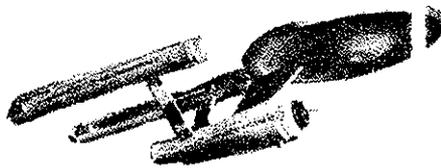


Star Trek Action Group



December 1977

NEWSLETTER No. 26

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Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, William Shatner, James Doohan, George Takei, Susan Sackett, Anne McCaffrey, Anne Page.

DUES

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Hi, there.

I know it's not quite Christmas yet but since the next newsletter won't be out till February Beth, Sheila, Sylvia and I would like to wish you all the joys of Christmas. We hope you will understand that we can't send you all Christmas cards much as we would like to. We also want to send all your best wishes to our Honorary Members.

We now have a new Honorary Member, guess who; - WILLIAM SHATNER. I wrote to him on your behalf inviting him to be an Honorary Member of S.T.A.G. and in the letter I received from him he said, "I most certainly would like to become an Honorary Member of the club. Thank you for asking me." I'm sure you would all like to offer Bill a big welcome. We would eventually like to invite all the main ST cast, including Leonard Nimoy, to become Honorary Members of S.T.A.G. and we are working towards this end.

We're putting this special longer newsletter out this time partly because it's Christmas and partly because we couldn't think of a way to make it shorter, we hope you enjoy it.

We would like to send our good wishes to Joyce Deeming and David Cluet who are getting married soon.

Beth is going into Edgebury Hospital on Nov 22nd and then transferring to Bedford General on Dec. 5th, where she will stay for 14 days. Her operation is scheduled for Dec. 7th. We'll be thinking about you Beth, hurry up and get well - we need you!

Beth's address will be Russell Ward, Bedford General Hospital (South Wing), Kempston, Bedford.

L.L.& P. Janet.

By the time you read this letter I shall be unconscious, and without the help of Sheila Clark's claymore! Janet reckons that the day most of you will receive the newsletter will be the day I have my throat cut! At last, after three years, the Doctors have decided to perform a thyroidectomy on me.

As you know, for this year I'm only an honorary member of the S.T.A.G. committee. I offered to resign but Janet wouldn't let me. Sheila wouldn't let me either, I think she likes someone to bully. So here I am 'squatting' in my parents spare bedroom awaiting THE CALL. To tell you the truth I'm scared out of my mind, and would be grateful for the prayers of the religious amongst you, and the thoughts of the rest.

Apparently I'm not the only trekker who has been poorly just lately, I hear that my old pal Sheila Hull has had a short stay in hospital, I hope you're feeling better Sheila. Also Ann Looker was in bed for a week after the Con, but I'm glad to see Ann's up and planning 'Alnitah 7.' As for poor Margaret Draper she's tired out, having worked herself nearly to death with 'ZAP 2'. She has done all the work this time, and I think it's an excellent zine. Also needing sympathy there's my poor Mother and Scrap her long-suffering cat, who've had to put up with Andy all this time. Those of you who don't know Andy won't understand what a trial this is, those of you who do will appreciate my family's sacrifice.

Apart from that I've had ample opportunity to read both 'zines and books. I enjoyed Simone Mason's two stories and Chris Hall's love story. I have to admit though that I had a sneak preview of that - it's nice to know true romance isn't dead in this 'Full Frontal' age. I didn't understand 'Price Of The Phoenix', maybe I'm just thick, but what is an Alpha Male? Seems to me it's a man shaped like the first letter of the Greek alphabet, that makes 'The Omega Man' look odd too. I preferred 'Planet of Judgement', but I've known better fan-written stories. However I loved 'House of Zeor', more power to your elbow - Jacqueline Lichtenberg.

Well, I guess I've said enough for a non-working member of the committee. My love to you all, I hope to be around for the next newsletter.

Beth

Beth will probably be staying with her parents for awhile after she leaves hospital. Their address is "Hartley", Silver Street, Tetsworth, Oxon.

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When I was first asked to write this letter I thought that if I left it long enough, Janet might forget she had asked me to do one, and this would give me longer to think what to put in a letter when I finally had to do one. But no such luck, Janet reminded me that I hadn't done the letter yet, so here goes, and if we lose members because of it, don't blame me, blame Janet.

To begin with, it is far easier to write to my numerous pen-friends than it is to write a letter for a newsletter. Well just think who the honorary members are to begin with, and if they read the entire newsletter, then it had better make some sense.

Some of you will know that for some time now I've been helping with BEYOND ANTARES, well as from the next B/A newsletter this will cease, and I shall only be on the STAG committee. This is because Sheila is giving up B/A, and Sue Toher and Fran Ball are taking over, and as I was finding it a bit of a job to keep everything up to date with both clubs, I decided to give up B/A at the same time as Sheila. You see, I don't only help on STAG, I also publish zines with my friend Cilla, and the amount of time I spend typing stencils is hard to believe. Our Vice President, will know what I mean.

As you know, Beth lives quite close to where I live, and had it not been for her present illness, we were hoping to run a mini-con, sometime next year. This I hope can still come about, but it will not be yet awhile, as I know we all want Beth to be fully recovered before we do anything so energetic as running a con, no matter how large or small it is.

I met quite a number of you at Liverpool, and I hope we shall all have the pleasure of meeting again at any future conventions there may be. I know this will be the last newsletter of this year, so I want to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year, and hope that STAG will continue to prosper and live long.

Sylvia

NEWSFLASH ... 22/11/77

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE

Guess what! - You're right.

I phoned the STAR TREK office last Tuesday to find out the latest news on the series for you and Gene Roddenberry told me that the series has been postponed and Paramount have now decided to go ahead again with the movie. They hope to start filming in approximately two months.

This is not just a case of Paramount holding things up again. It seems that they've had trouble getting sponsors for the STAR TREK series and some other programmes for the new Paramount Television and they had decided to just film the pilot and delay shooting the rest of the series. They were planning to release the pilot theatrically overseas but then they realised that on the big screen it would still look like a TV episode so they came to the conclusion that it was better to go all out and make a major motion picture.

Gene is very pleased with the decision to make the movie as this is what he wanted in the first place. He will have a much bigger budget to spend on special effects etc, and the delayed filming time gives him more chance to get everything organised without having to rush.

The latest news so far is that the sets are $\frac{3}{4}$ complete. Two of the new characters have been cast.

XON will be played by David Gautreaux, an American.

ILIA will be played by Persis Khamdata, an Indian.

DECKER has not been cast yet.

Since the filming has been delayed for two months there is a good chance that George Takei will be available for it.

I expect that most of what we're printing about the series will still hold good for the movie, and I imagine that the future of the series will depend on the success of the movie, but that's my own speculation.

Gene Roddenberry and Susan Sackett asked me to give you all their regards.

Janet

FAIRCON '78

This Science Fiction convention is being held at the Ingram Hotel in Glasgow on Friday 21st/22nd/23rd of July. Guest of Honour is James White. The programme includes talks and the showing of a good many science fiction films.

For further info write, including a SAE, to Bob Shaw, Top Flat Left, 11 Barrington Drive, Kelvinbridge, Glasgow G4, Scotland.

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

I would like to hear from anyone in my area who plays 3D chess or anyone who'd like to play by post. Rod Summers, 53 Stoneleigh Dr., Knowle, Bristol, BS4 2UH.

I would like to write to some penfriends in the U.K. I am a ST zine fan. Spock is my favourite character, with James T. coming a close second and everyone else close behind. I have been a ST fan for 10 years but only recently discovered that there are other fans in existence. Robin Young, P.O. Box 348, Dandenong, Victoria 3175, Australia.

SURFACE MAIL TO AND FROM THE U.S.A.

Due to a dock strike on the East coast of America surface mail has been severely delayed.

STAR TREK II

All the original cast have signed with the exception of Leonard Nimoy (who has accepted a starring role in the re-make of INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, which has already begun filming) and George Takei. George is also up for several other roles, and at press time it was uncertain whether he would be able to return as Mr. Sulu, but there is still a good chance.

Meanwhile, over on Stages 8, 9 and 10, construction is being rushed to completion in time for our principal photography start date of November 15th. All of the sets are now completely painted and we have put every available person to work on completing the instrumentation of the bridge.

We also have all our scripts for the first 13 episodes of STAR TREK II, and the show will be aired some time in the Spring, although it might not be on until the 1978-79 season.

(Info Susan Sackett November 3rd, 1977)

Most of the Enterprise sets are on Stage 9 - the bridge, the transporter chamber, the three-storey engineering set, the Captain's quarters, the briefing room, the sickbay and metres and metres of corridors.

The first episode is a two-hour movie for television which may be released theatrically overseas. It was originally written by Alan Dean Foster, and is entitled, "In Thy Image". Although we had signed someone to write the script from Alan's story, the writer was unable to do it, and now the script is being written by Gene Roddenberry and producer Harold Livingston. They are reworking the story as well.

While we can't disclose the storyline yet, we will have a chance to see Earth in the 23rd century, Star Fleet Headquarters, and the Enterprise being refitted while docked in Earth orbit.

The opening episode will introduce our three new characters:-

Xon (Zahn), a young full-blooded Vulcan who has recently graduated from the Vulcan Science Academy with the highest honors. He is a genius even by Vulcan standards and he will serve as the new Science Officer on board the Enterprise. Xon is 22ish, this is his first starship assignment, and his first encounter with humans.

Ilia (Eye-lee-ah), a female from the planet Delta V, this lieutenant is breathtakingly beautiful -- and totally hairless, except for her eyebrows. She is from a society which considers sexual expression of fondness for friends something along the lines of shaking hands. This totally bald helmsman often confuses a handshake with a kiss - and a lot more.

Commander Will Decker: now second in command of the Enterprise, he is in his early 30s, eager for his first Starship command someday, and Kirk is preparing him for that future while a warm father/son relationship develops. (note: sorry, he's not supposed to be related to Matt Decker. The name was purely a random choice.)

As you have probably guessed, these new characters all have something in common - youth. The studio felt that we should infuse the Enterprise with some young blood, and we agreed, since this would happen in real life.

Spock has gone back to Vulcan, left Starfleet to become director of exobiology for the Vulcan Science Academy.

Pat Harris and Marsha Kleinman have been set to cast the new ST series. In the past they have casted such series as HAPPY DAYS, SERPICO, THE ODD COUPLE and CPO SHARKLEY. They will be casting the three new characters and also weekly guest stars.

From time to time we can look forward to guest appearances by Grace Lee Whitney as Yeoman Janice Rand (now Head Yeoman; Yeowoman?). And we are hoping to have guest appearances by many of the talented people, like Mark Lenard, who were in one or two of the old episodes.

WRITERS: From the "Writers Status Report," Sept. 8th, 1977 - TO: Gene Roddenberry
 FROM: Harold Livingston - Writers assigned: 1) ALAN DEAN FOSTER - second draft revised delivered 24/8/77; 2) MARGARET ARMEN & ALF HARRIS - story delivered 24/8/77.
 3) SHIMON WINCELBERG - step outline delivered 26/8/77 (full outline to follow)
 4) NORMAN SPINRAD (story assigned); POVILL & JARON SUMMERS (deal in progress)
 5) WORLEY THORNE; 6) JOHN MEREDYTH LUCAS (two-parter); 7) RICHARD BACH; 8) ART LEWIS;
 9) TED STURGEON; 10) BILL LANSFORD; 11) DAVID LAMBROSE..... With the assignment of the story to David Ambrose, we have now a total of thirteen stories into work... The stories now in work are considered representative STAR TREK stories, truly exciting and imaginative....

Joe Jennings is the Art Director on the new series. Bill Theiss will design the costumes, and has disclosed that "The uniforms won't be changed much." He has promised to add some new ones, though, and we can look forward to seeing more recreational attire worn in the corridors of the Enterprise.

Bill is also trying to reassemble experts from the original series to assist him. Frances Harrison will be Bill's assistant; she was key costumer on the last six episodes of the original ST. Bill's hoping to have Bill Blackburn in charge of men's wardrobe. He was DeForest Kelley's stand-in on the original show. Joy Tierney is Bill's choice for head of women's wardrobe, having served as cutter-fitter on the first two years of the original ST. And Kazu Yamamoto, who worked with Bill on "Planet Earth", another Roddenberry project, will be cutter-fitter on the new STAR TREK.

MODELS: The original Enterprise will remain in the Smithsonian, but we are trying to borrow back the Klingon Battle Cruiser, which is also there, but not on display. Meanwhile, we're having a new model of the Enterprise constructed, with the added bonus of a saucer section which can separate from the engine nacelles, should such a maneuver be a necessary part of some story. This capacity of the Enterprise was described in THE MAKING OF STAR TREK, although it was never utilized in the first series.

We are investigating the possibilities of utilizing the MAGICAM process with facilities located on the Paramount lot.

(Info from Susan Sackett via STAR TREK TENNIAL NEWS 24 & STARLOG 11)

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The following info from STW's A PIECE OF THE ACTION October & November 1977:-

The members of the cast were called in on October 5th to be measured for their costumes. "...including our heads!", Walter Koenig is reported to have said.

A number of coincidences have cropped up - Gene Roddenberry and his staff are occupying the same office space they used before; and although the buildings are different, two of the sound stages are numbered '9 & 10', as were the original stages on the Desilu lot, years ago. These have been joined by Building number '8', giving the new STAR TREK plenty of room.

(Info Shirley Maliewski - from phone conversation with rep. at ST office on Oct. 5th)

The Enterprise will be pretty much the same both outside and in; the only changes will be in details. There will be 2 doors on the bridge, and there will be toilets on the ship, though Gene hasn't quite decided how they will look. The interior of the ship will not be so sterile. There will be a lot of space art work and quite a bit of vegetation (a lot of exotic plants, like you'd keep as a pet).

(info Gene Roddenberry via Joy Ashenfelfer.)

The July 2-8 TV GUIDE had an article saying that Paramount is planning to produce 22 episodes of an all new "Star Trek". Gene Roddenberry was signed to put together the show at a cost of \$400,000 an episode.

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From STAR TREK TENNIAL NEWS 24 In an interview with Gene Roddenberry Susan Sackett asked him what changes he would make in STAR TREK. In answering he mentioned the following points:

We can show more women aboard our ship and we can show them in command situations as much as we care to, if it seems dramatic and desirable. We will indicate that there are "heads" (toilets) on the new Enterprise and there will be two elevators on the bridge. I think we may also get into some questions of the intimate lives of the people aboard the Enterprise as the more you get into the intimate details of day by day living, the more real the people and their lives become, although I doubt we'll do whole stories about those things.

The points Gene specifically mentioned we might find out were:

Are the costumes dry cleaned, or somehow regenerated new?

Do the crew take baths or showers, or do they use some sort of sonic method of cleaning themselves.

How do the crew get their hair cut?

Do they still shave or is there a treatment to eliminate this?

AVAILABLE MERCHANDISE

BOOK SHOPS We have no update on their stocks since the last newsletter but because of the dock strike in the States surface mail to this country has been delayed since Mid-October. We gave a fairly complete list of what the shops had in stock in our last newsletter.

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TERRON ENTERPRISES 8-96/96 Alderney Street, London, SW1V 4EZ.

STAR TREK GIANT POSTER BOOK The famous poster mag, imported direct from the States. Contains articles, quizzes and full colour photos exclusive to this magazine.

Issues 1 - 12 available. Subscriptions 12 issues £7.50 6 issues £4.00

STAR WARS MAGAZINE - The Full story. The complete story of the making of the film with double page full-colour photo spreads. A great souvenir of this records breaking film. £1.25 each.

STAR TREK A-Z - The complete Star Trek Encyclopedia. One of the most magnificent books we've seen. Every page in full colour with each entry fully cross-referenced. This book was 4 years in preparation. To be published Oct/Nov. For further info send a S.A.E.

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STARLOG The following merchandise is put out by 'Starlog'. Where they haven't given a price for foreign mail we've suggested one which should at least cover surface mail. You will see that there is a different address for each item but this will only be for the firms convenience - if you are ordering more than one item just combine your order and send it to STARLOG at 475 Park Ave. etc. Send payment by dollar draft or Money Order. This firm has so far proved reliable at sending goods but don't answer enquiries. If you are in doubt you would be better to just order one item first to check their reliability for yourself. Allow 2 - 3 months for delivery if goods come surface mail.

SPACESHIPS, 36 pgs, over 100 photos, many in full colour. Includes spaceships from "Star Trek", "Space 1999", the George Pal movies and much more. Craft designs from over 75 movies - plus 'Trek', '1999' & More TV. 8½"x11" High-gloss paper. Reference material-Data on every show - Movies & TV.

Price \$2.95 plus postage. Foreign Airmail \$2.05. U.S.A. 1st class \$1.05, 3rd class - 55¢

SF ALIENS (available for shipment right after Christmas). 100 pgs, over 200 photos printed in full colour. Episode guide to aliens from "Lost In Space", "UFO", "Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea", "Time Tunnel", "Twilight Zone", "Star Trek", "Space 1999" and "Outer Limits." Over 175 Movies included - plus aliens from 25 years of TV. 8½"x11" High-gloss paper.

Price \$5.95 plus postage. Foreign Airmail \$2.25 each. U.S.A. 1st class \$1.25, 3rd 75¢

Order the above two photo guidebooks from STARLOG Guidebooks, 475 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016, U.S.A.

STAR TREK EPISODE CARDS Each 8½"x11" card features one large and three small photos printed in full colour from some of the most popular episodes of the "Star Trek" series. C1-"City On The Edge Of Forever", C2-"The Tholian Web", C3-"Amok Time", C4-"The Trouble With Tribbles", C5-"The Paradise Syndrome", C6-"Patterns of Force", C7-"What Are Little Girls Made Of?", C8-"The Doomsday Machine", C9-"Journey To Babel", C10-"The Menagerie", C11-"Where No Man Has Gone Before", C12-"All Our Yesterdays", C13-"Mirror Mirror, S14-Special Enterprise card, S15-Special Bloopers card.

Price \$1.00 each plus 50¢ postage (U.S.A.) for 6 cards or less. 7 cards or more 75¢. Complete collection (15 cards) \$9.95 plus 75¢ postage (U.S.A.)

(If British members enclosed \$2.00 postage for 7 cards or more I'm sure this would suffice)

Order individual cards by letter & number. Starlog Magazine, Star Trek Cards, 475 Park Ave. South, 8th Floor Suite, New York, NY 10016, U.S.A.

For 1st class delivery in U.S.A. enclose 9"x12" envelope plus \$1.00 (no matter how many cards). Otherwise allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

STAR TREK FANTASY This full colour 28"x20" poster is by famed artist Ken Barr featuring the main crew of the Enterprise, surrounded by a fantasmagoria of images from various episodes. price \$3.00 each plus postage. Postage U.S.A. 60¢. British members could send \$2.00 as that should more than cover surface mail. STARLOG POSTER GALLERY, 475 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016, U.S.A.

U.S.S. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE BLUEPRINTS The original Detailed Set - Complete on 10 fold-out sheets. Each 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ " - Drawn by Michael McMaster. Includes details of all the stations on the bridge.

Price \$5.95 per set plus postage. Postage U.S.A. 1st class \$1.55, 3rd class \$1.05
British fans could try adding \$2.00, it should be enough for surface mail.

Starlog Magazine, Bridge Blueprints, 475 Park Ave. South, 8th floor, New York, NY 10016.

STAR LOG MAGAZINE Subscription for one year (8 issues) \$10.98 U.S.A. & Canada.

Foreign subscriptions \$17.00. Send dollar drafts or Money Order only.

Starlog Magazine, Subscription Dept., 475 Park Ave South, New York, NY 10016, U.S.A.

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THE ORIGINAL RECORD AND TAPE COMPANY, c/o Biblios, Glenside Industrial Estate,
Partridge Green, Horsham, Sussex.

This company is importing the double album, WILLIAM SHATNER - 'LIVE' from the States. (see enclosed flyer). They will also be releasing shortly a six-cassette pack of Ray Bradbury reading his best short stories and another similar pack of Asimov reading some of his. Write for details enclosing a SAE. ORTC also sells the EMI range of spoken word cassettes. One of these, a set of two-cassettes, is WAR OF THE WORLDS by H.G. Wells, read by Robert Hardy.

WILLIAM SHATNER - "LIVE"

Review by Sheila Clark:

This double album is a 'must' for all Shatner fans. It is an easy mixture of space fact and fiction; drama and comedy, formality and informality, and the mood of the whole is enhanced by excellent direction - as for example the very subtle touch of the barely audible background music that accompanies several of the items.

Side 1 - Earthbound. The album begins with a very effective SF quotation of that title. Mr. Shatner goes on to chat to the audience - he has a gift for making people laugh; then goes on to a piece designed to get the audience into the 'space' mood, from which he slides easily into another quote, Greek astronomical knowledge, and on into Shakespeare.

Side 2 - Six Ways to the Moon. Mr. Shatner begins by speaking of early SF stories going on to quote from Cyrano de Bergerac, a piece obviously picked for its humour. This very entertaining item is followed by Mr. Shatner pointing out how many of Cyrano's imaginary details are now accepted scientific or technological fact. From this, he continues with a fictional history of flight and astronomy, going on to quote from 'The War of the Worlds'.

Side 3 - The Movie. Although this of course is now out of date, it's interesting to hear how things were when the movie was still being considered. Mr. Shatner speaks of Leonard Nimoy's disagreement with Paramount, giving a hilarious description of the Heiniken poster. He then goes on to speak of visiting the old STAR TREK offices while filming Barbary Coast, and finding Gene Roddenberry sitting in one of the offices typing... and talks about Gene's rejected script.

Side 4 - Questions. Mr. Shatner invited questions from the audience, and has a fairly lengthy exchange with a boy called Peter, seven years old, who wanted to know how the transporter worked - and ended up accepting the true answer, which he already knew, trick photography! Mr. Shatner admits that he does not understand the STAR TREK mystique, but points out that no-one knows what makes a hit show.

The album, entertaining from the start, becomes even more so with re-hearing; there is so much in it, you can't grasp it all the first time... or even the second.

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This double album is being imported into the U.K. by THE ORIGINAL TAPE & RECORD COMPANY - see enclosed flyer. Unfortunately due to the East coast dock strike in America and the fact that no cargo has been coming in from the States, supplies of this record have been delayed. Orders will be accepted and the records sent to you as soon as they arrive from the States.

NEW AND FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISE

MEANING IN STAR TREK Anima Books will publish this book, by Karin Blair, in December. The book explores the STAR TREK phenomenon from the Jungian psychology perspective. Illustrated with pen and ink drawings, it will sell for \$9.95 in hardcover. Anima Books, 1053 Wilson Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201, USA. (info Star Trektennial News 24)

THE MAKING OF THE TREK CONVENTIONS or How to Hold a Party for 12,00 of Your Most Intimate Friends. by Joan Winston. A deluxe hardbound edition of approximately 300 pgs, which included 32 pgs. of never-before-seen photographs, is scheduled for publication on November 25th. For information of postage prices etc. write to Nova Enterprises, P.O. Box 149, Parkville Station, Brooklyn, NY 11204, U.S.A.

STARFLEET MEDICAL REFERENCE MANUAL Ballantine \$6.95. Same format as the STARFLEET TECHNICAL MANUAL

STAR TREK 12 Bantam \$1.75. This consists of adaptations of PATTERNS OF FORCE, GAMES-TERS OF TRISKELION and CORBOMITE MANOEUVRE, written by James Blish, and AND THE CHILDREN SHALL LEAD and SHORE LEAVE, written by his wife, J.A. Lawrence. All of these adaptations are very close to the screened versions. There is in addition a) an index of the scripts, and b) an alphabetical list of episodes giving the volume it is in and the season of its showing. There is a foreward by Mrs. Blish and a preface by James Blish, in which he explains why some of the early adaptations differ in some respects from the screened version. We've had a long wait for this, the final volume of adaptations, but it's a pretty good one. Interesting that some of the most popular episodes went into the early volumes, but the later ones have been by far the more accurate and with more sensitive writing.

PHOTO NOVELS - Bantam/Mandala \$1.95 each. Two volumes are so far available. Volume 1 is CITY ON THE EDGE OF FOREVER, and Volume 2 is WHERE NO MAN HAS GONE BEFORE. These books are made up of fully 300 colour prints taken from clips, with speech 'balloons' superimposed in much the same fashion as the German Gong strips. (They aren't reprints of the Gong strips with English wording, some of the pictures are different) It's a pity that some lovely pictures are partially obscured by print, but despite this, the books give a magnificent cross-section of prints from each show. The wording, too, is pretty accurate - it seems to have been taken from the script rather than from the actual film. I do object slightly to the way in which key words are emphasised by being in darker print - I find it a distraction, rather than a help to understanding. The next episode in line for production is THE TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES, and I'm definitely looking forward to getting it. If all 79 episodes are put out in this form, it will give us a tremendous selection of photos from each episode.
(Many thanks to Dorothy Bradley for sending me all three of these books. Sheila)

SMALL ADS

Charge 5p per line (approx 12 words). Send ads to Janet - British stamps accepted.

WANTED: Could anyone help me find information on KRAITH? Sara Dickinson, 24 Westcot Road, Swindon, Wilts.

WANTED: Any information, stills, slides, etc. on LOGANS RUN. Write stating price and details to: Rod Summers, 53 Stoneleigh Rd., Bristol 4

WANTED: Urgently. Any articles, clippings, facts, photos, pics, magazines etc. on ANY of the following - SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN, BIONIC WOMAN, CHARLIE'S ANGELS, Lee Majors, Farrah Fawcett-Majors, Lindsay Wagner. Top prices paid, all postage refunded. Please contact John Patterson, 102 Mullway, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 4BH

WANTED: P.J. Proby - pics, records, anything (!) wanted. Buy or trade - state price or wants. Margie Jones, 33 Ramsbottom St., Accrington, Lancs, NB5 1BZ.

TC SWAP: 3 sets of pics of STAR WARS taken from the album sleeve, for any STAR TREK pics, slides or tape recordings. Bob Eeles, 15 Higham Hill Rd., Walthamstow, London E17 6EA

WANTED: Could anyone give me the address of the producers of MAN FROM ATLANTIS? Miss E. Newton, "Dellian", Halton Station Rd., Sutton Weaver, Runcorn, Cheshire.

FOR SALE: Star Trek episodes on cassettes, taped direct from TV. Episodes from last two showings on BBC. Two episodes on each tape. £1.25 each inc. postage.
Sue Bradley, 15 Queen Mary Ave., Colchester, Essex, CO2 7PH

WANTED: STAR TREK comics (Gold Key) most numbers from 1-44. Send details of number & condition for quote by return post. Carl Hiles, 2 John Spencer Sq., London N1 2JZ

FOR SALE: Copies of 'The Star Fleet Freighter Blueprints' are now on sale at only £1.50 including postage. The set of twelve will be sent in a title envelope and then mailed in a special photograph envelope to keep them flat and safe in the post. Those wanting please send cheque or postal order to:- J. Colin R. Hunter, 7 Craigmillar Park, Newington, Edinburgh, EH16 5PF

WANTED: Could anyone let me have the address of a fan club for the TV AVENGERS series.
Sally A. Syrjala, R.R. No.1, Box 5E, West Barnstable, Massachusetts 02668 USA

OTHER CLUBS

BEYOND ANTARES Pres. Sue Toher, 56 Spring Lane, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants, SO5 6BA

EMPATHY Pres. Pres. Dot Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount, Halifax, West Yorks. Good general ST club, they sell various ST fanzines.

STARBASE 13 - Brian Longstaff, 13 Woodfarm Drive, Sheffield, Yorks. Part ST, part SF

STAR TREK ENTERPRISES RADCLIFFE BRANCH - John Hind, 14 Bingham Rd., Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts, NG12 2FY. The club for those with a zany sense of humour.

STAR TREK INFORMATION GROUP - Ross Carter, 29 Castle Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

OMICORN - Tracy Cooke, 67 Eden Grove, Horfield, Bristol, B57 0PQ. ST & SPACE 1999 club.

WILLIAM SHATNER FANFARE - Mrs Dee Smith, 25 Wolsey Rd., Caversham, Reading, Berks. The club for the Kirk fans.

STARBASE 14 - Stuart McKnight, 114 Thornton Rd., Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0ND

STAR TREK CORRESPONDENCE CLUB - Judy Mortimore, 21 Owens Close, Long Stratton, Norfolk, Zine-Fizzbin.

STARSHIP EXETER ORGANISATION - Marilyn Perry, 2 Westwood Cottage, Westwood, Crediton, Devon EX17 3PE

HOSATO - Worldwide Fan Club for George Takei. Kathy Bayne, 41-09 53rd Street, Woodside, New York 11377, U.S.A.

British renewals, enquiries etc. should be sent to Ena Glogowska, 62 Southbank St., Leek, Staffs, ST13 5LN. She will forward them on to Kathy Bayne.

LEONARD NIMOY ASSOCIATION OF FANS - Louise Stange, President, 4612 Denver Court, Englewood, Ohio 45322, U.S.A. bulletins, newsletters (approx quarterly), Annual Yearbook which included many photos. Dues \$4.00 surface mail all publications. \$10.00 Airmail all publications. \$7.00 Airmail for bulletins and newsletters, surface mail for Yearbook. No foreign currency, dollar bank drafts or International Money Orders only. Make them payable to Miss Louise Stange.

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THE BRITISH FANTASY SOCIETY If you are interested in any form of Fantasy in Literature, Films, Art etc. (which includes such as Heroic Fantasy, Supernatural Horror, Swords & Sorcery, etc.) then the B.F.S. is for you. Services include a regular, illustrated Bulletin, a magazine 'Dark Horizons', Book & Fanzine Libraries and a system of critical comment for all budding writers. For further info write to Brian Mooney, Secretary BFS, 447A Porters Ave., Dagenham, Essex, RM9 4ND.

STAR WARS

Opening at the Dominion, Tottenham Court Rd., London on December 27th.

NEWS OF THE STARS

WILLIAM SHATNER has been set to guest star in MGM Television's "How The West Was Won" mini-series, which will air in the States in February. (info Star Trektenial News 24)

WILLIAM SHATNER, a native of Montreal, has been named honorary chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis Fund of Canada. (info STW's A PIECE OF THE ACTION Oct. 77)

WILLIAM SHATNER is now narrating a program on the growth of America's economy from the industrial revolution to the present, studying the economy by looking at its causes and effects on Americans. By portraying a technician in his first program he looked at the areas of invention and production. The program is on most PBS stations and the series has four episodes, in which Shatner portrays a technician, a reporter, a scientist and a businessman. Aired in Rapid City, June 18th 77.

(info Stephen Kopp via STW's APOFTA)

WILLIAM SHATNER: The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films has announced that William Shatner has been nominated for a Golden Scroll Award as Best Actor in 1977 in a science fiction, fantasy or horror film for his role in Dimension Pictures thriller, "Kingdom of the Spiders".

Mr. Shatner shares Best Actor nomination so far this year with Mark Hamill for his performance in "Star Wars" and Michael York for his performance in "The Island of Doctor Moreau." Announcements of additional nominations in the Best Actor Category will be forthcoming from the academy.

Voting will take place in late December and the winners will be announced by the academy in 1978.

The academy has announced also that "Kingdom of the Spiders" has been nominated in the category of Best Film 1977 (Horror category).

"Kingdom of the Spiders" is currently in national release (in the U.S.A.) with additional openings through the end of the year.

(info Bobbi Cowan & Associates via STW's APOFTA Nov 77)

LEONARD NIMOY will be starring in the remake of the science-fiction classic, THE INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, with Donald Sutherland. The film will be directed by Phil Kaufman. Shooting will begin on Oct 31st, 1977 and continue for two months.

WILLIAM SHATNER, DEFOREST KELLEY, JAMES DOOHAN, NICHELL NICHOLS, WALTER KOENIG and MAJEL BARRETT have signed to do the new STAR TREK series and hopefully should be engaged in filming by the time you receive this newsletter. Shooting was scheduled to start on Nov 15th. We don't have confirmation yet as to whether GEORGE TAKEI has signed.

SUSAN SACKETT I'm sure you would all like to join us in wishing Susan a very happy birthday on December 18th.

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VARIETY October 26th 1977

"Leonard Nimoy joins Donald Sutherland in "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," rolling Monday in Northern California, with Veronica Cartwright and Brooke Adams also set for cast. Spokesman said Nimoy's decision to do "Invasion" precludes his reprising his spaceship sub-command in the telepic version of a "Star Trek" sequel."

LOS ANGELES TIMES Oct 22nd 1977

"Joining Sutherland - it will be announced next week - is none other than Leonard Nimoy. Nimoy had, of course, been paged to reprise his role as Mr. Spock in Paramount TV's new Star Trek series. In fact, Nimoy became acquainted with Kaufman last year when Kaufman was preparing to direct the Star Trek feature film that has since been canceled.

"I had a good relationship with the Star Trek people," Nimoy said last Thursday. "I considered doing the project but the discussions became very complicated. They went on for a year and a half - it got to the point where I just didn't want to continue with it." Nimoy was agreeable to Kaufman's suggestion that he accept a role in "Invasion of the Body Snatchers".

Giving some indication of the direction that W.D. Richter's screenplay will take, Nimoy said he will be playing a contemporary psychologist, "a kind of Werner Erhard/Arthur Janov character who explains that all zombielike behavior is due to contemporary social stresses."

FANZINE ADS

'ZAP' 1 & 2 65p per copy. Order from Ms. M. Draper, The Lodge, Wantage Rd., Rowstock, Nr. Didcot, Oxon. Please enclose an addressed sticky label and add 15p per zine for postage and packing. Issue 1 available, orders being taken for issue 2. These zines are a collection of 'Get-Kirk' stories.

THE SHATTERED DREAM story by Sylvia Billings & Cilla Fletcher. 90p incl. p&p
SECOND CHANCE (new) sequel to SHATTERED DREAM, by Sylvia Billings and Cilla Fletcher.

90 pages approx., price £1.10 including p & p.

STARRED' EIGHT A collection of 8 ST stories, one about each character. By Cilla Fletcher. 90 pages approx. Price £1.10 incl. p & p. (new zine)

CAPTAIN'S LOG Two issues available. These zines contain Kirk orientated stories. 90p each incl. p & p.

The above zines are 'Midnight' publications and they are available from Sylvia Billings, 49 Southampton Road, Far Cotton, Northampton.

T'PAVAN by Caz Hart, tells of Spock being used by the Klingons. A mind sifter, a battle to keep the Enterprise from our enemies, even though they are in command. Spock kills Kirk...

THE RULE ABSOLUTE The crew of the Enterprise try to save a peace loving planet from a ruthless ruler. Can they do this.

Each zine 45p inclusive of p&p.

Omicorn, 67 Eden Grove, Horfield, Bristol, England.

MONOLITH - Roy Jackson, 16 Manton Road, Liverpool, L6 6BL.

An irregular newsletter about all aspects of science-fiction. Music, poetry, artwork, fiction etc. Also the latest news on science fiction on the screen such as the new LOGANS RUN series, and QUARK (a TV Sci-Fi comedy series) and, of course, STAR TREK. Not forgetting book reviews and science fiction wargames. Just send 20p and get the first issue of MONOLITH.

There is a new zine in the country. It is a zine based on the works of the British producers, Gerry & Sylvia Anderson. It will be containing articles on all the various serials they did; i.e. THUNDERBIRDS, UFO, SUPERCAR, FIREBALL XL5, SPACE 1999 etc. Issue 1 has just been produced and hopefully the zine will be issued every three months. It will cost 50p for the zine plus 20p for postage. Issue 2 will be done around Christmas with a full-coloured cover. If you wish to order a copy it is obtainable from, Ms. Pat Thomas, Box 12 Focceur, U S Navhdotrs, 7 North Audley, London SW1.

PHOTOCOPIES of the following zines are available from Lori Chapek Carleton, 557 Cornell, East Lansing, MI 48823, U.S.A.

Prices include postage and orders will take about a month. Payment by dollar draft or Money Order.

Contact 1 - \$7.70, 2 - \$12.69. Masiform D 1 - \$4.78, 2 - \$7.38, 3 - \$8.74, 4 - \$7.70.

Menagerie 1 - \$1.78, 2 - \$2.81, 3 - \$2.18, 4 - \$2.29, 5 - \$2.70.

Sol Plus 1 - \$9.05, 2 - \$5.20, 3 - \$17.16. Other Side of Paradise 1 - \$14.25, 2 - \$22.05.

CONTACT PRESENTS : THE COLOURS OF LOVE An LP containing 10 original songs by the OMICRON CETTI III. Many songs are Kirk/Spock relationship. There is also a songbook available with the words and music for the songs. For price info, send an IRC to Martha Bonds, 6812-B Sturbridge Dr., Baltimore, MD 21234, U.S.A.

CONTACT III & MIRAGE Nancy & Bev would like to apologize that they've had some problems over these two zines but that people who ordered them will be receiving their copies. The zines are now out of print and no more orders can be accepted.

THE LOGICAL THING TO DO Sarek/Amanda story by Simone Mason. 85p + 15 p&p. Simone Mason, "Seranis", Danehill, Haywards Heath, Sussex, RH17 7JQ

USED STAMPS

We would like to thank all of you who sent your used stamps to Sheila. We now have an address to which you can send them direct if you prefer.

Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR

LETTER FROM GENE RODDENBERRY

October 22nd, 1977

TO FELLOW NIMOY-SPOCK FANS:

It comes as considerable shock to me to learn that this letter is necessary. However, STAR TREK cast members and fans have advised me that there is some misinformed rumor on the subject of Nimoy-Spock and STAR TREK II. These are the facts.

I have been a Leonard Nimoy admirer since long before there was a STAR TREK. You cannot know much about our show without also knowing of my many tributes to Leonard as a human being and a multi-talented artist.

Do I like Mister Spock too? Incredible that I should have to answer that question! Not only did I invent Spock, I risked everything by refusing NBC's demand that "the guy with the ears" be eliminated. Some of my happiest memories are those of Nimoy and myself working together on the original series.

Has Leonard Nimoy been offered the Spock role in STAR TREK II? Discussions and negotiations with Nimoy to play Spock in a STAR TREK movie and/or television show have been going on for over two years! The best evidence of my sincerity in wanting our original stars back is that I voluntarily reduced my movie profit percentage so that it could be given to Nimoy and Shatner to further induce them to do the STAR TREK film.

At about the time the STAR TREK movie was cancelled by Paramount (which I still consider a serious mistake), I had a meeting with Leonard Nimoy in which we discussed STAR TREK and television. At that time, he told me that he might consider long form television specials but "under no circumstances" would he return to play Mr. Spock again on a weekly hour television series basis. He explained that the pressures of weekly television would interfere with his career goal of stage, film and other things.

I still hoped he would change his mind but could not ignore reports that he continued to reject any STAR TREK television possibilities in newspaper columns and in television interviews. Then, when Nimoy finally became part of a successful play on Broadway stage, I had to accept that his rejection of STAR TREK television was final.

Convinced that no terms I could arrange would bring a willing and enthusiastic Leonard Nimoy into the role of Mr. Spock on television again, I had no choice but to get on with the difficult job of inventing a new science officer. Also, perhaps some interesting other new alien too. This job was made easier by the fact that we did have the exceptionally gifted Bill Shatner still playing Captain Kirk. I believed that our fans would be very pleased that after eleven years it appears that we'll get six out of seven original actors back.

Do we still want Nimoy-Spock in STAR TREK II? Yes, of course. Must we have the Nimoy-Spock combination back to matter what the schedule or terms or cost? Of course not. We also have obligations on schedule and terms and cost to a Shatner-Kirk combination. And to the other actor-character combinations too. We have obligations to episode writers who are fine artists in their own right, to a director, to an art director, in fact to well over a hundred other talented actors, staff and crew who are also an important part of STAR TREK.

It seems to me that STAR TREK's content must indicate that I have no small respect for our audience. I must now call upon our audience to return that respect in the form of some confidence that I am trying to make the best STAR TREK II possible under all the conditions faced in returning the show to television.

Sincerely,

Gene Roddenberry

STAR TREK II & LEONARD NIMOY

All of our British Members should have received a leaflet from me telling them of a letter campaign to get Leonard Nimoy offered a contract for the new ST series. I received this from the States and although we didn't agree with a lot of what it said the STAG Committee decided that we had a duty to inform our members of the letter campaign and give them a chance to join it. At the same time, as we were not in complete agreement with some of the things said in the leaflet we did not put STAG or my name on it. We thought that you would realise it was just a general handout but we gather that, noting the postmark, a lot of you assumed it was put out by STAG. This is our fault and if we put out any flyers in future we will say on them whether they are from STAG or just a general handout we've been asked to pass on to you.

. . . .

So far I, through STAG, have attempted to give you all the facts I've received about Nimoy not doing the new series, his statement at the New York Con etc., but have kept my own opinions to myself. Now, after hearing some of the things people are saying I've decided that it's time to come down off the fence and say what I think. Most of you who wrote either to Paramount or to Gene will have received a copy of the letter on the previous page and for some reason some of you think it's a whitewash. Considering the fact that Gene created STAR TREK, fought for STAR TREK and Spock, encouraged and helped STAR TREK fandom over the last 10 years and fought to bring STAR TREK back mainly for us - he certainly never made a fortune from STAR TREK and it's unlikely he ever will. How can you you believe he would lie to us?

Let's go through his letter:

Gene has always paid tribute to Leonard Nimoy and to his portrayal of Spock. For proof we have THE MAKING OF STAR TREK, INSIDE STAR TREK, his talks at universities etc. in the States, and those of you who went to Elstree and met Gene heard what he had to say. Information both from the studio and the press over the last couple of years has said that negotiations were being held with Nimoy to play Spock in the ST Movie but difficulty with a merchandising contract Nimoy was trying to get, and the fact that he wanted to see the script first, held things up.

Around June/July when news of the new series and cancellation of the movie was released I was informed by members in the States that Nimoy had stated on a television interview that while he might have considered doing a movie there was no way he was going to do a weekly television series. He also stated this in the press. At the convention in Liverpool George Takei said that Nimoy felt that playing Spock in a weekly series could affect his career as an actor and cause him to become type-cast again. George did also state that Nimoy had only been offered a contract for the first two-part pilot but that could be related to the fact that Nimoy said he wouldn't consider doing a series.

If Gene had to accept that he couldn't get Nimoy to do Spock then he had no choice but to create some new characters. He hasn't killed Spock off, only transferred him to the Vulcan Science Academy, so it has been left open for Nimoy to return on guest appearances or even to return as a regular if that can be arranged.

Now I want Spock back as much as any of you; although I have a slight leaning towards Kirk I am basically a Kirk/Spock fan 1st and a Kirk/Spock/McCoy fan 2nd. I feel that part of Kirk will be missing without Spock. However, you may or may not be surprised to know that a large number of STAR TREK fans do seem to be willing to accept the new series without Spock. They feel, and rightly so, that STAR TREK is more than just one character. It has to be more, or it doesn't deserve the cult organised around it.

Personally I will watch the new series with an open mind, although much as I hope to enjoy it I will probably treat it as alternate universe as in my ST universe Kirk, Spock and McCoy will always remain together on the Enterprise.

In conclusion I would just like to say - stop treating Gene Roddenberry as the enemy. I don't see how any real STAR TREK fan can think of the 'Great Bird of the Galaxy' as an 'enemy'. If you want to blame anyone blame Paramount. They cancelled ST in the first place, decided to do the movie then rejected Gene's script, wasted time getting two writers who had never seen STAR TREK to write a script and then rejected it, then cancelled the movie because they felt it couldn't compete with STAR WARS. If Paramount had got their finger out and let Gene get on with his job the STAR TREK MOVIE would have been released first and STAR WARS would have had to compete with it!

The above is my own opinion but most of it is verified by fact. I just thought it was time I aired my views.

Janet

NEW SERIES versus OLD

We've had a number of letters from members asking us whether STAG will support the new series of STAR TREK or continue to stick with the old. The simple answer to that question is that we will do both. STAG is a general ST club; we will do our best to give you all the information we can get on the new series and also give our support to Gene Roddenberry in his efforts to bring ST back as an exciting and viable new series. Now, while we give our support to the new series this does not mean we will forget about the original series. Both Sheila and Janet are strong Kirk/Spock/McCoy fans, and the fact that Spock will not be in the new series will mean that as much as we may enjoy the new series our loyalty will remain with the original series. Janet, for one, would never even think about writing a story that didn't have Spock as First Officer of the Enterprise, and she will never accept a story as 'true' ST unless it has Spock on the Enterprise. This is purely personal, Janet has never accepted stories where one of the main characters leaves the ship, gets killed off, or whatever.

Another point a lot of you are worried about is whether with the birth of the new series fan writers will write about it and ignore the original series, and Spock. The answer to that is that probably a lot of them will, but there are a lot of writers who, loving Spock, will not readily leave him out of their stories. Personally, Sheila has a number of story ideas involving Spock already roughly plotted, and no way will those stories ever be altered to feature any other character instead. Several of our other regular writers feel the same. Since alternate universes were an established part of STAR TREK, there's nothing illogical to keep on writing and printing stories set in a universe where Spock remains with the Enterprise. (There are a number of alternate universes already in print, like the 'Variations' universe in which Spock is the Captain and Kirk the First Officer. Incidentally there are more stories planned set in that universe.) At the moment, Sheila's views on the new relationships preclude her writing any stories using the new characters - this might change once the new series is aired, but it seems likely that if it does, any stories she writes using the 'new' universe will feature Decker/Xon or Kirk/McCoy - with the latter then writing Spock in somewhere... as First Officer...

We plan to keep LOG ENTRIES as a purely 'traditional' zine. If we get sufficient stories using the new set-up, and sufficient interest is shown, we'll put out a separate zine of 'new series' stories in which Spock does not appear as First Officer of the Enterprise. LOG ENTRIES will continue to be published as long as there is a demand. We fans have kept STAR TREK alive for the last 10 years, we see no reason why we shouldn't keep the original series alive for many, many more years to come in our own fantasies - shared with each other.

We will continue to welcome comments, articles, etc, on the old series as well as looking for objective comments on the new; and we sincerely hope that, like us, all members will give the new series a chance.

Janet & Sheila

ACTORS CREDITSAdditions & CorrectionsLeonard Nimoy

- VIRGINIAN - "Show Me A Hero"
- "Seven Days of May" film
- 1972 - NIGHT GALLERY - "Death On A Barge" (Directed)
- 1977 - BICENTENNIAL MINUTE (info from Janet Hall)

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On the opposite page you will find a list of Deforest Kelley's credits. Our thanks for these go to Marion Kennedy, Colin Hunter, Janet Hall and the Japanese ST club STARBASE.

The actor we are featuring in the next newsletter is JAMES DOCHAN. Could any of you with credit lists please send copies to Janet.

DEFOREST KELLEYCreditsMotion Pictures

- 1947 - "Variety Girl" Paramount Pictures
- 1947 - "Fear In The Night" Paramount
- 1948 - "Canon City" half documentary, half film
- 1955 - "The View From Pompey's Head" (also called "Secret Interlude")
- 1955 - "House of Bamboo"
- 1956 - "Tension at Table Rock"
- 1957 - "Gunfight at the OK Corral"
- 1957/58 - "Raintree Country"
- 1958 - "The Law and Jake Wade"
- 1959 - "Warlock"
- 1964 - "Where Love Has Gone"
- 1964 - "Gunfight at Comanche Creek" Allied Artists
- 1965 - "Town Tamer"
- 1966 - "Apache Uprising"
- 1972 - "Night of the Lepus"
- 1975 - "Beginner's Luck (stage play)"
- "This Gun For Hire" Paramount
- "Black Spurs"
- "Duke of Chicago"
- "Johnny Reno"
- "Marriage on the Rock"
- "Taxi"
- "Illegal"
- "Waco"
- "Ride the Wind"

Television

- STUDIO ONE
- PLAYHOUSE 90
- BONANZA - "The Decision"
- GLNSMOKE
- NAVY LOG
- YOU ARE THERE - "Fort Sumter"
- PERRY MASON - "The Case of the Unwelcome Bride"
- LONE RANGER - "Death in the Forest"
- ZANE GREY THEATRE
- ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE
- SCHILTZ THEATRE
- SCIENCE FICTION THEATRE
- WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE
- ROUTE 66
- THE FUGITIVE
- IRONSIDE
- SILENT FORCE
- SILENT SERVICE
- THE BOLD ONES - "The Doctors"
- THE COWBOYS - "David Done It"
- HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL
- 1966/67 - STAR TREK series 29 episodes
- 1967/68 - STAR TREK series 26 episodes
- 1968/69 - STAR TREK series 24 episodes
- 1973 - STAR TREK animated series
- RAWHIDE

Radio

- Sang on Radio Station WSB in Atlanta
- Sang at Atlanta Paramount Theatre with Lew Forbes Orchestra.
- Plays on Local Radio with 'Long Beach Theatre Group'

INTERCON 78

An open letter to all Star Trek fans.

Re: Intercon 78

It has come to our attention that certain allegations were made at Terracon' 77 re the organisation and funding of next years proposed convention at Slough. We would like to take this opportunity to put the record straight.

- 1) All people involved in the organisation of the Convention are Trekkers and all belong to clubs.
- 2) All of us have attended Conventions in this country and also in America and Germany.
- 3) All profits from the Convention - should it go ahead - will be donated to the Leukemia Research Fund and will not be banked by the organisers. As you all know Conventions in this country are all in aid of charities and not commercial ventures as the U.S.A. Cons.
- 4) Though it is true that you will be required to travel to the Con centre from the hotels all transportation costs are included in the Registration fee and will be borne by the organisers. The Con centre contains all the facilities anyone could possibly need, since it is a purpose built building.
- 5) We agree with everyone who voiced a protest at this years Con about next years hotel prices. These prices are high and no-one would deny this but please bear in mind that the hotels in the South East do not depend on Conventions for their business. These hotels deal mainly with foreign tour companies who can guarantee filling the hotel with guests at a very high room rate. The prices quoted on the flier which was issued at the Con this year were provisional prices only and we are working on the hotels concerned to get these reduced and are also looking for alternative accommodation should we not succeed. One thing we guarantee is that the prices shown will certainly not be increased; though we must point out that these prices do include all service charge, VAT and full English breakfast.

We are sorry that we have found it necessary to issue the above statement. This should not have been needed had the allegations which were totally unfounded not been made.

Thank you for reading this and if you have any questions at all concerning the proposed Con then please contact any one of us at the following address and we will be pleased to help you. (SAE please)

Sallyann Griffin, Margaret Bertram, Peter Ree-Jones

Contact address: Intercon 78, 7 Rosewood Gardens, Morden Hill, Lewisham, London

SE13 7NQ

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Latest details on Intercon 78

Venue Slough Convention Complex
 Dates September 2nd & 3rd Saturday & Sunday
 Registration Fee £5.00 rising to £5.50
 Guests are still being negotiated but will probably be mainly British.
 Hotels....as stated these and prices are still under negotiation.

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Sallyann, Margaret and Peter are planning a Mini-con on February 11th (Saturday) at the Slough centre, this will give people a chance to view it for themselves. Registration for the mini-con is £1.25. For further details write to the above address, please don't forget a stamp or SAE.

(Lay-out re EMPATHY)

STAR TREK II - SPOCK

Ann Locker writes -

I have had several letters from people in the States over the last few months urging me to write to Roddenberry and demand that he includes Nimoy in the new series. I feel strongly that this approach to Roddenberry is grossly impertinent and an insult to his professional judgement. It is also more than slightly naive. Surely it is obvious that Roddenberry would have preferred to use Spock/Nimoy and that the decision to go ahead without Spock must have been made very reluctantly. Let us not be deceived by LN's emotional outpouring at the New York Con. Rather, let us remember that Nimoy is an actor and that his speech at the con may have been one of his finest performances. He probably wanted to use us to put pressure on the studios and on Roddenberry so that he could get the STAR TREK role on his own terms. After all negotiations have been going on re this matter for over two years and during that time it seems that Nimoy's demands have been a major stumbling block. Of course, everyone wants Spock. But, as Roddenberry has pointed out, there is a limit to what the budget can stand. Moreover, Nimoy himself has made it fairly clear that he wishes to be primarily regarded as a stage actor and that he considers his stage commitments more important than any projected STAR TREK series. My opinion is that he has played hard-to-get for two years and is now chagrined that his bluff has been called and that someone has gone ahead on the principle that no one is indispensable. Whether or not he really is indispensable is a fact that we can only judge when we get to view the new series.

I write this as a confirmed Spock fan. I myself find it hard to visualise a STAR TREK without Spock. I love the character and love the dramatic possibilities that such a character offers to the scriptwriters. However my feelings about Nimoy himself are less positive. I think I am a bit hurt that he cannot see the fact that is so obvious to all his fans: namely, that Spock is his finest dramatic creation and the role upon which his reputation is really built. I am sure that, in spite of the way he goes on in 'I Am Not Spock', he really secretly despises the role and probably, by extension, the fans themselves. Otherwise, why did he not jump at the chance of recreating the role in STAR TREK II when he had the opportunity. Is he too proud to approach the studios himself and ask for the role. Why must we do the job for him. I get the feeling that we are being used because fan pressure can get him better terms than he could get by himself. It would be interesting to hear from Roddenberry the exact details of the negotiations that have been carried on over the last two years but I think Roddenberry is far too much of a gentleman to ever divulge them. I heard a rumour from a very reliable source about a year back that at that stage Nimoy was asking for top (not equal) billing with Shatner and for considerably more money than Shatner was demanding. It's a rumour that, in view of the fact that Roddenberry has decided to go ahead without Nimoy, might very well be true. I feel we should now support Roddenberry in his venture. By all means, let us write politely and ask that he continue negotiating in the hope that a way can be found to get Spock back into the series. But let us remember that basically it is Roddenberry's baby, without him there would have been no STAR TREK in the first place. It is he who must suffer financially and professionally if the series is a flop or if it runs over its budget. We have no right to make demands - we can only offer good wishes and hopes for the future. We know, from past experience, that Gene will always do his best for us. I am sure he will do all he can to get the Spock/Nimoy character back on our screens and that there is no need for us to browbeat or threaten him.

EMPATHY MINI-CON XMAS PARTY

The above was held in Leeds on November 26th but unfortunately we didn't have the information in time for our last newsletter. STAG would have liked to have had a table but we just couldn't manage it. Sheila and Janet couldn't afford it so soon after the Con and with Beth being ill she couldn't manage either. Sylvia is kindly taking sample STAG zines to the mini-con and taking orders for them. At time of writing (19th) the mini-con is still a week away and we hope it goes well and everyone has a great time. If members who were able to attend could send us some reports we'll print them in the next newsletter.

1978 CONVENTION

Ann Looker's letter in the last newsletter produced a considerable response.

Linda Brough writes -

By all means let's take a leaf from SF fandom - their organising abilities have evolved over a fair number of years so that now they produce highly successful and relatively smoothly run cons. If we are to continue to have STAR TREK cons, they must improve every year or else decline.

Basically I'd like to see cons planned over a longer period of time and responsibility for producing them shared among many more people. Does anyone else also get the feeling that by going to a con you're paying your money and going to see what's happening thanks to a small group of people? I'm sure many of us would like to go to a con knowing that we'd helped, if only in a small way, to 'get the show on the road.'

Romano Dyerson writes -

I totally agree with Ann about organised conventions. However, there is one drawback I can think of, that is, with people voting, it might mean that the convention always would be held in the south or alternatively in the north. Would it not be better if we worked out some system in which, one year the convention would be held in the north of Britain, the following year in the centre while the year following that, in the south, then back to the north.

Marie Hietala writes -

I would like to say at the outset that I am 100% in agreement with Ann Looker's letter on the Slough problem.

The prices, at least for me, and I would suspect for a lot of other fans, are a real burden. I live in Finland - a two week return flight costs me between £250 - £300, and that's just the air fare alone. Then I must pay £5 registration, £14 a day for a room at the hotel, transport to Slough and back again, meals during those two days, since not even I can exist on just breakfast!

All of this, and probably a lot of other expenses into the bargain, and it adds up to something close on £400 for the con visit! At that rate I will be able to do nothing but gaze wistfully at the items offered for sale, for I certainly won't be able to buy anything. £400 is roughly 4500 Finnish marks - to save that much money, which is considered a good month's wage for a professional man such as a person working in a bank or whatever, means I will have to teach four mornings a week (I'm a housewife and don't go out to work) for over six months. I'm not complaining about that - I've taught English before and enjoyed it, but I would much prefer to think that that work will buy me lots of gorgeous zines, records, books and so on at the con, not just barely cover my expenses.

So all in all, I'm not in favour of Slough. Isn't there any other hotel in London large enough to take between 600 - 700 fans and to allow us con rooms into the bargain for a price that is a little more realistic for the majority of us?

(Marie brought up one or two other points which are covered by the letter from the con committee.)

Carol Keogh writes -

Roger (Peyton) proposed (at Liverpool) that the STAR TREK conventions be run along the lines of a Science Fiction convention. I disagree. He suggested that various groups be allowed to vote on the location, organisation and date of the con. I disagree.

Science Fiction conventions seem to be run primarily for adults, and from what I have seen of them, most of the money is made in bar takings. STAR TREK conventions are not run along adult lines (by adult I mean X-certificate), they are primarily family affairs, run for Trekkers of all ages. If I want to go to a SF con, then I will go to one, and if I want to go to a ST con, again I will go to it, but I would not mix the two. The atmospheres are too dissimilar.

The idea of voting for a convention I also find stupid. As I understand it, the group that won the vote would be solely responsible for the convention, and all the organising. Fine.

What happens if all these groups are made up of people who don't know what they're doing, or who are other than Trek minded? Will we end up with conventions run, not for charity, but for the money the organisers and dealers can fork in? Is this the sort of con we want? I don't think so.

Another blow against Intercon is the location, Slough. Too far south, people say. Yet every convention to date has been held either in the midlands (Leicester) of the north (Leeds, Liverpool). People living in the south have been the ones who have had to fork out in travelling for four years. I live in London, and if the Slough con goes ahead, it will be the first convention for which I did not have to travel between one and two hundred miles to attend. And I will attend.

Sheila's comment -

I am one of the people who has said that Slough is too far south. I have always said that the London area is too far south to be fair. Yes, I fully agree that all the cons so far have been north of London - it would be difficult to have one south of London, when you consider how far south London is.

Britain stretches from the English Channel in the south to the Pentland Firth in the north. While I admit that more STAR TREK fans live in the south, there are fans in the north of Scotland too. We can say, roughly, that the midway line indicating the centre of the country is Hadrian's Wall. That being so, all the cons so far have been in the south.

Now I also admit freely that I consider Glasgow or Edinburgh too far north to be fair. Even Carlisle or Newcastle is pushing it. But as far as I am concerned, Leicester was pushing it for distance to the south.

Carol says that she has had to travel between one and two hundred miles to each of the cons held so far. I have had to travel 250 - 350 miles to each, and to get to London I would have to travel 500 miles. It seems to me that the fairest venue for a con is one where no-one will have to travel more than 200 - 300 miles - in other words, in the Midlands of England, no further south than Leicester or further north than Leeds, and varying between east and west.

STAR TREK - THE NEW SERIES

The information that Leonard Nimoy was unlikely to be in the new series has produced a fair number of letters.

Bob Beles writes -

In 1969 when STAR TREK was introduced to the British TV public a new phenomenon in TV history was born. For young and old alike new lives were being lived, as people associated their own way of life with Kirk, Spock, McCoy and co.

Within the rat race that most of us live, STAR TREK gave us a world in which we all could escape and live a life which would not otherwise be possible in our life time.

How can Paramount kill so many ST fans with one blow? Enterprise without Spock will be a dead ship, STAR TREK II without Spock will be a dead TV series. Kirk needs Spock, McCoy needs Spock, the Enterprise needs Spock, ST fans need Spock.

Paramount needs ST fans to make it work!

Linda Brough writes -

I agree that STAR TREK wouldn't be the same without Leonard Nimoy, but then again I remember saying that DR. WHO wouldn't be the same when Patrick Troughton left. If STAR TREK lives, it lives because of its whole concept.

Tim Dollin writes -

I am, like most fans I'm sure, very disappointed in the fact that Leonard Nimoy won't be in the series. Personally, I don't mind changes, as long as they are improvements and I welcome new characters, but Mr. Spock is the most popular character of the series; it is most odd not to have him. I can see Leonard's point and as you say, we must sympathise with him over his problem. I think we will have to leave the decision to him though - I will certainly accept it, even if it is disappointing to me.

David Coote writes -

Leonard's reservations about a further spell as Spock are rooted in his development as an actor and the restrictions the Spock role would place on this. If Leonard had been offered the whole series and turned it down surely we would respect his decision

and look forward to the new series anyway - would any of us wish to see the STAR TREK family still kept apart and unable to bring us so much enjoyment because one member of the family does not feel able to journey with us?

Leonard and Spock have made a valuable contribution to STAR TREK and I'm sure we all recognise this, but STAR TREK is more than one man and with Gene Roddenberry in control of the new series I think we can look forward to as high a standard as before.

T.W. Francis writes -

Looking at some of the reports in the N/L I see that there is some uncertainty as to whether Leonard Nimoy will return to portray Spock in the new series.

Now, while I've enjoyed STAR TREK with Spock I'm sure it can be made to be just as enjoyable without him. The Spock/Kirk/McCoy triangle, the interrelationship of these characters made for much interesting and stimulating viewing. And I'm sure much more could have been made of it but a change of characters is in itself not a bad thing, giving, I believe, a fresh perspective.

Jean Barron writes -

I think everyone realises that there are an awful lot of conflicting stories going about and really, at this stage, it doesn't really matter who is actually to blame - all we want is Spock back and if we can't have him, then we have to make up our individual minds as to whether we watch the new series or not - I can't, I know without the shadow of a doubt, even though I'll be throwing away the chance to see Kirk - I just couldn't bear to see him with someone else as his First Officer - I'd sooner live with what I have.

CAN VULCANS SMILE? by Colin Hunter

In Mr. Spock, we have a man who belongs to a race which, for hundreds or even thousands of years, has not facially expressed any emotion. Since this is so, the facial muscles would become atrophied due to lack of use. How, then, is Spock able to smile and laugh in such episodes as This Side of Paradise? All right, Spock is half Human. However, after Spock had chosen the life of a Vulcan he is brought up never to show his emotions. The facial muscles for this, if they ever existed at all, would therefore waste away through lack of use. Does anyone have any comments on this suggestion?

Sheila's comment - he uses those muscles so seldom that he should certainly have a very stiff set of cheek muscles after episodes like This Side of Paradise!

RYETALIN by Jenny Elson

On duty one day last week in the out-patient department of a NHS hospital where I work as a sister, I was very surprised when the doctor asked a particularly robust patient if he was taking his ryetalin tablets.

Backing away, I gave the patient a quick once-over, but then decided that he could not be suffering from Rigellian Fever, for which Ryetalin is the only cure. At least that was fortunate for everyone concerned.

Curiosity soon got the better of me, and I had a quick peek in 'MIMS' - Medical Index Monthly Supplement. This is what I discovered about ryetalin.

Active constituent: Methylphenidate Hydrochloride

Presentation: White, 10mg tablet

Indications: Physical and mental fatigue

Cost: 100 tablets 88p

Contraindications: Agitation and epilepsy

Special precautions: Hypertension and glaucoma

Well, that certainly did not sound like our Ryetalin! After all, Rigellian Fever isn't even a known disease - yet! So just in case, I guess I'll tell Pharmacy to hold on to a goodly supply for the next few hundred years. And in the meantime, I can always use it to cure my lethargy and mental fatigue - can't I?

SCRIPT ALTERATIONS

Nikki Moore writes -

Regarding comments by Valerie Piacentini on script alterations, I would like to say that I think she has missed the point of the story completely. Kirk was so deeply upset by Rayna's death because it was his feelings for her that showed her love and made her Human, and it was those same feelings that contributed to her death. The emotional stress of such an experience must have been enormous. Imagine helping to turn a machine into a Human being only to be the cause of its destruction moments later because it felt too strongly the love it had just been taught to hurt anybody by rejecting it. It is not hard to see why Kirk needed Spock's help to overcome his grief and I think to call him a 'besotted schoolboy' is harsh and inaccurate. Having said all this, though, I would like to add that Valerie's version of the story sounds like an improvement, and I would be very interested to know whether she has written such a story. It not I should like to have a go myself.

(Sheila's comment - go ahead, Nikki! Valerie hasn't written such a story, but even if she had, there's no reason why you shouldn't do one too.)

Therese and Betty De Gabriele write -

Regarding Valerie Piacentini's criticism of 'Requiem for Methuselah', I agree with most of her objections, but it is the very fact that Kirk's deepest feelings could not have been involved that makes it seem right for Spock to use the mind meld to make him forget.

Kirk could not have become deeply involved with Rayna, for example, first because she was an android and also because Kirk was being manipulated by Flint. Flint was virtually throwing Kirk at Rayna and vice versa.

If you put Edith Keeler in place of Rayna, for example, knowing how much Edith did mean to Kirk, would he have been better off forgetting her? Even though his last memory of Edith would be very painful, he would still want to remember all the good things, especially because he did enjoy good times with Edith, but, as Valerie says, he hardly spent any time with Rayna. So the circumstances leading up to Spock's use of the mind meld at that time are quite understandable.

To have made Kirk forget anything of deeper meaning to him would have changed something vital and been a violation of Kirk.

FAVOURITE EPISODES

Mike Slawin writes -

On the subject of favourite episodes, I have three, all of which come from the first season, often said to be the best of the three seasons.

The first is 'The Man Trap' by George Clayton Johnson. This is mainly because this episode has the necessary ingredients for all-round entertainment, namely, the fear in having a 'doppelganger', close relationship, and an easy-to-follow plot.

The second is 'The Enemy Within' by Richard Matheson, mainly because it shows that even the best of us has a dark side.

The third is 'The Devil in the Dark' by the late Gene Coon. I liked this one because it tells us that looks aren't everything, especially in aliens. It also showed the maternal love that the mother Horta had for her children, and the understanding of Captain Kirk despite the shouts of 'Kill it!' from Mr. Spock.

* * *

Sheila's comment - of course, Spock's shouts of 'Kill it!' also show very clearly the regard that Spock has for his Captain, for it was Spock who originally wanted the 'creature' captured rather than killed. His attitude changed rather rapidly when it was Kirk in danger!

COMPETITION

The competition for next time is to write a STAR TREK story built round the picture opposite. Closing date for entries is January 20th. As always, there will be a photo as prize. (Picture by Martin Bradley)

For the artwork competition, a picture of McCoy - as with the last one, any pose, in any part of the ship, on a planet, head and shoulders, standing, sitting, bent over a patient, A4 size maximum and not too much solid shading. We judge partly on printability.

I'm doing this stencil a week before the closing date for the last competition, so I can't as yet give the winners. So far there have been entries from TW Francis, Ashley Pinn and Jean Thompson in the story competition, and from Gabriele Faber, Valerie Henwood and Pam Baddeley in the artwork section. We have selected tentative winners from these, but if we get any more, entries will have to be re-judged.

CAPTAIN KIRK

James T. Kirk is almost the perfect epitome of what a starship commander should be. Most of all he is confident and decisive. Without these traits, the crew would lack the necessary confidence in their captain to be able to follow orders quickly and without hesitation. This ability is, of course, a necessary element for prompt action under battle conditions.

Captain Kirk also has the necessary self-reliance to be able to change and modify command orders when he deems necessary. This, also, would seem to be a fundamental prerequisite for starship command. To blindly follow orders when the situation has changed to make those orders no longer viable, is 'illogical'. James Kirk has the judgement required to decide when he should and when he should not deviate from a given course. Starfleet would never have given him command of a starship if they did not share this belief.

James T. Kirk is not a man to leave his crew in danger. If there is any possibility at all (no matter how remote) of saving even one crew member/life, he will take the chance necessary to bring about the rescue. Needless to say, this would seem to be a factor leading his crew to place a good deal of faith and loyalty in their captain. Without this feeling of confidence in their captain, the Enterprise would not be able to function in the efficient, best-in-the-fleet manner that she does.

Our captain is also a diplomat of the first class. This being one of the primary duties of a starship to seek out and contact new life forms/beings, would also seem to be a necessary trait in a starship captain. Therefore, a starship is the first ambassador the Federation has in these initial contacts. An approach in the wrong manner could scar the Federation in the eyes of the newly contacted beings before things were even off the ground.

A good starship captain must also have a good military personage. James Kirk has proved his ability in this direction time and time again through his highly successful and innovative battle maneuvers. He has the daring and imagination to be able to get out of the most precarious situations.

But command is a lonely position and even captains must have some area of solace and Human comfort. James Kirk has his main ally in his first officer, Mr. Spock. Spock also shares Kirk's feelings of isolation and loneliness and together they can understand one another. Spock is alone because of his heritage and Kirk because of his command. Spock has also had to take command on occasion and knows how lonely and frightening that position can be. They each have the qualities that help make the other more of a complete being. Together they make the best captain/first officer team in Starfleet.

POSTSCRIPT

A James Kirk with Spock not at his side?? Fan fiction has started to develop the concept of Jim Kirk's latent telepathic powers. Perhaps if the captain cannot have Spock physically at his side, they can be in contact via some form of mind meld. Therefore, in times of crisis they can still have each other to fall back upon. This way, when either feels a need for comfort or companionship, there will be the mental contact to provide the necessary solace.

Sally Syrjala.



STAR WARS

or Teach yourself how to save the universe in five easy lessons, by Margaret Austin.

George Lucas' STAR WARS, following in the tradition of THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN SAMURAI, brings to the screen a familiar tale - set, this time, in outer space. Unlike her predecessors the beautiful and spirited Princess Leia, leader of the rebellion against the Empire and the almighty and fearless Darth Vader, Lord of the Sith, is unable to round up the faithful band of gunslingers herself having been taken captive by Imperial storm-troopers in the first 100 feet of the film! Instead, she enlists the help of a pair of robots known as R2D2 and C3PO (a mechanical reincarnation of Laurel and Hardy). Fleeing from the clutches of Darth Vader, the two crash land their escape pod on the planet Tatooine where they are picked up by the scavenger Jawas, a space age cross between the Wombles and the Clangers, and sold to a humble farmer and his adventure seeking nephew, Luke Skywalker. The message the robots bring from the princess is just the excuse Luke has been looking for to leave home and give vent to that spirit of adventure inherent in his blood. But first he must find Ben Kenobi (or was it Merlin the Magician?) the last of the Jedi Knights and former guardian of justice in the galaxy, and agent of... the Force. With Ben Kenobi in tow, Luke and his two companions make their way to the nearby spaceport where they encounter Chewbacca, the Wookiee first mate of a Corellian pirate vessel, later to be aptly described by the princess as a 'walking carpet'. Chewbacca takes them to meet Han Solo, the dashing young captain of the Millennium Falcon, a ship in a class of its own, fast enough to outrun even an Imperial fighter. Solo agrees, for a handsome fee, to take the group to the planet Alderaan, home of the princess. And so the Millennium Falcon sets off to boldly go where no farm boy has gone before...

And there the analogy ends as all the gadgetry of James Bond in space is brought into play with the arch villain threatening the entire universe with the ultimate weapon - the Death Star. For whereas THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN was about people - people who cared about other people, STAR WARS concerns itself only with hardware. But the hardware is stunning and the special effects brilliant. The film's opening sequence where we first see the Imperial Cruiser as it sweeps majestically through space towards Tatooine is quite breathtaking and admirably complemented by John Williams' stirring score. The space battles are superb if rather monotonous after the seventeenth fighter has been shot down. The approach of the Millennium Falcon and its absorption into the Death Star is somewhat reminiscent of the docking of the moon-shuttle with the orbital space station in 2001 but not nearly so memorable. Of the weapons the most impressive must surely be that of the Jedi Knights - the lightsabre, a handy pocket-sized device, at the flick of a switch becoming a sword with a cutting edge as sharp as a phaser.

What STAR WARS lacks in characterisation it tries to make up for with an unnecessary proliferation of alien life forms many of whom are grotesque if not hideous in appearance. The occupants of the bar at the space port where Luke and Ben seek passage on a ship recall to mind the mutant devils of THE SENTINEL. Their presence adds little to the plot. Likewise the Sandpeople whose bandage covered heads with protruding tubular eyes make them more fitting creatures for DR. WHO. Chewbacca is a pleasant enough and plausible animal but makes an unlikely companion for Han Solo. One wonders how such widely differing creatures as Wookies and Humanoids manage to exist in isolation from their own kind. The Jawas, however, are totally convincing as space age scrap merchants scampering about the desertscape retrieving maverick robots which they sell to the farm people using much the same sales pitch as the used car salesman. Even though unintelligible to the human ear their garbled chatter is quite delightful.

Darth Vader reeks of menace and evil... until he opens his mouth. The innate aura of malevolence which Christopher Lee's voice betrays would have added so much more to the character. Peter Cushing is adequate as Grand Moff Tarkin, Governor of the Imperial Outland Regions, but suffers from a poor script. The best bit of casting in the whole film is Harrison Ford as Han Solo. Ford brings to his role the only spark of life evident in any of the characters making him by far the most likeable. Alec Guinness is almost saintly as the wise old man whose legendary powers emanate from the mysterious Force. One is forced to doubt the actual might of this agency remembering that Kenobi is, in fact, the sole survivor of its band of knights, the rest having been slain by one of their fellows.

The holes in the plot are large enough to pilot even the planet-sized Death Star through but then STAR WARS isn't meant to be taken seriously especially with a final scene that looks for all the world like a dress rehearsal for next year's Academy Awards! At which time STAR WARS will no doubt be nominated for awards in all the production categories. As to how many and which Oscars it will receive I leave that to you to judge for yourselves but I don't see it as the year's best film.

FICTION SECTION

ROMULAN RENDEZVOUS by C. Abbott

The Enterprise was on a routine research mission when she received a call from Starfleet Command Headquarters. The call was relayed to Captain Kirk's quarters. The call contained orders for the Enterprise to procede to quadrant four at warp factor two.

Kirk knew even without checking where this would take them - into the Romulan neutral zone. But a rendezvous with a Romulan battle cruiser had already been arranged by the appropriate authorities. The mission was one of peace, to determine whether or not a Starbase could be set up in the neutral zone. This would stabalise any political unbalance between the two powers.

The Enterprise sped through space at warp two. The bridge was a mass of clicks and buzzes as relays slipped into place. Captain Kirk, sitting in the command chair, spoke.

"Mr. Sulu, how long until we reach the rendezvous point?"

Sulu replied, "About seventeen minutes, Captain."

"Thank you, Mr. Sulu," replied the Captain. "Uhura, inform Starfleet Command that we will soon be at the rendezvous point."

"Aye, aye," replied Uhura.

The Captain ordered the main viewing screen to be activated, with maximum magnification. As the screen cleared, they could see a Romulan battle cruiser and a small Klingon cargo ship. Kirk thought this was strange, as his orders did not mention anything about Klingons being present at this meeting. He ordered a hailing frequency to be opened.

A few seconds later, Uhura informed the Captain in a slightly troubled voice, "Sir, they don't respond to any frequency."

Kirk ordered yellow alert. As he did so, Sulu broke in to say rather hastily that the Romulans had just opened fire. He had just finished his report when the bolt of pure energy bounced off the ship's deflector shields, and as the ship lurched suddenly, Kirk was thrown to the floor. As he picked himself up, he ordered red alert. Just as the klaxons started the elevator doors opened and Dr. McCoy entered the bridge, to ask Kirk what was going on. Kirk could only shrug his shoulders.

"Captain, the Romulans are hailing us!" exclaimed Uhura.

"Do we have visual contact?" Kirk asked.

"Yes, Captain," replied Uhura.

"Put it on," ordered the Captain. The nearly blank screen cleared, to show a picture not unlike the bridge of the Enterprise. In the centre of the screen sat a smug-looking Romulan, who said,

"So you are Captain Kirk."

"Yes, I'm Kirk," he replied. "Currently on what is supposed to be a peace mission with a Romulan battle cruiser."

"Ah, yes," the Romulan said. "You've found the right battle cruiser, Captain - unfortunately, it has the wrong crew."

"Who are you?" Kirk asked.

"We are a group you would probably term... pirates; now, we don't want to destroy your ship... in fact, what we want is your ship. You see, Captain, the little Klingon ship is perfectly all right for sneak attacks on small targets like shuttlecraft, but for anything bigger we need a large craft. You can see why we need your ship. We won't even kiil your crew, but leave them somewhere where they can be picked up... if anyone can find them."

Kirk said angrily, "You won't get this ship. Rather than that, I'll self-destruct."

"Captain, you sound very brave, but you are really very stupid. If you will not surrender, we'll have to use force."

"Sulu, lock all main phasers and photon torpedoes onto the Romulan," Kirk ordered as the screen blanked. "We want to disable rather than destroy."

"Sir the cargo ship is moving away," Sulu said.

"Try to disable it," Kirk ordered.

The small Klingon ship had no effective shielding; a quick phaser burst was enough to disable it. As they did so, the pirates on the Romulan ship opened fire. The shields held; the Enterprise was undamaged, and returned fire.

The pirates lacked experience; it did not take long before the Enterprise's fire

disabled the battle cruiser's warp drive, but the pirates were still not prepared to give up. They still had impulse power and a full complement of phasers. They turned and proceeded at full impulse power, clearly intending to ram the Enterprise; their phasers also fired continuously. But the Enterprise under full warp drive just flipped around behind the battle cruiser and fired her photon torpedoes, which completely crippled the Romulan.

A hailing frequency was opened and the leader of the pirates admitted defeat. The battle cruiser was taken in tow and the Enterprise took it to the nearest Romulan outpost, where negotiations went on until finally it was agreed that the Federation should get a Starbase inside the neutral zone.

Then the Enterprise went off on her way to a shore leave planet to let the crew recuperate after the strain of the mission.

* * * * *

A MINUTE IN ETERNITY by Elizabeth Sharp

Three hundred light years - and an empty corridor. A huge black void that stretched onward, mile after empty mile till it seemed that the tunnel would end exactly where it had begun - nowhere. But their curiosity persisted and they longed to see what was at the end of the darkness.

And they made it! They had walked every inch of every mile, and at last they stood in the room at the end of an endless corridor. And it too, was in darkness, except for a tiny shaft of light, and through time it had become dim and pale. But on this suffocating oppressive world that had never known life, the incredible stared at them from out of the darkness.

Far below the light's point of origin on a large stone slab in the centre of the room lay an object. It was not a large object - it was really quite small, but none the less it was one of the most awe-inspiring sights they had ever seen. In this darkened place, far below the planet's surface, they had expected something of great value or beauty. The object in front of them was neither of these things. It was contained, quite simply, in a small white vase. The whiteness served to illuminate the brown that lay within. The brown hung limply over the rim of the vase with a yellow sickly pallor enfolding it from the light above.

Alone in the darkness, the two men stared silently at the withered remains of a flower that had once been a rose. Together they stood in the cell and gazed with awe at the shattered petals and broken stem. They glanced at each other, puzzled, as a distant voice spoke in their minds.

- Beautiful - my beautiful rose - admire, but do not touch - do not touch -

And so they stood - the Human and the Vulcan - in a dark room at the end of an endless corridor, admiring a dead rose at the bidding of a telepathic machine they could not see.

And the sweet sickly smell of decay crept around them.

Spock nodded, without speaking to Kirk who stood beside him. They both turned and walked away from the tomb into the dark corridor. Five minutes into the darkness and the light was no longer visible. Spock's communicator was in his hand, signalling the Enterprise, but getting no reply. He had expected none, for the Starship was well out of range. They would have to walk back the way they had come, till the Enterprise detected their signal.

When the Enterprise spoke, the two men knew each other better than before, for in that dark cell their lives had touched. They had journeyed together in the forgotten vaults of an ancient building while far above their heads the planet's atmosphere boiled in fury and sent sulphuric acid to rain down upon the lifeless landscape of the surface.

They had been the only living things on the alien world - and then they were gone, recalled to the Starship, orbiting far above the planet's poisonous atmosphere, taking with them the memory of a voice.

- Beautiful - my beautiful rose - admire, but do not touch - do not touch -.....

* * * * *

EXAM NERVES by Meg Wright

The class flooded into the examination room and clattered into their places. The green papers were already in place on the wide desks. Clearly the command classes were expected to take their examinations unwatched.

Jim Kirk squared his shoulders at this display of trust and picked up the paper.

"Integrated organizational hardware as an overall reciprocal concept is as necessary to a balanced logistical timephase as is functional third-generation mobility. It is vital to the Starfleet synchronised transitional programming to maintain our parallel management options through a systemised incremental flexibility. All personnel must at all times be aware of the need for a responsive policy capability under an optimal monitored projection."

Consider this statement in the light of present-day knowledge, and comment upon the policy advocated as understood today."

Jim read the quotation and felt his heart sink to his highly polished boots. Surely even Professor Dawson could make no sense out of it? He stared out of the window hoping for inspiration - the clear sky stared pitilessly back, not even a cloud to set emagination rioting. The bent heads of his classmates did not inspire confidence; even Watkins, the class buffoon, was scribbling swiftly.

He studied the question again, praying for illumination. The words congealed in his mind, damming thought. Was it possible he was going to fail, to leave the Academy within the first month - branded for ever as a failure?

Abruptly he pulled himself together. One question was not a whole examination. He turned the paper over.

The back was blank.

Unbelieving, he looked up. Across the aisle Finnegan caught his eye and snickered.

Jim felt his face flush scarlet and he crumpled the paper, not daring to look up and show his all too readable face to Finnegan.

Once the examination proper began, he would show that over-confident, bumptious Irishman just who was going to make the best Starship Captain Starfleet had ever known!

* * * * *

SYMBOL OF JOINING by J Felton

A pretty piece of jewellery;
A golden disc, a silver trine
And one white gem.
That is what others see.

But I see truth and beauty
Born of our differences joined.
I see so much
We understand and share.

You will believe, as I do,
In life and freedom, love and peace.
You tell me this
By wearing what you wear.

And thus I know and love you:
Though still I do not know your name
Yet I can say
You, stranger, are my friend.

And so we come to the end of another newsletter. Deadline for anything for inclusion next time, ads, comments, competition entries, is 20th January. Postscript to the last artwork competition - a late entry from Ena Glogowska, which has, however, arrived in time to be judged.

A good New Year to you all. Janet, Sheila, Beth, Sylvia.

SALES LIST

December 1977

This supercedes all previous lists.

IMPORTANT - Orders should still be sent to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland. Any orders sent to Beth this time will be subject to very long delays.

Cheques, postal orders should be made payable to STAG. It would help greatly if a self-addressed sticky label were included with each order. DO remember to print your full name and address on your order as well - it makes it easier for us to check if anything does go missing in transit, and remember that we're coming up to the post office's busy season too.

ZINES (prices include postage and packing inside the U.K.)

Log Entries 4 (reprint)	60p
Log Entries 5 (reprint)	60p
Log Entries 6 (reprint)	60p
Log Entries 7 (reprint)	75p
Log Entries 8	75p
Log Entries 9	80p
Log Entries 10	80p
Log Entries 11	80p
Log Entries 12	80p
Log Entries 13	80p

(stories by C E Hall, T W Francis, Valerie Piacentini, Zena Kightley, Jean Barron)

Log Entries is a Genzine - we try to provide an assortment of ST stories to suit all tastes.

Vulcan Odyssey (stories by Beth Hallam; reprint) 55p

Something Hidden (an alternate universe story by Sheila Clark; reprint) 80p

The Price of Friendship by Simone Mason 70p

The Web of Selagor by Simone Mason 60p

Variations on a Theme by Valerie Piacentini & Sheila Clark 65p

Due to the inclusion of certain adult material in this zine, it will only be available to those who state with their order that they are over 18.

Enterprise Incidents 1 (stories by Sheila Clark. Reprint. The printing quality is not as good as we'd like although it is reasonably clear.) 65p

Enterprise Incidents 2 - stories by Sheila Clark. This zine includes the winning and running up short stories and poems from the Terracon '77 writing competition. 80p

Foreign Rates

All zines Surface mail \$2.00 U.S. Airmail \$4.00 U.S. each.
Dollar cheques/money orders - please add \$1.00 to the total order to cover bank charges incurred in processing foreign currency cheques/money orders.

Australia, etc - the charge is the equivalent of the above, in either sterling or your own currency. Your bank should be able to handle the calculations for the rate of exchange. Remember to add the surcharge if you pay in your own currency.
