



Crockett's Spirit

Impavidus Scribere Veritas — The Brave Write the Truth



Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2014

Editorial

by Maj Dennis Howard

Many editorial pages use a "Cheers and Jeers" format to draw attention to the best and the worst behaviors in their communities. This month I want to award Cheers and Jeers to two well-known people in the Star Trek community who have used their association with Star Trek to spread very different messages about science and specifically about NASA.

Cheers to Uhura!

Nichelle Nichols has served for many years on the Board of Governors of the National Space Society, a nonprofit educational space advocacy organization. She has used many of her public appearances to promote NASA's programs. She has also worked directly with NASA on a program to recruit minority and female astronauts. She understands Star Trek's message and she has used her association with Star Trek to help move us toward the kind of future we see in Gene Roddenberry's vision.

Nichelle Nichols gets it.

Jeers to Captain Janeway!

In Kate Mulgrew's latest screen role she narrates *The Principle*, a documentary film whose premise is that Galileo was wrong, that new evidence reveals that the earth really is the center of the universe and that NASA is suppressing this information. Some prominent scientists appear in the film, but we can assume that they were misled about the film and that their comments are used out of context. Kate Mulgrew doesn't have that excuse, she is literally the person speaking the words. Instead of moving us toward the future, she's working to drag us back to the dark past.

Kate Mulgrew doesn't get it. She really doesn't.

No, this is not an April Fool's joke. I wish it were.

You can see for yourself at *The Principle's* website:

galileowaswrong.blogspot.com/

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Fiction

The Alfore Encounter - 7

by Col. Two Wolves

After a busy, day Shara was relaxing by engaging in what had become a weekly ritual. She was grooming her Track Cats.

She'd already groomed Venus and Setti. Shara was so proud of them. Both were nearly full grown and had been with fitted for their training harnesses earlier. Tomorrow they were going to begin their *Kat-in*, or pull training. This is where they would learn to pull a sled as a team.

Now as Shara groomed Kiki, the adult cat was showing her appreciation by purring loudly like a out-board motor. Shara was fascinated by the sound because the universe's best xenobiologists had yet to determine how or why felines purr.

Kiki stopped abruptly and gazed at Shara. *He comes*, she thought at her Vulcan friend.

Shara sighed and removed the grooming gloves. She meticulously picked up the shed fur and put up the grooming supplies.

Shara had not seen Dr. Gomez for the past ten days. She had indeed gotten her wish for him to be too occupied with the Greya to visit her.

Apparently that fascination has worn off, Shara thought as she steeled herself for this unannounced visit. She privately wondered if he would barge in as usual.

You not like visit, Kiki queried. For the first time in a very long time, Shara was speechless. It was impossible to lie to Kiki because she was telepathically bonded to her. The most Shara could do was to close her mental shields. But, when she did that Kiki simply lay in wait until she relaxed, then pounced.

He brings friends, Kiki said from her mind.

Friends, Shara queried mentally as the entrance chime rang.

"Enter," Shara said crisply. The hanging tapestry was pulled aside and in stepped Dr. Gomez with two Greya. Both entered and sat quietly and obediently at his feet.

"Two," Shara asked, as she raised her right eyebrow in typical Vulcan fashion.

(Continued on Page 2)

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Her mate, Kiki mind whispered to Shara.

"I forgot to tell you that *he* showed up later on that night. I named her Lula and he is Tau," Dr. Gomez said as he proudly pointed each out to her. Shara immediately noted that Lula was more delicate and fine boned than Tau.

Before she could make her thoughts known, Venus and Setti had crept forward to sniff the Greya. The next event took both Dr. Gomez and Shara were totally taken off guard. Lula and Tau assumed the downward facing dog posture, which Shara knew as the universal cainine invitation to play. However, when both kits mirrored the same behavior, Shara and the doctor were equally flummoxed.

They wish to play. I take, I watch. Kiki mind whispered to Shara. In a flash all five creatures were gone leaving Dr. Gomez standing there with a rakish smile on his face.

Sacre Bleu! I've been set up, Shara thought as she gave the doctor a hard stare.

"Aren't you going to invite me in for tea and crumpets," Gomez asked.

"You may come in but I cannot prepare tea. I used my last bag this morning and I neglected to stop at the Shuk. As for crumpets, I do not possess those either," Shara replied. The Shuk is the community market where Alforians trade and barter for everyday goods.

Unfortunately, this was also a breach of the Alforian hospitality custom. One was always supposed to have a repast ready to set out for guests, even if it was merely a snack.

"Not to worry your pretty Vulcan head. I've come fully prepared." Dr. Gomez said as he unslung a hand woven Alforian sling bag. He sat on the small sofa like chair and pulled the central table closer.

Shara stiffly sat on the other end of the sofa and watched as Dr. Gomez removed a woven sheet of fabric and covered the table. Next, he took out an insulated tea carrier and unscrewed the two attached mugs. He then set out two plates. On one he set a pack of black wheat crackers and on the other he set out a pre-sliced hunk of *Ikkla* (or *ice goat*) cheese.



Shara stared daggers at him because the significance was not lost on her.

A loaf of bread, a jug of wine, and thou..., Shara

mentally recited Omar Khayyam's oft quoted romantic line.

"Antonio, what is your real purpose for this visit?" Shara asked. It still stung the doctor when she called him by his proper given name.

"T'Shara, you wound me. Would it kill you to call me Tony?"

"Do not attempt to distract me with the petty dislike of your given name. Again I ask, why are you here?"

"We must discuss *us*," Gomez said before taking a sip of tea. Shara's cup remained untouched.

"There is no *us*, Antonio. This conversation is terminated. Unless you have something relevant to discuss...", Shara started coldly. All she needed to say is "I suggest you take your leave!"

"Au contraire, we have much to discuss," The doctor replied, cutting her off. "How long have we been here so far? Approximately three months?"

"One-hundred eighty days, fifteen hours, ten minutes," Shara replied. Dr. Gomez smiled. He was well aware that she'd know the exact numbers.

"Which leaves us with approximately how many more days until Alforian Spring officially arrives," Gomez asked.

"One hundred eighty-five days, twenty hours and fifteen minutes," she replied, wary of his line of questioning. It was starting to sound like an interrogation.

"Estimated date and time of rescue?"

"Unknown. Although the probability of rescue is much higher during the fair weather seasons," she replied. Her voice trailed off as she slowly realized where he was going with this line of questioning.

"Meanwhile, a critical deadline is approaching. Shara, we will not be rescued in time for you to return to Vulcan." Gomez said. It was as if time as well as Shara froze.

"I had not intended to return to Vulcan. No Vulcan male in his right mind would... would... I have close friends who made arrangements for me previously..." Shara whispered after several moments of uncomfortable silence.

Since Dr. Gomez was the Valkyrie's CMO, he knew exactly what she meant by "arrangements". Though Vulcans had what he considered to be the universe's biggest secret society, the right information could be gotten from the right source and for the right price. Gomez had spared nothing for his beloved...

He eased closer as he watch a tear leak out of Shara's right eye and run down her cheek. He'd seen her cry before when the Vulcan science team derided her for eating meat.

"No Vulcan man would have you because they are closed minded fools, T'Shara," Gomez said as he moved closer and handed her a hand kerchief. She was crying openly now and gratefully used the hand kerchief to wipe her eyes and face.

Gomez reached out and drew the distraught woman into his embrace.

"I'm here, Chica. We'll get through this together." he whispered, as he held her close.

New Talent Fiction

Fallen Angel - Part 3

by OC Wynan

Henderson and his assistant had finally gotten all of the equipment needed to start adding the crystals to the ships' A.I. So far, neither the assistant, Timwell or Henderson had figured out how to open the door. They had been trying different ways to gain access for several hours when the Captain walked up.

"What seems to be the hold up?"

Disgusted, Henderson turned to the captain and said, "Well, as you can see, we haven't figured out how to open it yet. No access code or pry bar will open her up."

Moore stepped up to the door and lay a hand on it gently, "Good morning, Angel."

Silently the door slid open allowing access. Henderson and Timwell stared in wonder at the Captain before turning to the interior of the room.

"I looked up her logs for the previous Captain's entries and found some mention of an ancient song and since the name of the ship is Angel, I just figured that was the password. Remember, when it comes time to update her systems do not purge her or force her. Get her permission" ee said as he walked away.

"I still don't know how we are to go about this but it's the Captain's orders, Timwell, get your bones in here and let's get started on setting up the form!"

Together they worked setting up the framework and inserting the different crystals with information stored on each one. Many years ago it was discovered how to store vast amounts of information including all information compiled about each planet, languages, animals, rituals and any other information necessary about the inhabitants.

Soon it looked like a honey comb surrounding the main core of the original crystals that were glowing softly.

Finally with the last crystal seated and the wiring system done Henderson stood back and looked around as if waiting for something to happen. "uh, good morning, Angel, would you mind going over to the other crystals?" He stared quietly waiting for something, anything to happen.

"Well that was a bust! I don't know why I tried, what the heck did I think would happen she would just waltz on over to the new information and all would be well?" Bending over he started to pick up his tools, when Timwell tapped him on the shoulder. "Sir, sir!"

"What is it Timwell?" Henderson looked up to see his assistant pointing toward the crystals. Slowly the glowing light started spreading to the other crystals. They watched in wonder as the glow spread and soon lights were dancing and chasing each other throughout the

framework.

"Please, leave, I have work to do," a female voice spoke.

"Who said that," Timwell asked looking around.

"It's the A.I. you rookie! Now let's get out of here before she fries our systems," Henderson barked as he grabbed Timwell's arm and dragged him out of the room just in time for the light show to start as electricity began arcing around the room. The door slid firmly into place as Captain Moore walked up. "I'm glad you got her loaded into the new system! A job well done, Henderson," he said slapping him on the back.

Reedus ran up to Moore and pulled him to one side. "Captain, we have a little problem, I've been searching through the data base. I found information regarding the first crew who were on this ship but not the last. We also have a problem with one of the training rooms. The door seems to be welded shut from the inside. There are no life form readings in that room so we cut the door open."

Captain Moore followed Reedus to the room in question. As they walked closer he could see several of the crew members staring into the gaping hole where the door had once been. Not one for delays he grabbed a light from Boomer and shined it into the room. What he saw made him stop. The room was stark and bare save for a laser gun sitting in the middle of the room. The walls were covered with words written over and over. Captain Moore could see names etched into the walls. "These must be the last members of her crew. But who did this and why? Until we can get more information put the door back up and leave this room for now." Moore said as he handed the light back to Boomer.

This Month's Focus



Jean-Luc Picard was one of the most celebrated and well-respected officers to have served in Starfleet in a career spanning over fifty years during the mid-24th century.

The highlights of his career are his positions as commanding officer of the following Federation starships: first, the USS *Stargazer*, followed by the USS *Enterprise-D*, and then the USS *Enterprise-E*.

In these roles, Picard not only witnessed the major turning points of recent galactic history, but played a key role in them also, from making First Contact as captain of the Federation's flagship with no fewer than 27 alien species, including the Ferengi and the Borg, as well as becoming the chief contact point with the Q Continuum, to serving as Arbiter of Succession, choosing the former leader of the Klingon Empire, Chancellor Gowron, and exposing the Romulan Star Empire as backers of his chief rivals, later aiding an underground movement of dissidents to gain a toehold on the Romulan homeworld.

He continued to serve as captain of the *Enterprise-E*, the sixth starship to bear the name, until at least 2379.

Source: <http://en.memory-alpha.org/wiki/Portal:People>

Brain Benders

ACROSS

1. ___ artery
6. *Young son of 41A
9. *Computer genius aiding 41A, with 15D
13. Corkwood
14. Victorian, for one
15. Fire sign
16. Goldbrick
17. Gumshoe
18. Buenos ___
19. Makes sea-water drinkable, for example
21. Remedy
23. "___ any drop to drink": Coleridge
24. Black shade
25. Au ___
28. Part of the Hindu trinity
30. Caribbean musical style
35. Tall in Tijuana
37. Hair arranger
39. Camelot, to Arthur
40. Catch
41. *Protector sent elsewhere in time, with 24D
43. The "A" of ABM
44. Propelled a boat
46. Insipid one
47. "Get ___!"
48. Moon of Neptune
50. Shrek, for one
52. Swelter
53. "Crazy" bird
55. Belief system
57. Queens, for example

61. Nooks
65. Pal, in Palomas
66. "Don't ___!"
68. Raise
69. Sheer fabric
70. Japanese carp
71. Clear, as a disk
72. *Husband of 41A
73. *Mother of 9A
74. Found a new tenant for

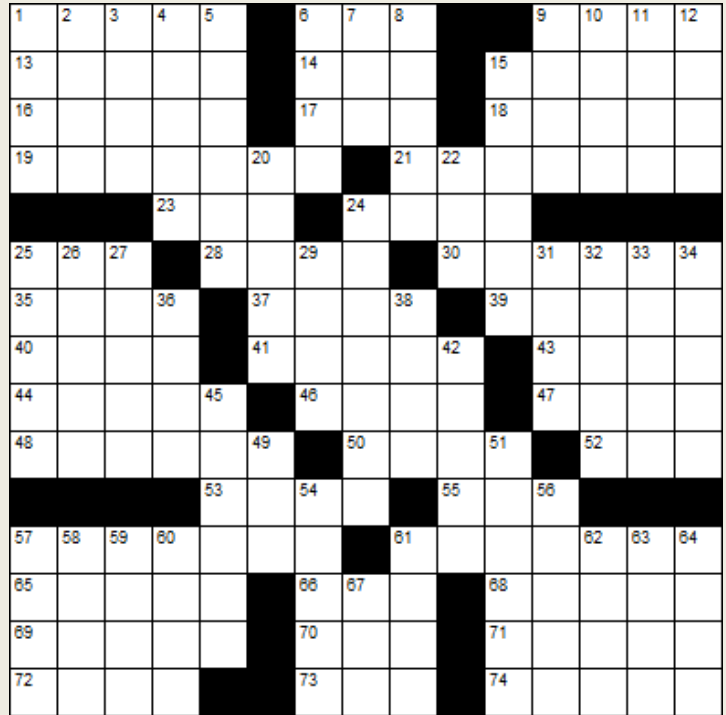


DOWN

1. Bibliographical abbr.
2. Put on board, as cargo
3. Misfortunes
4. Organization formed in 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand: Abbr.
5. *V.P.D. detective: partner of 41A for a time
7. "___ we having fun yet?"
8. Computer shortcut
9. Gulf V.I.P.
10. Handed-down history
11. Barely gets by, with "out"
12. British tax
15. *See 9A
20. Hoodwink
22. Listening device
24. *See 41A
25. *Thrown back 85 years, his sanity took a hit
26. Arm bones
27. Brenda of the comics
29. Empty
31. Reverse, e.g.
32. Swindler, slangily
33. Sacrifice site
34. *Girlfriend of 9A
36. S-shaped molding
38. Sailing vessel with two square-rigged masts
42. Month in which Boston and London Marathon's are run
45. *V.P.D. inspector
49. Buck's mate
51. *C.E.O. of Piron
54. 1970 World's Fair site
56. Bond player
57. London's "White ___"
58. Arabic for "commander"
59. Coal site
60. All excited
61. Like, with "to"
62. Container for nitroglycerin
63. "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto)
64. "Let it stand"
67. "My boy"

ESB Crockett's Spirited Crossword Puzzle

*Continuum Part 1 - by Col Tensa - April 2014



Answers to Previous Puzzle

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



More Brain Benders

SUDOKU PUZZLE

April 2014
Hard, Symmetrical
by Col Tensa

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

Solution to March's Sudoku Puzzle
Medium, Symmetrical

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

WORD SEARCH

April's Topic: "Deities"
Look for 60
by Col Tensa

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

Solution to March's Word Search:
"Alpha & Beta Quadrant Species"

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

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Esprit Starbase Job Openings

ESB Recreations Department:

- 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