



Crockett's Spirit

Impavidus Scribere Veritas — The Brave Write the Truth



Volume 2, Issue 12

Christmas Edition

December 2014

ESB News and Happenings

by BGen Drego Tensa

'Tis the Season

Once again, December is upon us. For many of us, that means having to endure Rura-Penthe-like weather (brrrrr!). For all of us it means a time for remembering, a time for sharing, a time for giving, a time of joy. With that in mind, speaking for Major General Tanner and myself, I'd like to offer all of you our sincerest wishes for a Happy Holiday season.

Future Direction of ESB

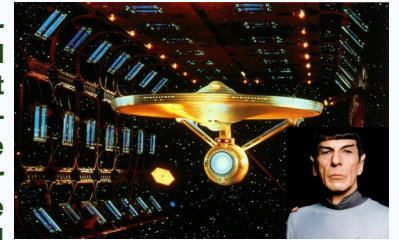
Esprit Starbase is MACO in design and theme. That served us well while we were a private organization. MACO, however, is from the "Enterprise" series and is far less well known than Starfleet. In our efforts to increase our membership, Major General Tanner and I have been discussing expanding ESB's horizons by adding more themes and even adding new genres. We are considering adding Starfleet into our "Trek" theme as well as adding "Stargate" and "Star Wars" as new themes to our repertoire. As for new genres, "Game of Thrones" has already been suggested. It's an exceedingly popular fantasy theme and would attract a whole new class of people to our Starbase. Of course, additional ranking systems would be included as well. You can choose to be a Starfleet officer, a Jedi Knight, or any rank to your liking that corresponds to your current rank.

This being your star base, we are looking to all of you for suggestions. What genre do you prefer? What's your favorite TV series or movie? What would you like us to incorporate into Esprit Starbase? Send me a PM. Let us know what you want.

Kung Fu Spock

by LtCol Dennis Howard

Star Trek: The Motion Picture debuted 35 years ago. It wasn't a perfect film but I enjoyed it, maybe more than a lot of other fans did. But one thing that seemed odd



to me in ST:TMP was Leonard Nimoy's portrayal of Spock. When I fondly think back to the characters I loved in TOS, the Spock I remember is mostly the television Spock, not the weird Spock in the movies.

Yes, I know that the film contains its own internal explanation for Spock's altered nature, specifically that he has been training to attain Kolinahr, the purging of all emotion. But that doesn't explain why the film's creators chose to go in this direction for Spock's character.

Recently, while poking around in various fannish corners of the internet, I came across some speculation about Nimoy's performance in ST:TMP. It's an odd theory, but I like it.

Contractually, William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy had to be consulted on re-writes to the script. As work on the film progressed, there were a lot of re-writes and there were nearly daily meetings with Shatner and Nimoy. Apparently Nimoy himself was largely responsible for shaping Spock's character.

And what was influencing Nimoy's choices? The answer may lie in looking back at another popular character, one who emerged in the years after TOS and before ST:TMP. Specifically, the inspiration may have been David Caradine's unemotional mixed-race character, Kwai Chang Caine from the *Kung Fu* TV series!

It's an interesting theory! Caradine's Caine was a cultural icon and Nimoy was undoubtedly aware of him. There are definite parallels between the two characters. Could the answer to Spock's new nature as a mystic be so straightforward? Did Nimoy want Spock to be like Caine?

To me, the film's Spock really does often seem more like TV's Caine than TV's Spock. I'm curious what others think. If anyone else wants to comment on this topic, let's talk about it in the forums.)

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Fiction

The Alfore Encounter - 15

"On Thin Ice"

by Col Two Wolves

The group continued to travel on a steady easterly course throughout the morning. When the sun stood overhead, the tribe stopped, formed up in a circle and unpacked provisions for the noon day meal.

The cats were unhitched from the hings and allowed their freedom to play, relieve themselves or hunt. Kiki immediately dashed off at breakneck speed with her kits in her wake.

"They will be back," Shara's friend Jasah called. "They sense prey. She will teach them how to hunt and bring back fresh meat for the stew pot and dinner tonight."

Tony and Shara settled in as they watched the activity around them. The young children were sent out in groups to find caches of vegetables and tubors. Flash frozen by the snow and cold, they were fresh and would be edible once thawed and cooked. They were placed in special containers for thawing so they could be made ready for the evening meal.

Tony and Shara were just finishing their sweet leaf tea and Kaska when Kiki and her kits reappeared. Kiki was carrying in her mouth a large, jackrabbit-like animal. The two kits carried smaller versions of the same beast.

Kiki lay the animal at Shara's feet and sat back on her haunches.

Blessings of First Hunt, she thought whispered to Shara.

Thank you, Kiki, Shara replied mentally. *Now what do I do*, the Vulcan commander wondered.

You take skin off, cut up, make stew, Kiki adroitly instructed. Both Tony and Shara were flummoxed as neither of them had wilderness training.

"They are called Yanna and they are plentiful during this season. I will skin, dress and cook them for you. There should be enough to make jerky treats too," said Quan's second wife, Geshi. She picked up all three animals by their hind legs and bore them away.

Meanwhile, on the USS Tesla, Captain Darden was in the gym on the treadmill.

"Bridge to Captain," Skonn intoned. Darden slowed the treadmill to a crawl and tapped her communicator pin. "Speaking."

"Progress report on the search is still negative. We have attempted multiple sensor sweeps. However, the northern hemisphere of the planet is experiencing intense atmospheric activity which is interfering with

our sensors," Skonn reported.

"Then we wait until the storms die down or there is a lull in the atmospheric activity. I'm not leaving this planet until I have positive proof of the Valkyrie's crash and either the demise of her crew or evidence of survivors. If I have to beam down and comb the countryside kilometer by kilometer I will do so. Am I clear?" Darden meant business.

"Aye Ma'am," Skonn replied as his eyebrows swept upward. *Most illogical*, he thought.

Darden sighed and shook her head. Skonn was fresh out of Starfleet Academy and a recent addition to her crew. Two weeks ago he was assigned to the Tesla to replace her retiring science officer. Darden's tenacity was a well-known fact by all of her crew, except Skonn.

He came with all of the bells and whistles. Mega genius grades, excelled in everything, graduated at the top of his class, but he was as socially inept as a new born puppy. Usually members of her crew would initiate the "newbies," however, with this assignment they obviously didn't have the time.

I must have a meeting with Skonn, and soon. Vulcan logic is about to take a severe beating this time around, Darden thought, as she stepped off the treadmill and headed for the sonic shower.

On the planet, the tribe had packed up and continued on their easterly course. At dusk they made camp and settled in for the evening meal. While food was being prepared, other chores had to be tended to.

The track cats' paws had to be checked and treated for cuts and scrapes. If this had been a long "run" or trip, they would have worn booties. Shara was happy to find that all of her cats' paws were fine.

The next item to attend to was the hing. The sled was cleverly devised so that it could be unloaded and turned into a tepee-like structure to spend the night in. With minimal instruction Shara and Tony erected theirs without a problem. As they settled in to have dinner Shara noticed that they had a guest. Another track cat had entered. She could tell by the larger body structure, that it was a male.

"Hello," she said verbally to the newcomer.

"I was wondering when he'd show up. He's been courting Kiki you know," Tony told her.

"Courting? You mean?" Shara was aghast.

"Playing, grooming each other and hunkering down for a nap together. They mate for life you know, and since Kiki's old mate died a season ago...", Tony replied. "I've named him Rusty, by the way."

Rusty? Why Rusty, Shara wondered. then she noticed the reddish brown highlights in the cat's fur.

"You are aptly named my friend. Welcome to the family," Shara said, reaching out her hands to scratch Rusty's head and caress his fur.

Thank you, he trilled back in his distinctly male mind voice as he scent marked her hands.

New Talent Fiction

Fallen Angel - Part 11

by 1stLt Wyman

Captain Moore stood frozen to the spot, unable to process what he was seeing. A young woman stood in front of the door, a soft glow emanating from her. Her long, dark hair hung down in a curtain half covering her face. Her face was set with large dark eyes. Her red lips slowly parted into a hesitant smile. She looked a little like Lillian with her dark complexion but she also looked unlike anything he had seen in his life time.

She lifted her hand, brushing her hair out of her face. The crew stood around staring at her, no one knew what to do. Some had their hands on their side arms, ready to draw if necessary.

The ethereal form of Angel walked towards Boomer who held the baby, Lillian. "Sweet baby." Suddenly Angel stopped as if she had run into a barrier. The smile faded from her face as she looked around trying to understand why she could go no farther.

Boomer saw Angel's face fall as she realized her limits. Quickly he walked towards her with the baby in his arms. Lillian's little hand reaching towards Angel. As he drew near, her hand sought the child's hand. The two hands met, Angel's hand slipped through the solid form of Lillian's hand. The baby, perfectly happy to just be near her, cooed and gave a large toothy grin.

"I must return to my room little one, but you come see me any time. All right," she urged looking around, asking permission with her eyes.

Captain Moore nodded his head. "Lillian is allowed to visit her any time." He said firmly to his crew. Everyone stood, watching her walk through the wall as if it weren't there. Captain Moore grumbled something about his quarters and walked out, leaving everyone stunned.

Captain Moore paced in his quarters. "What in the name of seven moons is happening? I am the captain of this ship! Not a little girl and a hologram! I am losing control of my own ship."

A knock came at the door.

"Who is it," Captain Moore barked.

"Henderson, Sir."

"Come in," Moore said, a little less gruff.

"Well, this has been one heck of a day hasn't it," Henderson said as he walked over to the bar and poured both of them a drink.

"What is going on? I am losing control of my own ship Henderson? I don't like it!" He was growling once again.

"Sir, if I may suggest, I think this is a good thing. No A.I. has ever evolved. We have something special here," Henderson said handing the Captain his drink.

Captain Moore sat on the chair behind his desk. Raising the drink, he took a sip. The amber liquid

warmed him as it traveled down his throat.

"Captain, I know this situation is a little out of the ordinary... okay, a lot out of the ordinary, but I still think we are discovering something here and should stay with the ship. Keep it quiet for now but just stay with her to see what happens." Henderson finished by taking a swig of the amber drink.

"I never said I wanted to leave the ship! I just am not sure what is happening. I'm not really sure who is running the ship anymore either. We have a baby on board and an A.I. who is becoming a life form!" Captain Moore set his glass down, shaking his head

"Sir, you are the Captain and everyone knows that. We have a chance to see something no one else has ever seen before, a new life form," Henderson said excitedly.

"You just want to see what makes her tick; see if you can figure out why she is changing," Captain Moore accused.

"Well, I would be lying if I said I wasn't curious of the how's and why's, but I'm afraid it's long past the time of tinkering around to find out," Henderson said as he sat back in the chair across from the desk. "I just think she will become invaluable at some point and we should see what happens."

"Fine, she is your responsibility then, if something goes wrong it's on your head as well," Moore said trying to feel as if he had control of something on his own ship.

"We are headed to the Abugida 15-B System where we can pick up supplies. There is a histories keeper there I would like to find and see if we can get some more information about Angel."

Just then, the alarm system sounded throughout the ship, "Now what," Moore shouted as he ran out the door.

Following Moore out the door, Henderson mumbled, "I don't know how much more the captain can take."

This Month's focus

Doctor Crusher

Commander Beverly Cheryl Crusher, MD, (née Howard) was the chief medical officer aboard the USS Enterprise-D and its successor, the USS Enterprise-E, both under the command of Captain Jean-Luc Picard. She briefly left her post as CMO of the Enterprise-D to become the head of Starfleet Medical, only to return shortly after. (TNG: "Encounter at Farpoint", "Attached", "The Child", "Evolution"; Star Trek: First Contact)*

Her Husband, Jack, died on an away mission while serving aboard the USS Stargazer under Captain Picard in 2354. (TNG: "Encounter at Farpoint")*

*Source: http://en.memory-alpha.org/wiki/Beverly_Crusher



New Talent Fiction

A Stargate Atlantis Story

Chapter 3

by Col Shreya Rose

Early the Next Morning

Amargosa, still sound asleep, was having a bad dream. Erick was in the next bed and heard Amargosa tossing about. Her mind sensed something that was not of her own thoughts. Amargosa gasped and opened her eyes.

"Are you alright," Erick asked.

"I think so," Amargosa said as she took a deep breath to clear her mind, "I have a feeling something is going to happen."

Erick had seen this before with another. He knew that Amargosa had the gift, the gift that runs in her family. Amargosa's mother had given him a notebook with the family history to keep safe. He was wondering whether or not to give it to Amargosa.

Amargosa got out of bed and went to the chest she brought with her from home.

Erick watched Amargosa and thought of what her father had asked him to do.

"Erick is everything okay," Amargosa asked as she turned to face him.

"Everything's fine," Erick said.

"I'm going to go for a walk," Amargosa said as she went to change.

"It's late. Are you sure you want to do that?"

"Yes. I know its late, but I need to clear my head," Amargosa said as she finished getting dressed, "I just need to clear my head." She grabbed her shawl from the chest and walked out of the room.

Erick sighed as he thought about what he has always thought about, his love for Amargosa.

Hallway

Amargosa wandered the quiet hallways by herself, her head spinning with thoughts not her own. She walked until she was at the gate room. Amargosa looked directly at the gate and took a deep breath. She was lost in thought.

McKay saw Amargosa and moved slowly towards her. Amargosa was just staring at the gate, her eyes fixed on the symbols.

"Thats it," she said quietly as she realized that the images were a new place for her people. She glanced at McKay and then headed back to her room. McKay, confused, headed back to work.

Wraith Ship

The Wraith leader was on the bridge looking out at the stars. He did not see Amargosa among the group they had gotten from the last world. He was becoming frustrated with the lack of progress. Just as he was about to give up, one of his men came up to him and told him the location of the girl they were looking for. The leader dis-

missed the man. *Amargosa has nowhere to run now. We will have her one way or another,* he vowed in his mind.

Amargosa's Quarters

Erick awoke the next morning only to find that Amargosa was not in her bed. He noticed that the chest next to the bed was open and had been rifled through. Getting up and dressing quickly, Erick left the room to find Amargosa.

Cafeteria

Amargosa was reading one of the books that had been left in the chest. She was reading about part of her family history and some family legends. One in particular caught her attention: "The Phoenix." Amargosa looked up from the book and thought about why she had been protected for so long. In her wandering mind, she wondered what the Phoenix would have been like.

The cafeteria began filling with crew members just starting their day. Amargosa didn't realize that Teyla and Ronon were walking towards her. She sighed as she peered down at her book.

Teyla spoke. "Amargosa?"

Amargosa looked up at Teyla and Ronon, "Oh, I'm so sorry. I didn't see you come in."

"What are you reading," Teyla asked.

"Just some legends from my world," Amargosa said. She yawned and rubbed her eyes. She'd been up for quite a while now. Amargosa's head was pounding and she couldn't quite keep her own thoughts straight.

Teyla looked over at the young lady. "You should go and get some rest. Looks like you haven't slept at all."

"I will. I just need to figure something out," Amargosa said as she gathered her things together, "I will see you both later." She left the cafeteria.

Teyla lookrd at Ronon. "She's anxious about something," Ronon said.

"About what though," Teyla wondered aloud. but Ronon had no idea. Teyla sighed as she continued to wonder what was going on inside Amargosa's head.

Later that Day

Erick sighed as he found Amargosa sitting near the gate room. She was writing things down she needed to remember. Erick came over to her and sat down.

"Were were you? I've been looking for you everywhere."

"Where should I be? I have nowhere else to go," Amargosa said as she looked up from the book she was reading. "I've just been around here."

"I was worried when I didn't see you in your room." Erick noticed the book she had with her. "Where did you find that?"

"It's not yours. I found it in my chest from home," she said, to Erick's surprise. "I've seen you holding the book that my father gave you."

"That I am holding for you until you are ready to have it."

"I'm fine with that. When you think I am ready, I'll take it," Amargosa said. She closed her book and notebook and took a deep breath. She stood up and headed to her room.

Erick rubbed his head and sighed. He was unsure if Amargosa was ready to find out who she really is.

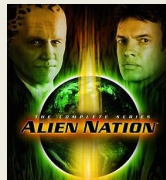
Brain Benders

ACROSS

1. *Derogatory human term for a Tenc-tonese
5. Qualm
9. *Bigot partnered with a Newcomer, with 41A
13. 747, e.g.
14. Aroma
15. A lot of lot
16. Bookstore section
17. Dalai ___
18. Ancient colonnade
19. Actress Drena ___
21. Bring down
23. "___ Gang"
24. Eye rakishly
26. Goes off
28. Doled out
32. Barbecue offering
33. Its motto is "Industry"
34. Kuwaiti, e.g.
36. *Newcomer across the hall
40. One in stir
41. *See 9A
43. Court
44. *Nine-year-old Newcomer whom Purists attempted to block from integrating into an all human school
47. Comfort
48. Cheat
49. Order between "ready" and "fire"
51. Banter

DOWN

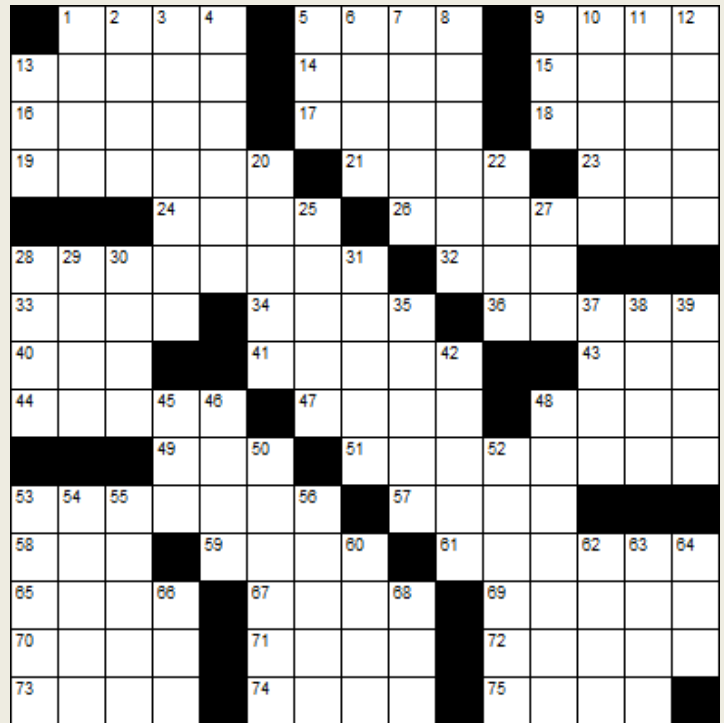
53. Fit
57. Game piece
58. ___-eyed
59. Auction cry
61. Degraded
65. Easter flower
67. Honoree's spot
69. Short instructional musical composition for a particular instrument
70. Hipbones
71. Classic board game
72. The Allies crossed it in 1945, with "the"
73. *Finiksa's human given name
74. Black
75. *Derogatory Tenc-tonese term for a human



8. *Supervisor of the detectives
9. More, in Madrid
10. Part filler
11. Rainbow ___
12. Eye drops
13. High degree
20. Widemouthed earthenware vessel
22. Heroic
25. Creepy
27. Lawyers' org.
28. Brownish purple
29. Elementary particle
30. Sari-clad royal
31. Senegal's capital
35. Assail
37. Blockhead
38. Gap
39. Oxen's harness
42. Old photo color
45. Pathet ___
46. Puppy sounds
48. "As I live and ___,"
50. *Spiritual ne-comer who walked uninjured in the surf
52. *Newcomer nicknamed Lightnng
53. Go off script
54. W.W. I French soldier
55. Artifact
56. Killed
60. Data holder
62. Litigant
63. Blue-pencil
64. Lion's home
66. Gab
68. Wild blue yonder

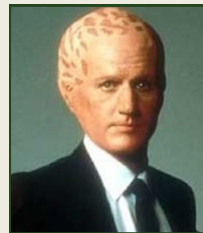
ESB Crockett's Spirited Crossword Puzzle

* Alien Nation - by BGen Tensa - December 2014



Answers to Previous Puzzle

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



More Brain Benders

SUDOKU PUZZLE

December 2014
Hard Symmetrical
by BGen Tensa

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

Solution to November's Sudoku Puzzle
Medium, Symmetrical

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

WORD SEARCH

December's Topic: "Herbs & Spices"
Look for 32 Seasonings
by BGen Tensa

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

Solution to November's Word Search:
"Artists"

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

Esprit Starbase & Crockett's Spirit Staff

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Acting Publications Section Leader
Editor, Crockett's Spirit

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Simm Team Leader
Trivia Host
Staff Writer

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Howard
Editorial Writer
Critic

Colonel Two Wolves
Senior Staff Writer

Colonel Tre'gok of Mirtak
Senior Staff Writer

Colonel Shreya Rose
Staff Writer

1st Lieutenant Wynan
Staff Writer

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Esprit Starbase Job Openings

ESB Recreations Dept., Entertainment Section:

- Book Club Host
- Assistant Book Club Host
- Caption This Host
- Assistant Caption This Host
- Assistant Games Coordinator
- Assistant Trivia Host

ESB Recreations Dept., Officer Resources Section:

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

ESB Recreations Dept., Publications Section:

- Section Leader
- Crockett's Spirit Staff Writers
- Crockett's Spirit Editorial Writers (2) (1)
- Crockett's Spirit Critics (2) (1)
- Crockett's Spirit Cartoonists
- Crockett's Spirit Graphic Artists
- ESB Historians (2)

Applications for the above positions should specify your qualifications and your reasons for seeking the position you desire. For Crockett's Spirit positions, please include a sample of your writing or artistry if possible. Please submit your applications by PM to Col Y'Wanna, Chief of ESB Recreations.

We are looking to hire as many people as we can. Our officers have 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.

BGen Drego Tensa

Vice Commander, Esprit Starbase
for Col Y'Wanna

