed a sigh of relief after I introduced myself, as I was one of the few in attendance not out for his hide.

"It's not my fault!" was Chris' battle cry for the weekend. People could be heard saying, "I missed Bob Fletcher's talk", and Chris would lament, "It's not my fault!"

"Hey, we've got clean towels!"

"It's not my fault!"

"Gosh! I just love being in STAFFLEET!"

"It's not my fault!"

You get the picture.

The adventure continued as about twenty STARFLEET luminaries risked life and limb that evening crossing the freeway to grab a cheap meal at the mall down the road. Walking single-file through Sears, across the mall and up an escalator. We certainly failed at being inconspicuous. Especially with Dave Ryan (USS McALLLIFE) and I looking like John Young and Bob Crippen in our NASA flight suits. A Cadet review certainly didn't come to mind as the motley crew ate like a Horta possessed (not a pretty sight). Friday night also featured an informal get-together in the rooms of the USS LAGRANGE.

The Conference itself was held Saturday morning at 11 AM. Unfortunately, Fleet Admiral Steven Smith was unable to attend the convention at the last minute (something about a pile of dishes and laundry [?]), the Festivities were presided over by Vice Commanding Admiral Chris Smith.

The conference began with the introductions of the rest of the Executive Committee in attendance: Admiral's William A. "Buck" Krause (Chief of Communications) and Christopher Lotito (Academy Director). Admiral Smith denied the rumor that COMMUNIQUE's were being traded for hostages, and a roll call of chapters in attendance ensued. Exact numbers aren't available due to the fact that the sign-in sheet never made it back to the front of the room (has anyone seen it?). Attendance appeared to be about half that of last year's shindig, probably due to the last-minute switch in the conference site. However, all chapter C.O.'s were in-

formed by mail when it was realized that the April COMMUNIQUE would be late, so if you didn't know about it, consult with your chapter president.

Adm. Smith related to the attendees the present state of the Fleet, which is very good, membership is up from last year by more than a third. We gained about 600 new members just in the months following the release of "The Voyage Home". The number of chapters has nearly doubled; and all new chapters have successfully completed the shuttlecraft program. Many shuttlecraft are in the formation stages, and many more are nearing chapter status.

Problems were also discussed. First, they are down considerably from last year at this time, though there are some concerns in the forefront that warrant mentioning here.



The Fleet's master computer has been having difficulty manipulating the thousands of names and addresses contained in it. This has been the sole reason for COMMUNIQUE delays. It has been tough beating mailing labels but of the thing. On the bright side, our new Chief of Computer Operations, (soon to be) STARFLEET Marine Lt. Col. Oliver Nor. , uh, that's Mike Destru. Feels he has the situation under control, so the August issue should be on time as will all subsequent issues.

Also of concern is that apparently many chapter C.O.'s are not answering their mail, even when SASE's are enclosed. Please, answer your mail, or pass it along to your Exec or other competent member. STAFFLEET runs on the mail, and ignoring it is not the way to serve your members.

While not large problems, the next few items bear reminding: 1) Please follow the chain of command. You don't have to, but please do whenever possible. Fleet level officers and offices are very often flooded with mail (Operations receives 20 to 40 letters a week!), which sometimes creates a 1-3 month delay in answering some types of questions and prevents us from concentrating on moving the organization forward. 2) If you call anyone and get an answering machine, state why you are calling. We can only return important calls. Preferably, send a letter about your problem so we can handle it efficiently. 3) Some complaints of too many rules have been heard. STARFLEET can't be organized without a certain number of rules and policies. Most of these concern matters on the Fleet level. Chapters are still relatively free to do as they please. 4) Two words to tattoo on your forehead are politeness and patience. No member is to respond, and Fleet Command will NOT respond to uncivil or unnecessarily rude communications. Hot-headed letters will not only get you in hot water, but may actually make solving your problems more difficult. And please be patient with delays. No one in STARFLEET gets paid for what they do. We all have other concerns like jobs, families, and school which, naturally, come first. This is our hobby and we get to matters as quickly as we can. If you realize that delays are inevitable, your blood pressure will remain normal. Cut us a break.

On the up-side, changes/improvements to look Forward to are: The Shuttlecraft Program upgrade, which has Just recently receives Admiralty Board approval. Up-dates will be distributed to command level personnel via "General Orders"; A list of Starship names and classes from which all future chapter names are to be selected From (available From the Office of Technical Information or myself, c/o Operations HQ, For \$.25 and a SASE per listing); and a revision of the Membership Handbook, which is in the earliest stages, to be available within a year. Adm. Krause reminded everyone that COMMUNIQUE delays are the fault of the MasCom only. He made a call For articles and artwork that relate to Star Trek and STAR-FLEET in particular. He'd like to see articles on what your chapter is up to. He does not have time to read all the newsletters he receives, so if there is something in it you think might be appropriate For the COMMUNIQUE, send it separately with a cover note. Answering a question, the Starship Profiles are chosen at random. When your chapter is chosen, Adm. Krause will contact your C.O.D. Buck concluded by introducing his staff, and thanked them for their excellent work and dedication.

Finally, the moment we had all waited for--Adm. Lotito's turn at the podium. A hush fell over the room--the air thick with anticipation. Would we get the answer to the nagging question -- "Where's my OTS manual?" nervous systems tensed, and raw vegetable were at the ready as the Academy Director began to speak... "They are in the mail", he said in a confident voice. "It hasn't been my fault." Really! it's true! OTS has been an extremely successful program. Many chapters now require their members to take OTS For officer status within the chapter, plus all hopeful C.O.'s and Exec's must take it as part of the Shuttlecraft Program. Adm. Lotito cannot afford all those manuals out of his own pocket, and his free copying is intermittent at best--thus delays. To alleviate this problem, certain officers (to be announced) will act as distributors and will help with the printing and distribution. You will still need to apply though. The only other problem experienced by the OTS is that someone out there has been distributing out-dated manuals and exams. Whoever it is - STOP IT! You are causing further problems and delays. Contact the Academy if you'd like up to data materials, but cease what you are doing, please. The other Academy programs are doing well, especially the Vulcan Academy of Sciences, run by Capt. Steve Allred. The Post Graduate School has a new director (Capt. Dan Halloran) as RADM Alex Rosenzweig steps down to take on a new position as Vice Coordinator of Region 07.

Announced was a new program, the College of Command Training (COCT), presently in the formulation stages, to be headed by former Academy Director, Adm. Bryan Ackermann. It will be a comprehensive training course for pending Commanding and First Officers, and will eventually replace the OTS's role within the Shuttlecraft Program, while the OTS will become a requirement before a group is allowed to form a shuttlecraft. It is our hope that this will result in extremely strong leaders and chapters, while helping to weed out those who may not have the temperament or time to properly run an active, dynamic chapter. This should all happen within the year and all those affected will be informed before the doors open.

After a short question and answer period, the conference closed with the announcement of next year's 3rd Annual National Conference. Dates are not yet firm, but it will be held in June 1985 in Cleveland, Ohio at an event that is promising to make World Con look like a room party! Watch these pages For details as they become available. The remainder of the weekend, STAFFLEET-wise, went well as we took group photos, and many members volunteered time staffing the Fleet's table in the dealers room. A meeting was held to discuss details of the COCT and another gathering took place in the quarters of the LAGFRANGE contingent Saturday night.

On a personal note, it was wonderful seeing old friends such as Steve Thomas (USS JAMESTOWN), Ilene Hightower (Operations Sector Chief), and Lowell "Madman" Kelley (USS LAGRANGE). I Finally got to meet my hero, RADM Alex Rosenzweig (OTI, PGS, USS AVENGER) after a nearly three year friendship via the post office. Other great joys were meeting Chris Lotito, Bryan Ackermann, Robin Pillow (USS PATHFINDER), and meeting one of my own chapter members [Cmdr. Margherita Johnson] for the first time, as well as many others. Robb Jackson (USS POLARIS) is a new friend who traveled with the LAGRANGE contingent to Baltimore and was a big help throughout the weekend (I highly recommend traveling with a cop with a badge). There were many others who made the conference and the convention a great time. They also make STAFFLEET fun to be in. I hope they all make it to Cleveland in '85. I've made some great Friends and have had many wonderful times through this organization. Thanks friends, and see you on the north coast!

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