



Crockett's Spirit

Impavidus Scribere Veritas — The Brave Write the Truth



Volume 2, Issue 7

July 2014

Space Shuttle Enterprise A Nugget

from Col Logan Kale

Did you know that In 1976, US President Gerald Ford requested that NASA change the name of the first space shuttle from Constitution to Enterprise in honor of Star Trek and in response to a fan-based letter campaign to do so. Many of the show's cast members were there as the Enterprise was first rolled out onto the tarmac at Edwards Air Force Base while Alexander Courage's theme played in the background.



*Source: [en.memory-alpha.org/wiki/Enterprise_\(OV-101\)](http://en.memory-alpha.org/wiki/Enterprise_(OV-101))

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Fiction

The Alfore Encounter - 10

by Col Two Wolves

The community show area was built like a theater in the round. It had wide, graduating step-like levels but no seats. Spectators spread blankets and set cushions on available spaces on each step and sat cross legged in groups of families and friends. A space had already been reserved for the Valkyrie's crew on the lowest level. Gomez and Shara sat there, along with the Track Cats and the Graya.

They had not thought to bring victuals, so food was graciously shared by other families. Kwan stepped out to the central performance area and held up both arms. Immediately the audience quieted down. He opened the ceremony with a prayer of Thanksgiving to the One and True for keeping every one safe and healthy thus far, then asked for a blessing upon the performance. When he finished, the crowd waited in hushed anticipation.

The sound of many children singing to the accompaniment of drums, flutes, and bells grew progressively louder as they danced in. The children, aged two seasons to five, bore baskets full of dried grass, grass they systematically scattered across the performance floor until it was completely covered. Then they put aside their baskets and began to dance and sing in earnest.

"Their costumes are beautiful," Gomez whispered to Shara.

"Agreed. Their native dress closely resembles that of Earth's Native Americans in style," Shara replied. For perhaps the thousandth time she wished she had a tricorder.

Suddenly there was a tremendous clamor and another group of children burst onto the scene. These children were older, perhaps eight to twelve seasons in age. Wearing scary masks they rushed in growling and hissing and chased the other children out as the audience laughed and clapped. They too were attired in native clothing and they carried rake like tools which they used to rake up the dried grass as they sang and danced.

(Continued on Page 3)

X-Men: Days of Future Past

A Review

by Col Y'Wanna

When I went to the cinema to see the latest X-Men film, I had not seen any of the previous ones, except "Wolverine," which I liked, but it didn't impress me very much. After seeing "Days of Future Past," I went home determined to see the other movies, which I did as soon as I could.

They said it would be the best X-Men movie ever filmed and, in my opinion, they were absolutely right.

Firstly, the plot is intriguing, to say the least. Those who have time travel issues are warned to stay away! In a parallel distant future, all the X-men are united, forced to fight against the most monstrous and dangerous enemy they have ever encountered, the Sentinels, powerful machines designed to destroy all mutants and everything else that stands between them and their goal. The Sentinels had been designed in the 70s by Bolivar Trask, who had been killed by Mystique, an event that convinced the people that mutants were dangerous and that the government needed to adopt Trask's project and begin the extermination of the mutants.

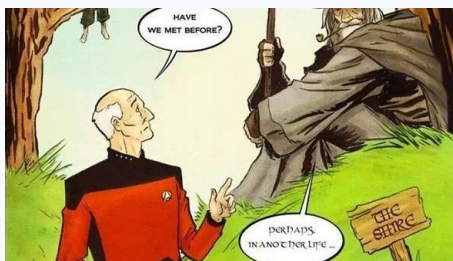
As the mutants find it more and more difficult to resist the Sentinels and are faced with extinction, they are forced to try the ultimate solution. They must send Wolverine's consciousness back in time, to the 70s to search for Professor X and Magneto and, upon finding them, convince them to unite their efforts and stop Mystique from killing Bolivar Trask. However, things do not go as planned and Wolverine is faced with the realization that he might have worsened things rather than having solved the problem.

The plot was most entertaining and I liked the fact that it wasn't at all easy to guess what was going to happen next.

Secondly, the special effects were the best I've seen in a long time: beautiful and used decently; not too few, not too many, just the right dose.

Thirdly, the film had that clever mix of excellent humour and superb drama which always makes a good movie even better.

And finally, the cast of characters was outstanding. I don't know about you, but I consider it the most important aspect of a movie. I only have one word to



say: brilliant! All of them! To be honest the main reason I went to the movie was to see Picard and Gandalf working together on the screen. And they were great! Their younger selves were also very cool. Wolverine is Wolverine. He really doesn't need any comment. Storm and the other mutants were also powerful characters. Some criticized Jennifer Lawrence as Mystique,

but I honestly liked her as much as the others. A very pleasant surprise was Peter Dinklage (best known as Tyrion Lannister of Game of Thrones) as the villain Bolivar Trask, who confessed in an interview that he said yes before even reading the script.

I have only one criticism about this movie: the atmosphere of the 70s was almost non-existent. Bolivar Trask and a few night clubbers were the only ones who looked like the 70s.

Now, although I'm not such a big fan of superheroes in general, I believe "Days of Future Past" is one of the best movies I've ever seen.

For some funny trivia check out this interview with Hugh Jackman and Peter Dinklage:

m.youtube.com/watch?v=rngdJ-aDvog

ME WHILE WATCHING X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST



(Continued from Page 1)

"I did not know a chore like that could be done in such an artful manner," Shara whispered to Tony.

"Before I entered Starfleet I traveled with a medical mission team to Haiti. We rode donkeys up into the mountains and visited several villages to set up medical aid stations. The farmers would group together to till the land the old fashioned way with hand tools. The gang leader would sing a rhythmic song and the rest would respond and till the soil rhythmically to the beat. It helped to get the work done quickly and to relieve the monotony of the chore."

"I see," Shara responded.

The dancers had cleared the floor of all of the dried grass which they carted off in baskets. New baskets of freshly cut green grass were brought in and were being spread on the floor instead, all without missing a note or skipping a step. Once done, the dancers struck a lively new tune and danced out of the performance area.

Kwan stood once again.

"This is to officially announce that we have less than ninety days left till Spring Solstice. Watch your cats for early shedding. It might be early this year," he announced in sing-song Alyy.

The unanimous response from the crowd was cheers and cries of joy. Shara could hardly blame them as they'd been cooped up for six months now. To say that the warm weather was greatly anticipated was an understatement.

Kwan raised his arms to quiet the crowd. They quieted but anticipation was thick in the air.

"Now for this season's Blanket Dance," he announced. There was a great shift in the crowd as men and women rose from their places to line up. Shara's two friends Ahn and Tukku hurried over and squatted next to her.

"Shara, you must come," they urged as they each took one arm and pulled her to her feet.

"Where are you taking me," Shara asked as they pulled her along to join a long line of young women.

"To do the Blanket Dance," Ahn replied.

"But I do not know...," Shara protested.

"Yes you do. We taught you the steps yesterday. You will do just fine. Remember the steps and follow the music," Ahn encouraged her.

Shara, like the rest of the women, was then blindfolded and admonished to hold two other women's hands as they were led out onto the dance floor and into a circle by the honored grandmother.

Once on the dance floor, the women formed an inner circle and the men formed an outer circle. When the music started, the women started dancing clock wise: shuffle, shuffle, hop, shuffle, hop, hop. The men in the outer circle did the same dance, only counter clockwise. They were not blindfolded like the women.

After ten minutes of dancing, there was a subtle change in the tempo of the music. The men changed direction. They were now moving *with* the women. They danced like this for another ten minutes. Suspense was thick in the air. One by one, each man would find the lady he'd chosen, take her by the hand, and they

would leave the circle together. This happened until every woman had been chosen.

That's when the dancing stopped and the blindfolds were removed. No surprise to Shara, Tony was the one holding her hand. What came next, however, was a complete shock!

Like the rest of the men, Tony was wearing an elaborately patterned blanket tied at his neck so it hung like a cape down his back. He untied it and wrapped it around both Shara and himself.

Kwan again stepped into the circle. All eyes were on him as he began addressing the men. "With your Blanket of Shelter, do you pledge to protect, love and cherish the one within? Do you promise to be faithful to her and only her until you walk on. Do you pledge this in the sight and hearing of The One and True who sees, hears and knows all?"

The men all replied as one, "I so pledge and promise, pledging in the sight and hearing of The One and True who sees, hears and knows all!"

I now pray blessings, prosperity, health and protection on each couple. Blessed be The One and True," Kwan beseeched aloud.

"Azini," everyone replied. It was the Alforian equivalent of *amen*.

It was quite obvious to Shara that she had been wedded to the doctor in a mass Alforian ceremony, but that didn't stop her from inquiring. Turning to face him, she asked, "We are married?"

The doctor drew back a bit as she looked like she wanted to punch him in the nose. "Yes it does."

"I would sincerely appreciate it if, in the future, you would warn me first before taking rash actions such as this." Shara knew full well her words had fallen on deaf ears. After all, Humans were known for their spontaneous and irrational behavior. Especially *this* human!

"I can't promise that Chica," he replied.

At least he is honest, Shara thought. "I understand. I am exceedingly fond of you nevertheless," Shara told him. "Now I am hungry and I would like to try some of that Alforian ice wine as well," she continued as she led him back to the seating area where a great picnic and reception like celebration had gotten underway.

NOTICE

UNATTENDED
CHILDREN WILL
BE SOLD TO
THE BORG



Colonel Tensa's story, "Off the Parade Ground," has been put on hold. Certain events cannot occur as would be depicted, so alternate events are being developed. The story will resume in good time.

New Talent Fiction

Fallen Angel - Part 6

by OC Wynan

Moore sat in the captain's chair on deck watching the scene unfold on the view screen before him. If he was right about this, they would soon have Jaxon's prize. He pulled the Fallen Angel within visual range of the shuttle, releasing the hold on his old ship and setting it adrift. Timwell was aboard the ship that had previously been his home waiting for the signal. All life support had been shut down, giving the illusion of space junk drifting through space.

"Just how are you expecting to capture that craft, Captain," Henderson asked. "I heard a few tales about that little beauty back at the station. No one knows what race brought it here but they do know it's impossible to catch. Many have tried."

"Well, I spotted something on the small projection model he showed me the other night. Powered space-ships can't get anywhere near it, but I noticed that meteors and other space debris passed within arm's reach of it and yet it didn't move," the captain explained, still keeping a close eye on the screen.

"Aha! I had a hunch you'd come up with something! I'll get ready to bring her aboard." Henderson scurried off to ready the tractor beam once again.

The key was Moore's old ship. The merchant class vessel had served him well, although it had one minor drawback. A constantly malfunctioning heating system had kept the ship much too warm most of the time, so the crew had nick-named it for an ancient Greek torture device. When its current task was done, however, the crew would have a new-found respect for the *Bronze Bull*.

Everyone on the main bridge of the Fallen Angel watched the view screen anxiously as their old ship, the Bon Marchand, floated gently towards the prize. The shuttle never moved as the old ship drifted ever closer. Just when it looked as if the ship was going to crash into it, a tractor beam embraced the little shuttle. A cheer went up from everyone on the bridge.

Timwell knew well what needed to be done. He waited until he was within a hundred meters of the tiny ship before activating the tractor beam. He refrained from turning on any additional power once the shuttle was in tow. Then, he waited for the still seemingly lifeless ship he was piloting to itself be taken in tow. Ever so gently, the Fallen Angel latched onto it and set course for the docking station where Jaxon awaited their return. Henderson had Boomer do a scan of the shuttle to be sure there were no life forms on aboard. While they did receive a faint anomalous signal, no apparent life signs appeared on the screen.

They were coming within range of the docking station when, suddenly unnerved, Boomer cried out,

"Captain, they have lasers locked on us and it looks like they're ready to fire!"

"What! Boomer, open a channel to Jaxon now," the captain barked.

"Yes Sir!" Boomer quickly signaled the docking station, hailing its manager. A crimson faced Jaxon filled their view screen.

"What in the name of the seven planets are you trying to do? I got that prized jewel of a shuttle you wanted Jaxon and now you're going to fire on us?" Moore was incredulous.

"I know how many people you had on board that ship when you left and I know that you now have one more with you. I don't trade or traffic in flesh of any sort and you know that!" Jaxon raised his hand to signal his gunner to commence firing.

"Wait a minute...wait! What are you talking about? We don't have any extras on board. We got the shuttle just as you requested. We have been friends for a very long time and I would never lie to you. Now stand down so we can talk this out!" The captain rose from his chair as if ready to fight the image on the screen.

"You say you don't have any extras but we are picking up a faint reading of another life form. We will let you come within range but you are not allowed to dock," Jaxon stated coldly just before the screen faded to black.

"Henderson! Did you scan that shuttle for life forms?" Moore asked

"I had Boomer do it." He replied.

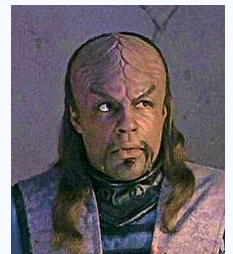
"Boomer, did you get any life signs from that shuttle," Captain Moore asked, standing beside him now.

"Sir, I scanned the shuttle but there weren't any life form readings. There was a small anomaly but no true indications of life." Boomer said shakily.

With a second tractor beam, they pulled the shuttle into the Fallen Angel's loading bay. Captain Moore, Henderson and Boomer went quickly down to the loading bay. The shuttle rested quietly on the floor. With pistols drawn they edged towards it. Captain Moore climbed up onto a wing and brushed the dirt and dust off of the window. What he saw inside took his breath away.

This Month's Focus: Colonel Worf

Prominent Klingon advocate and diplomatic figure Colonel Worf represented Captain James Kirk and Dr. Leonard McCoy in 2293 when they were tried on the planet Qo'noS for the murder of Chancellor Gorkon. While powerless to prevent the pair being convicted in what was essentially a show trial, Worf nonetheless managed to convince the trio of judges presiding over the case that the evidence was not strong enough to support the death penalty. He noted that Gorkon's assassins could have merely been wearing Starfleet uniforms rather than being members of Starfleet themselves. Due to this line of deliberation, combined with the closeness of an impending peace summit, the sentence was commuted to a life term on Rura Penthe.*



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

Brain Benders

ACROSS

1. Distorts
6. Swim in
10. Break
14. Accustom
15. Highlands hillside
16. Ashtabula's lake
17. Atlas enlargement
18. Kind of phone
19. Scrawny
20. Take back to the lab
22. "To thine own ___ be true"
24. Bubkes
25. Definitely need to
27. ___ Joan Hart
29. *Possessed the Ancient Technology Activation gene
33. Bolt
34. Stalk
35. Curb, with "in"
37. Admittance
41. The Greatest
42. It's a wrap
44. Indeed
45. "Call Me ___": 1953 film starring Ethel Mer-man
48. ___ Jones' Locker
49. Slant
50. Uncooked
52. *Commanded the Daedalus
54. "...the last full ___ of devo-tion..."
58. Handed-down history
59. Computer monitor, for short
60. Narrow street

62. Cop some z's
66. Go-___
68. "Cast Away" setting
70. Rocket fuel ingredient, for short
71. ___ Minor
72. IV part
73. Oil of winter-green, e.g.
74. Calendar span
75. Command to a dog
76. Did a black-smith's job

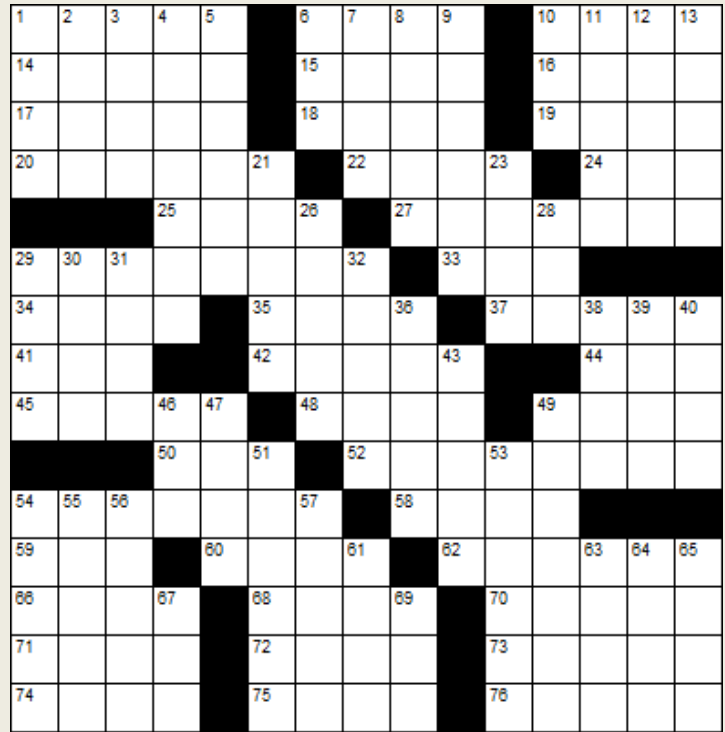


DOWN

1. *Led the expedition to the Lost City of the Ancients
2. "Green Gables" girl
3. Pipe problem
4. Bump
5. Establishes
6. "Monty Python" aier
7. Mars:Rome:: ___:Greece
8. "The Crucible" setting
9. *Reluctant replacement for Dr. Beckett
10. Confederate soldier, for short
11. "Reversal of Fortune" star
12. Conclusion
13. *Athosian leader, able to sense the 51D
21. Autocrats
23. Chimney channel
26. Tire pattern
28. Setting for TV's "Newhart"
29. Bogus
30. Waikiki wiggle
31. Geraint's lady
32. Shared 1933's Nobel Prize in Physics with Schrödinger
36. The "N" of U.S.N.A.
38. Kid
39. Casting need
40. Two-masted ship
43. Hose material
46. ___ Gratia Artis
47. Handle roughly
49. Most people in Gothenburg speak it
51. *Vampiric hive-based species, with "the"
53. Borg Collective members
54. *Leading expert on Star-gate and worm-hole physics, and on Ancient and nanite technology
55. Demagnetize, as a tape
56. Courtyards
57. Arise
61. Dresden's river
63. "Beetle Bailey" dog
64. At liberty
65. *Became dependent on an enzyme injected by a Wraith that tried to eat him
67. Toni Morrison's " ___ Baby"
69. Moray, e.g.

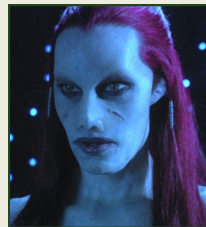
ESB Crockett's Spirited Crossword Puzzle

*Stargate Atlantis - by Col Tensa - July 2014



Answers to Previous Puzzle

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



More Brain Benders

SUDOKU PUZZLE

July 2014
 Medium, Non-Symmetrical
 by Col Tensa

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

Solution to June's Sudoku Puzzle
 Easy, Non-Symmetrical

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

WORD SEARCH

July's Topic: "Phrases"
 Look for 21 Clichés
 by Col Tensa

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

Solution to June's Word Search:
 "Dogs"

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

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Senior Staff Writer

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Editorial Writer

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Graphic Artist

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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