



Crockett's Spirit

Impavidus Scribere Veritas — The Brave Write the Truth



Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2014

In Memoriam

by Col Karen Welkin



Photomontage by Col Karen Welkin

As the year 2013 came to an end, so did the life of Enterprise guest star James Avery, who passed away on December 31st at the age of 68, following complications from heart surgery. Interestingly, mister Avery was among the finalists who auditioned for the role of Worf in Star Trek: The Next Generation. He is best known to Trekkers for his portrayal of K'Vagh, a Klingon general who appeared in the episodes "Affliction" and "Divergence". In the mid-22nd Century, K'Vagh oversaw a bold scientific project to strengthen Klingon test subjects using stolen genetically-enhanced human DNA and adapting it to their own genetic code.

Sources:

www.startrek.com/news_articles
en.memory-alpha.org/

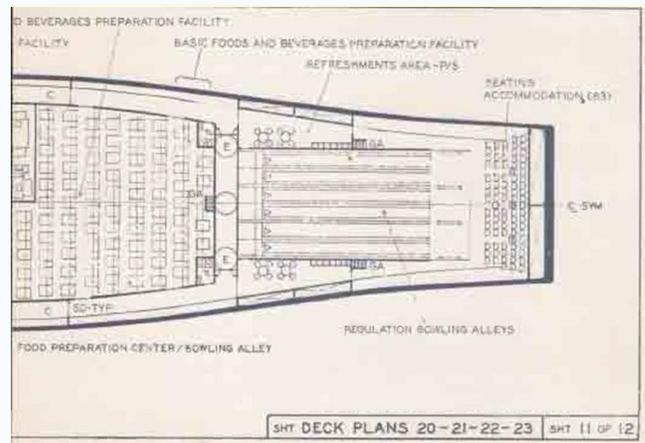
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Did You Know

by LtCol Shayle Carter

Hey my lovely fine ladies and gents! Here for you is an interesting, but short lesson. Did you know...that there are hidden rooms on the Enterprise that no one seems to know about! Well there are, and I just discovered one. Exciting no! ...Anyway...to say the very least the Enterprise has been holding out on everyone with all of its many treasures of rooms. I mean first of all the notion that there are a lack of bathrooms is just silly. Dear lord if that were the case the Enterprise would smell like the middle ages or look like some San Diego zoo. However, THAT is NOT the fascinating discovery I found. I found something more fun and less...pootastic. You will find that the ship actually has a regulation bowling alley. It shows right in the diagram, just look! *points to diagram* Where has that been in all of the many Enterprise Captains adventures! Yet there has never been a scene with a bowling alley in any of the enterprise's episodes as far as I know, but that's a wonderment for another day. With that little tid bit of info it should make one wonder what else lies inside the flying pie pan with sticks. Maybe a olympic sized pool? An arcade perhaps? Maybe an entire mall! No those probably are going to far fetch the last two, but it does go to show, there are still secrets to unfold....go see if you can find anymore...



Source:

<http://lucky puppy odd facts.com/STARTREK.html>

Before Firefly, there was Starhunter

By Major Dennis Howard

I think everyone here is familiar with Firefly.



I was a fan of the show, it was great. But there was always something about the show that bugged me. Two years before Firefly first aired there was a Canadian show called Starhunter. The similarities between the two series have always puzzled me. The similarities are almost certainly just coincidences. But there are so many coincidences that it disturbs me.

Starhunter took place on the edge of civilized space on a ship whose captain took whatever dirty jobs he could find and who, when he was provoked, sometimes aimed to misbehave. Sound familiar?

Lets look at the ship's crew.



No, that is not a photo of people cosplaying as Mal, Kaylee and Zoe. From left to right, that's Dante Montana, the ship's captain; Percy, the teenage girl genius mechanic who keeps the ship flying; and Luc (Lucretia) the ship's tough, ex-military second-in-command.

See what I mean?

Part of Firefly's appeal is that the crew feels like a family. Well, Starhunter was literally about family. Percy is Dante's niece. Her parents had been killed by Raiders.

Oh yes, I almost forgot about Raiders. They are the big-bads who have their own region of space where everyone with any sense leaves them alone. Maybe Raiders aren't as nasty as Firefly's Reavers, but you get the idea.

Raiders also killed Dante's wife and kidnapped his son. The loss of his family and the search to find his son is what drives Dante Montana. (In season two Dante has disappeared and now it's Dante's son, along with cousin Percy, searching for his father.)

But the parallels between the two shows go beyond the overall setups. In the Starhunter episode "Frozen", a doctor rescues his son from a facility where experiments on the boy's brain have given him telepathic abilities. Dante and the crew rescue the father and son and protect them from the shadowy group that wants to retrieve the boy.

In "Siren's Song" the crew encounters a young female ninja fighter who is literally a human weapon. They transport her back to her place of origin, the quarantined planet Miranda where the entire population was killed by a deadly virus. Yes, the planet was named Miranda, same name as the planet in Serenity.

I really can't watch those two episodes with thinking about the story of River and Simon Tam.

Over the years, I have wished that more people were familiar with Starhunter because I'd like to talk some more about the similarities between the shows.

Starhunter ran for two seasons on Canadian cable. There were drastic changes between the two seasons. A new production company bought the rights to the show. But weirdly they only bought the rights for the new season, the original company continued to own the first season episodes. There were big changes in cast and crew as well. Percy was the only main first season character who continued into season two.

Starhunter was available to local TV stations in the U.S. as a syndicated series. The episodes ran a few weeks after their original appearance on Canadian cable. But the show was pulled from syndication after only a few second season episodes. I think that was the result of continuing fights over who owned which rights to the show. I didn't see most of season two until the DVDs were available a couple of years later.

On DVD the first season was marketed as Starhunter: The Complete Series and the second season was marketed as an entirely separate series called Starhunter 2300. I don't know if either of these DVD sets is still in production, but I have seen the first season boxset on retail shelves for as low as \$5. If you ever come across those DVDs, I think any Firefly fan would enjoy taking a look at Starhunter.

Fiction

The Alfor Encounter - 5

by Col Two Wolves

The remnants of The Valkyrie's crew were seated around one table in the small mess hall. Upon seeing their commander and the doctor enter, they all stood at attention.

"As you were," Shara commanded and everyone retook their seats. She noticed that two seats were left unoccupied.

I will deal with the devil in the details later, she thought as she sat down. Her crew greeted her warmly. She saw that everyone was on the mend and, like her, had gone native. Although they were safely tucked inside, away from the ferocious Alforian winter, one still needed to wear a light fur robe, jacket or vest over their clothing. Since she was more susceptible to the cold, Shara's robe was heavier.

The idle banter ceased when servers appeared with platters. Systematically they passed out bowls of savory stew, freshly baked black bread, salad greens and urns of hot spicy Grass Tea.

As the servers took their leave they began digging in and the companionable banter resumed. Doctor Gomez closely gauged the crew as they ate and compared notes with his commander. Although Shara had officially taken it upon herself to do the bulk of the scientific studies, she'd encouraged everyone to do likewise, and to take and compare notes.

Everyone had a pair of Track Kits to raise and train except Doctor Gomez who claimed he wasn't a cat person. He liked and respected the creatures, but didn't care to have a pair of them attached to him like barnacles. They, being intelligent and intuitive furry creatures, politely kept their distance.

The doctor also noted how well the crew had adjusted to the fact that their Vulcan commander consumed meat. It was a closely kept secret for many years until she was outed by the Vulcan science team. Being raised by a human couple Shara was taught to thank The Creator and eat what was put before her. So she saw nothing wrong with it.

However, the Vulcan science team saw differently and attacked Shara in a manner akin to the Salem Witch Trials.

All they needed were torches, pitchforks and hooded robes, Gomez thought as he slathered vegetable spread on his still warm bread and took a bite.

She'd finally put her foot down and told them to "Either shut up or you will leave my ship in a most unconventional manner." They'd wisely chosen the path of least resistance and left the "heretic" alone.

That battle had been fought in private. Only Gomez knew the angst and torment his commander suffered

over simply eating meat. Today she was able eat in peace.

I wonder if she's glad they're dead, he pondered. For a supposedly open minded people, that particular Vulcan science team had been rigidly intolerant of one of their own.

It's no wonder she'd threatened to space them. If she hadn't I would've, Gomez thought as he downed the last of his stew.

Their dinner nearly finished, Ensign Drummond excused herself and winked at the Doctor as she slipped from the room. Shara didn't notice.

Good, she probably assumes she went to the privy, Doctor Gomez thought as he smiled rakishly. When he did, ladies thought he resembled Captain William Riker. However, Doctor Gomez thought he was handsomer.

Drummond returned with a server at her side. This time Shara looked up and frowned. The server was bearing a large cake on a tray: Chocolate, by the look and smell of it. Wordlessly, Shara turned an accusative stare at Gomez who sat at her right. Gomez quickly wiped the smile off his face and stared straight at the ice wall.

"Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you....," her crew sang.

Indeed 75 years ago T'Shara Hercules was born. She was originally and orphan, born to a single Vulcan mother who'd abandoned her at an Earth orphanage. Six months later she was adopted by Elijah and Denise Hercules, a human African American couple. Both were distinguished, retired Star Fleet captains and instructors at Star Fleet Academy.

Shara had not forgotten her birthday. She just assumed it wouldn't be practical to celebrate here in *the wild*. Obviously her crew had thought differently. She silently watched as the cake was sliced and handed out. Ensign Drummond gushed about how the crew had worked with the Alforian cooks to first scrounge up the ingredients then bake the cake.

"Thank you for what you have done." Shara said as she was handed her slice. She made sure she made eye contact with everyone, saving the scornful eye for Doctor Gomez. He merely smiled in return around a fork full of chocolate cake.

Another job well done, he mused.



Alforian Mess Hall

New Talent Fiction

Fallen Angel

by OC Wynan

Pro-log 02:00 2313/10/21

"I will not forget!" She said as she aimed the practice laser gun at the wall. Carefully she aimed the gun making sure it fired precisely as she moved it carefully across the wall. The silence of the ship made the sound of the laser sound even louder as it echoed throughout the ship.

They were all gone, the crew, the enemies, the workers and even the cleaners. She alone remained. All her concentration was on her task as the ship floated through the vast darkness of space. The burn marks on the hull of the ship told the story. The port guns that had been blasted off in the fight left gaping holes. The lights of the ship flickered out one by one as the ship powered down until only she remained in the small practice room with the laser.

"I will not forget." She said one last time before all the lights went out and the ship fell silent.

Log 20:00 2485/02/13

When Captain Moore first saw her floating in space it was as if a ghost from the past appeared out of the darkness.

"Pull up alongside her. Let's see what we have here, Wick," Captain Moore said to the pilot.

Slowly Wick guided the smaller ship up next to the silent hull by the docking bay. With the docking gear attached and space suits donned, the scout crew was soon ready to board the ship. With guns drawn they cautiously peered through the portal window as the lead crewman worked the decoder to release the old locking mechanism to the hatch door. The door opened and the stale musty air escaped into the hatch area with a single audible sigh. Lang being in the lead shone his light into the pitch black interior. Carefully he stepped onto the ship with his weapon. Cautiously they walked into the hallway a short way before turning right. It was the search crews' job to check the abandoned ship for dangers as well as check for anything they might be able to salvage and sell. Boomer was the new guy and bringing up the rear when suddenly he felt the presence of someone behind him. Slowly he turned around ready to shoot only to find Captain Moore behind him.

"Captain, you shouldn't be here. Begging your pardon sir but the ship hasn't been secured yet!" Boomer said, startled by the captain's appearance.

Captain Moore smiled at the new recruit and said, "Its o.k. I can handle myself."

Unsure of how to respond and not wanting to push his luck he only nodded his head.

They walked down the darkened hallway searching for anything of value. Boomer shone his light around a room off to the right finding it barren. Walking around in these empty old ships always gave Boomer an uneasy feeling, like he shouldn't be here. He could almost feel ghost like fingers reaching for him from the darkness just out of the reach of the light beam.

"Hey Captain Moore, what do you make of that," Boomer asked as he shone his light into yet another room only this one held a large crate. Turning his head he looked for the captain. The captain was gone!

"Sir, Sir?" Shining the light up and down the hallway showed that the captain was indeed missing. Reaching up he tapped shoulder of the man ahead of him. "Sharp, the captains gone," Boomer said alarmed.

Sharp turned, looking at Boomer exasperatedly and said, "Well, go find him! You saw him last, your job to keep an eye on him." Sharp said as he turned back to his job at hand.

Alone in the hallway Boomer shone the light around, backtracking the way they had come hopefully to figure out where he had lost the captain. Dust lay like a thick carpet on everything, muffling his footsteps. Soon he found a set of stairs they had missed on the way in. Footsteps could be plainly seen in the dust. "Sir? Captain?" Only silence greeted his ears as he headed up muttering under his breath. He came to a landing and could see the footsteps going on up to the next deck. He continued up to the next level grumbling as went. "They will probably blame me for losing him, what's he thinking wandering off like this? There could be anything on this old heap." Suddenly as if a ghost appearing out of the darkness the captain stood in front of him grinning.

Note to readers:

This intriguing sci-fi saga is brought to you by our newest member, a most talented El-Aurian. Already an accomplished author, OC Wynan aspires to become a professional editor as well. Knowing her as I do, I have no doubt she'll achieve that goal quite soon. Watch for more of her superb writing here in Crockett's Spirit.



A Brief Story

by LtCol Etel H



Lwaxana could see it in their eyes, the eagerness, the curiosity, yet it seemed to be tinged with discomfort, and she could not fathom why. If one was bound to feel uneasy right now, it was her. She could not read the Ferengi's thoughts at all, and that Cardassian... Oh, layers upon layers of complexities, intertwined so tightly she could

not decipher their meanings, feeling like a luxurious rug she could sink into so easily...

A throat being cleared brought her back to reality, and she slowly grazed one finger against her collarbone, conjuring up her most sexy, endearing smile for the audience in front of her.

"So. What do you think?"

The words that left her lips felt odd, unfamiliar. Rarely had she spoken them, such a question being so futile on Betazed.

"Madam..." Garak politely nodded, but he was visibly floundered. Quark threw a sidelong glance at him before speaking up, eyes widened from something she could not decipher.

"Pardon my asking, Ambassador, but why come all the way to Deep Space Nine for our opinions on this matter?"

"Quark is right, Madam, I.. uh, am a mere, humble tailor, and I fear I cannot share anything valuable regarding... this."

"Why, don't you get it? I need words, gentlemen. Words from people whose mind I cannot read, because I want to know exactly how the world will describe me!" she exclaimed as she languidly stepped forward. "Your expertise in this matter is of great importance."

"How—"

"You Ferengi dress your women in this matter, no?" she admonished.

"Why—"

"And you, Mister Tailor, are an expert in all kinds of body proportions, aren't you?" she patted his chest.

"But—"

"Tsk! Shush now, boys. Tell me what you think of my new wedding attire. Now!"

Lwaxana joyously spun unto herself and grazed her hand in her locks, weaving the curls around her fingers as her other hand caressed her most recent, frivolous acquisition, a glittering necklace from Casperia Prime.

"I think I need a drink," Quark muttered under his breath.

"Whatever you will have, please give me double," Garak agreed, unable to take his eyes off the naked Betazoid woman.

"I'm waiting," the ambassador chirped. Why did people have to make things so arduous all the time?

This Month's Focus - T'Pol

T'Pol was a Vulcan who served aboard Enterprise NX-01 in the mid-22nd century. She was the first Vulcan to serve aboard a Human ship for any substantial period.



Subcommander T'Pol



Commander T'Pol (2154)



T'Pol checks readings on her Vulcan scanner, showing a power surge in 2153. (ENT: "The Shipment")

Source: <http://en.memory-alpha.org/wiki/T'Pol>

A Nugget

by Col Logan Kale



Worf's prosthetic forehead changed in season 2 of Next Generation because the original was stolen.

Brain Benders

ACROSS

1. *The last starfighter, with 43A
5. Junk E-mail
9. Cold war initials
13. Fish bait
15. Boat in "Jaws"
16. Clever tactic
17. Brain or heart
18. Shipping hazard
19. Pie perch
20. Rent payer
22. Gluttons
24. Cultural Revolution leader
25. Ready for battle
27. Nappies: Brits::___: Yanks
29. *Second in command of an armada under Xur
34. Pipe bend
35. On the safe side, at sea
36. Bouquet
38. After-bath powders
42. The Kennedys, e.g.
43. *See 1A
45. King or queen, e.g.
46. Most populous U.S. st.
48. Not yet final, at law
49. Cold cuts, e.g.
50. Summer mo.
52. *Alien who created the

- arcade game, "Starfighter"
54. Wet blanket
58. "What'd I tell ya?"
59. Bit of binary code
60. Press
62. Emphasize
67. June 6, 1944
69. Pairs
71. Japanese noodle dish
72. ___ de camp
73. Hydrox rival
74. True inner self
75. Cozy retreat
76. Loch ___
77. *Navigator of Gunstar One



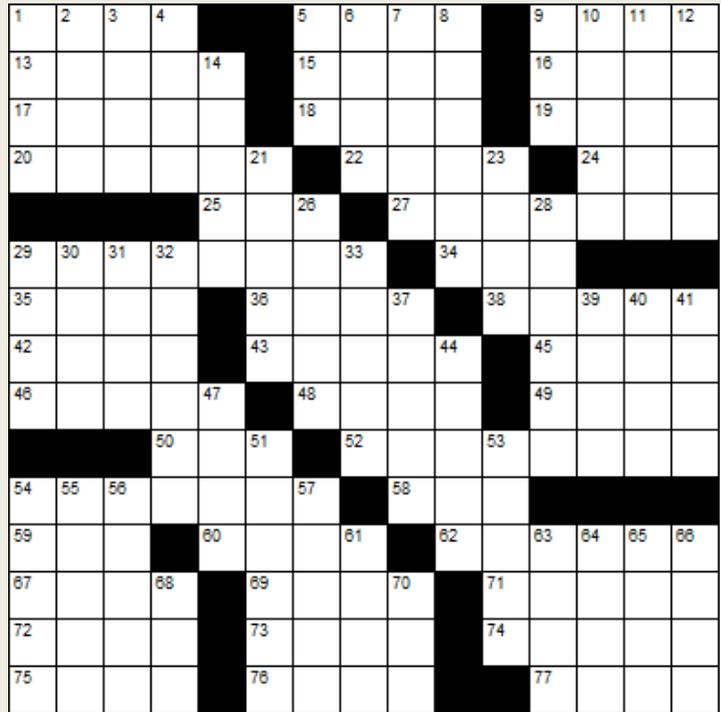
DOWN

1. Missing from the Marines, say
2. Handed-down history
3. Work units
4. Dec. holiday
5. Break down
6. Make ready, briefly
7. Bitter
8. *The last starfighter's girlfriend, with 51D
9. Raises
10. Ooze

11. ___ panel
12. *Capital of the Star League
14. ___ preview
21. Trial's partner
23. Sea dog
26. Position in Cricket of a fielder on the on side of the wicket
28. Matter in an ionized state
29. So. Cal. two-year sch. of higher ed.
30. Earthenware pot
31. "Get ___!"
32. Refusal
33. Valid reasoning
37. Demolishes in Dover
39. In ___ of
40. Nicholas I, e.g.
41. Sci. gp. of listeners
44. "Dressed to the ___"
47. Film maker
51. *See 8D
53. Aquarium fish
54. * ___ Armada
55. Doctor Jones, familiarly
56. Heads
57. "___ gonna get it!"
61. Some votes
63. "You ___?"
64. Arabic for "commander"
65. 18-wheeler
66. Holdup
68. Thus far
70. "Help!"

ESB Crockett's Spirited Crossword Puzzle

*The Last Starfighter - by Col Tensa - February 2014



Answers to Previous Puzzle

E	D	E	M	A		B	E	L		H	U	E	R	
D	E	N	E	B		U	S	A		R	O	N	D	O
A	L	D	A	R		C	P	U		O	P	T	E	D
M	I	S	T	O	O	K		R	E	G	I	O	N	S
			Y	A	M			D	O	L	E			
W	A	S		D	E	L	E		F	R	I	G	H	T
I	D	L	E		G	A	E	L		S	T	R	A	W
L	I	A	R		A	P	R	I	L		L	O	T	I
M	E	N	S	A		P	I	N	E		L	U	C	K
A	U	G	E	R	S		N	E	A	R		P	H	I
						D	I	N	G		R	E	P	
A	F	G	H	A	N	I		K	N	E	A	D	E	D
M	O	R	A	L		G	S	A		B	U	D	D	Y
A	R	E	N	A		H	E	N		O	S	A	G	E
H	A	W	K			T	E	E		K	E	Y	E	D



More Brain Benders

SUDOKU PUZZLE

February 2014
Easy, Symmetrical
by Col Tensa

		7		1	4		2	
	2	4	5				1	
	1							9
	6			9				7
	7						9	
9				3			6	
1							4	
	5				2	6	7	
	3		9	4		8		

Solution to January's Sudoku Puzzle
Very Easy, Symmetrical

6	3	1	5	9	7	4	2	8
9	4	2	3	6	8	7	1	5
7	5	8	4	1	2	9	3	6
3	9	4	1	5	6	8	7	2
1	8	7	9	2	3	5	6	4
5	2	6	7	8	4	1	9	3
8	1	9	2	3	5	6	4	7
4	6	3	8	7	9	2	5	1
2	7	5	6	4	1	3	8	9

WORD SEARCH

February's Topic: "Baseball Players"
Look for 25 Sluggers
by Col Tensa

A	H	E	R	B	P	E	N	N	O	C	K	G	C	M
L	D	A	L	E	M	U	R	P	H	Y	D	Q	Q	G
K	Y	X	N	G	M	G	R	S	S	R	J	H	M	K
A	D	P	M	K	N	M	U	R	A	O	E	B	B	D
L	I	H	N	U	A	O	I	W	S	D	X	A	B	G
I	Z	J	O	E	R	A	N	D	A	C	T	R	I	I
N	Z	Y	C	D	T	H	R	E	Q	A	J	R	D	L
E	Y	P	D	S	O	G	K	O	U	R	A	Y	M	H
C	D	E	T	J	D	N	Q	F	N	E	Y	Z	C	O
P	E	T	E	R	E	I	S	E	R	W	B	I	P	D
U	A	E	Y	H	J	B	A	B	E	R	U	T	H	G
M	N	R	M	C	E	D	W	A	L	S	H	O	E	E
A	J	O	H	N	O	L	E	R	U	D	N	Y	E	S
G	T	S	L	O	U	B	O	U	D	R	E	A	U	E
L	M	E	L	O	T	T	B	J	I	M	R	I	C	E

Solution to January's Word Search:
"The Cosmos"

U	N	I	V	E	R	S	E	Q	Q	U	A	S	A	R
C	L	U	S	T	E	R	A	S	T	E	R	O	I	D
M	E	A	N	T	I	M	E	P	L	A	N	E	T	U
K	A	L	P	H	A	C	E	N	T	A	U	R	I	S
F	P	S	U	R	A	N	U	S	P	H	A	S	E	P
O	O	R	T	C	L	O	U	D	A	I	E	C	P	U
U	A	F	M	R	H	U	T	V	V	T	P	H	O	M
X	P	G	I	J	O	S	O	T	M	O	O	N	C	M
N	S	Q	A	O	U	N	E	B	U	L	A	S	H	A
E	I	O	Q	L	R	I	O	T	Y	P	C	A	O	R
P	S	Y	U	E	A	B	E	M	I	I	O	T	V	S
T	L	B	P	S	N	X	I	A	Y	V	M	U	E	Y
U	E	U	U	U	G	Q	Y	T	R	A	A	R	N	T
N	S	U	T	N	L	C	O	M	E	T	G	N	U	K
E	B	H	E	O	E	U	R	O	P	A	H	N	S	Q

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- Department Chief **Position filled.**
- Department Deputy Chief **Position filled**

ESB Recreations Department, Entertainment Section:

- Section Leader **Position filled.**
- Book Club Host
- Assistant Book Club Host
- Caption This Host
- Assistant Caption This Host
- Games Coordinator **Position filled.**
- Assistant Games Coordinator
- Simm Team Leader **Position filled.**
- Assistant Simm Team Leader **Position filled.**
- Trivia Host **Position filled.**
- Assistant Trivia Host

Applications for these positions should specify your qualifications and your reasons for seeking the position you desire. Please submit your applications by PM to **Col Y'Wanna**, Chief, ESB Recreations.

ESB Recreations Dept. Officer Resources Section:

- Section Leader
- Recruiting Officers
- Social Networking Officers (2)

Applications for these positions should specify your qualifications and your reasons for seeking the position you desire. Please submit your applications by PM to **Col Y'Wanna**, Chief, ESB Recreations.

ESB Recreations Department, Publications Section:

- Section Leader **Position filled temporarily.**
- Crockett's Spirit Editor **Position filled.**
- Crockett's Spirit Staff Writers
- Crockett's Spirit Editorial Writers (2) (1)
- Crockett's Spirit Cartoonists
- Crockett's Spirit Graphic Artists
- ESB Historians (2)

Applications for these positions should specify your qualifications and your reasons for seeking the position you desire. Please include a sample of your writing if possible. Please submit your applications by PM to **Col Y'Wanna**, Chief, ESB Recreations.

We are looking to hire as many people as we can. Our officers have with real life issues and they are limited in the time they can devote to ESB's efforts. So we want to hire enough people to fill any gaps.

Col Drego Tensa
Vice Commander, Esprit Starbase
for **Col Y'Wanna**
Chief, ESB Recreations