

Ticonderoga Transmissions

September 2014

Captain's Log, Stardate 68090.9

Welcome back to the Ticonderoga Transmissions! The newsletter has been out of commission for quite a while now, and I'm glad to see it back. This can be a great resource for knowledge - in future editions, there will be answers for Advots, and suggestions for the Academy Assessments and Commanding Officers' Exams.

It's also a great forum for showing off your talents and connecting with your fellow crew members.

Don't forget to list any submissions you've made on your duty report - at the very least, they are worth service points.

If you need ideas, check out the newsletter section on the website - there's a huge list of potential submissions.

Remember, too, that they don't have to be strictly Star Trek based. While Star Trek is what brings us together, it's not our only reason to hang out. We all have other passions, and the

newsletter is a great way to reflect our diversity of interests.

On another note, THANK YOU ALL for the fantastic job you did at Fleet Day. I've received dozens of compliments and kudos for you all.

We did a great job at changing things up for the summer get-together, and I loved the way it worked out.

On a side note, attendance was close to 70 fleet members, when all was said and done.

We also received a compliment from Clearfield city.

We finally got to start playing the Tico RPG again, and the first session was a lot of fun. If you still want to create a character and join us, please get in touch with Ivan Podwys, our chief of Tactical.

If you happen to have any photos of this year's events, please get them to me ASAP - it's time to start putting together our ship's report for the Admiral's Banquet in January.

Speaking of the banquet, it's coming up fast. Remember that the cost is \$10.00 per person, and we will begin collecting your menu selections and money in a couple of months. It's always a fun time.

Don't forget, as well, coming up in October is our own Oktoberfest party. Bring your family rec-

ipe root beer, ginger ale, cream soda, or your favorite commercial brand. (No alcohol - we will be in a public park.)

I hope to see you all soon, and look forward to seeing you all showing off your various talents in this showcase.

~ Stark out.



*“...And get that fish out of my ready room.”
~Captain Jellico*

XO's Corner

Greetings, crew. This quarter has been an exciting one. It's been good to see new faces and the Ticonderoga is growing. The shirt projects are now complete. Our next project is the Transporter. I look forward to all of your help to make this thing happen.

Keep the duty reports coming in. As for you Department Chiefs, look for a name for crewman of the month and bring that name to the next SOM

Announcements

- ✦ Club t-shirts are ready. \$10 each for sizes up to XL. \$1 per size extra for sizes 2XL-5XL. Talk to Dave Stock to order.
- ✦ Marcus Rosalas has been laid up in the hospital with pneumonia and a bacterial infection in his leg. Send him prayers and good thoughts.





Activities Calendar

- ✦ September 13th
6pm - RPG Night: Icarus Effect, Part 2
- ✦ September 20th
6pm - Game Night: Star Trek Decipher:
The Card Game
- ✦ October 4
6pm - RPG Night: Episode 2
- ✦ October 8
7pm USS Ticonderoga Monthly Meeting
- ✦ October 11
2pm Oktoberfest Root Beer Party and BBQ
- ✦ October 25
6pm Game Night: Railways of the World
- ✦ November 1
6pm RPG Night: Episode 3: Jemms and
Rubble
- ✦ November 12
7pm USS Ticonderoga Monthly Meeting
- ✦ November 15
Movie Night
- ✦ November 29
6pm Game Night: Star Wars Miniatures

- ✦ December 1
Newsletter Submissions Due
- ✦ December 6
6pm RPG Night: Jemms and Rubble, Part 2
- ✦ December 10
7pm USS Ticonderoga Monthly Meeting
- ✦ December 20
6pm Game Night: Space Hulk
- ✦ December 31
Mid-Winter BBQ
- ✦ January 14
7pm USS Ticonderoga Monthly Meeting



FANX 2014

By John Hubenthal

Fan X was held from April 16 through 19, 2014. I participated on the lay-out of the Utah Lego Users Group (ULUG). My contributions to the display included a Stay-Puft marshmallow man, about 21 inches or so tall, a storm trooper head mosaic, rock-paper-scissors-lizard-Spock, a 007 mosaic, a bridge of the Enterprise D including 7 of the cast, and a captain's tribute around an old style captain's chair. I also hid 20 "mini-kits", from the Lego video games, around the display.

Even though there may have been more attendees, our booth was in a more remote location, near the entrance across from the Delta Center, so we never saw the crowds around us that we experienced last year. I saw most of the club members from the Ticonderoga stop by the display.

Wednesday was a set-up day for us. I spent most of that time helping to set up tables with the perimeter skirts, plexiglass barriers, and clamping and shimming the tables to get them as level as possible. I'm also often recruited to help set the Tower of Orthanc in place, due to my height and its being 7 foot tall, above the height of the table. The "Back to the Future" charity booth enlisted our help to raise the backdrop of the courthouse vinyl banner, and offered pictures with the car the next day, but I never took them up on the offer.

The vendor passes we had weren't enough to get into the panels offered, but some got in anyway, perhaps to events that weren't as popular or maybe some weren't looking closely for the wrist bands. I would have liked to see the Dorn-Sirtis one. I've read many Dragon Lance books, whose

authors were in attendance, and was reading "The Way of Kings" by Brandon Sanderson at the time, who was also doing a panel. I was also a little disappointed that the 501st weren't doing the droid hunt at this event.

I stopped by the autograph tables at different times just so I could see the Next Generation cast from a far, but I planned no budget for autographs or photos, and never worked up the nerve to talk to any of them, or by the time I did, they were all gone. A custodian at work described his brief encounter with Patrick Stewart. He'd asked "What's next for the captain?" Response: "Retired". That's all the time allotted for him, I'm sure given the crowd and paying customers waiting. I arrived very early at our booth on the off chance celebrities would stop by before the v.i.p. hour, but did so in vain.

A highlight for me was going to say "hi" to Roger Jackson, voice of Mo-Jo Jo Jo from the Powerpuff Girls. He was gracious, voluntarily performed his voice for me, and looked me in the eye, asked me my name, and shook my hand. I asked whether the recording was done in an ensemble (it was) and if they had trouble "breaking" with laughter during the reading (no-but sometimes had to re-do lines when you had a lot of lines to say very fast-this he replied in character). I thanked him for hours of laughter. I was on such a high from that interaction, I had trouble calming down to sleep that night. By contrast, Tom Kane, voice of Professor Utonium, didn't leave as glowing an impression. His eyes were always looking past me to either side. From him I learned there were negotiations about whether more Powerpuff episodes were in the works. I didn't know he also voiced Yoda in

the Clone wars, or Gandalf in the Lego video game. He didn't volunteer any impressions, or ask by name or shake my hand. There seemed to be "barkers" trying to get kids to go up and talk to them. I wonder if they found it worth their while to be there. I did hear other positive reactions from some youth cosplayers to whom he responded in character: "Girls! Where have you been?"

One morning of the event, I arrived to discover a 40" by 40" mosaic a member made, in homage to Angel, for which he planned getting a photo with James Marsden (Spike), was lying flat, and looked like a scrambled slide puzzle, and on it was a note: "Sorry-needed chairs. Brought you some back". Having forgotten his easel, Travis used one of the folding chairs to "prop-up" the mosaic, which is seated in a wooden frame. They obviously under-estimated its weight, lost control and dropped it. I photographed it as found and set to puzzling out its reconstruction. Once all the loose pieces were in place, it still had 60 uncovered studs (which at tear-down were found under tables, scattered).

Saturday evening, Charles Fleicher was mostly alone at his table, so I thought I'd just say "hi". I told him I'd seen "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" 14 times in the theater, and had seen it twice in the same day, morning and evening. He took the book I was reading, and said "I'm not gonna steal your book" as I was reluctant, telling him it was a library book—I thought he might try to sign it and want money, like a Jamaican con-artist. He opened it randomly, asked me to pick a color (red), then points randomly on the page, scans the pages, then says "There, I read your book". He wanted to sell a picture, said he had to give me something for seeing the movie so many times, said "make me an offer—but don't be ridiculous!" After taking a long moment to choose, thinking of "what if", I saw I had \$17 on me, \$5 of which was intended as a Hope Kids donation. I said as much, and he ultimately claimed the full \$17 (normally \$30), and said "Let the rich people donate—the kids

don't see any of that money anyway". His autograph was interesting, drawing a caricature using letters of his name.

I did see Brent Spiner buying from a vendor—these twisty shaped lamps—and closing the purchase with a fist bump. The Tribune photographed an angry Brent, with a caption threatening "I'll cut you" (un-related sighting).

At the close, the Delorian was being used to try (unsuccessfully) to drive over a remaining portion of the giant balloon sculpture. It was an exhausting event!



The Next Generation Re-Watch Party: Encounter at Farpoint

Stardate: 41153.7

Written by DC Fontana and Gene Roddenberry

Directed by Corey Allen

1- What did you think of the episode?

- Not my favorite episode but was decent (Lt. (j.g.) Matt Quinn, USS Atlantis)
- It was boring in some parts, but it did have good scenes that introduced the characters. (Lt. Tristan Vilhauer, USS Atlantis)
- The episode was alright, given when it was produced. The story has always felt a little weak to me, as if the writers, actors, and everyone involved were only just finding their footing, which is very much the case with Encounter at Farpoint. However, it did introduce one of TNG's favorite characters, John de Lancie as Q.

(Crewman 2nd Class Beth Buckland, USS Kelly)

- Not bad for the first one, but a lot of "We'll change the terminology later" (Captain (Lt. Cmdr) David Thalmann, USS Kelly)
- It surely wasn't TNG's best. It seemed very cheesy and campy like TOS. People seemed to feel the need to explain things and dummy it up for the audience. Thankfully the series gets better and they realize their viewers are intelligent people. It did feel like 2 episodes and I know half of the plot was later added in, but it even feels like that. It's supposed to feel like one episode. It's not my favorite episode of the series or season. I've seen it enough times by now it's kinda a bore and I end up hopping online while listening to it instead of giving it my full attention. (Lt. John Barnes, USS Ticonderoga)
- Very interesting. I had forgotten about Q being in the Episode. I loved how it shows the saucer separation, and how it introduced all of the main Characters (Lt. Cmdr. Aaron Stevens, SS White Buffalo)
- I thought it was a provocative story which caused me to think. (Lt. Ed Schneider, SS White Buffalo)
- Very Good (Ensign Holly Bolland, SS White Buffalo)
- I remember watching this for the first time when I was in high school. Now I feel nostalgic watching it again. The costumes were different, the actors were younger and everyone (writers and actors) were still getting use to the characters. It was a very interesting start to a television series. (RAdmiral Carl Stark, Chief of Operations, Starfleet Command's Seventh Fleet)

2- On a scale of 1-10 (1 = bad, 10 = best), how would you rate this episode?

3, 5, 5, 5, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 8 Average = 6.2 Stars

3- What would be your favorite trivia question from the episode (with answer)?

- Q: Who nearly blew a hole through the view-screen? A: Lt. (JG) Worf
- Q: What color is the fabric that Dr. Crusher thinks gold would look lovely with? A: Purple
- Q: How old is Dr. McCoy? A: 137 (submitted three times)
- Q: What other Federation Starship was in this Episode? A: The USS Hood
- Q: What did Enterprise do to help the alien get back into space? A: Gave it Power
- Q: Name the crewmen who got the "cold shoulder" from Q. A: Lt. Torres and Lt. Tasha Yar (submitted twice)
- Q: What was Data trying to whistle on the holodeck? A: Pop goes the weasel

4- What would be your favorite quote from the episode (and who said it)?

- "I don't see no points on your ears boy, but you sound like a Vulcan," - Admiral (Dr.) Leonard H. McCoy (submitted 3 times)
- "This so-called court should get down on its knees to what Starfleet is, to what it represents!" - Tasha Yar during the 'trial'
- "How old do you think I am anyway?" Admiral Dr. McCoy
- "If we're going to be damned, let's be damned for what we really are." Captain Picard
- "I recognize this court system as the one which agreed with Shakespeare's suggestion - Kill all the lawyers." Captain Picard

5- Who was your favorite guest star of the episode?

- John de Lancie as Q, one of the best recurring characters in the Trek universe. (received four votes)
- DeForest Kelley because I wasn't expecting to see him when the show first aired (received four votes)
- Colm Meaney for his first of many, many guest star appearances.

The Next Generation Re-Watch Party is a weekly event that is open for anyone to participate in. Watch the episode on your own or with a group and send in your answers. To see details and the upcoming schedule, visit <http://TNG.SeventhFleet.org>

Star Trek: The Original Series

Season 1 (1966-1967) 29 episodes aired on NBC Thursdays at 7:30pm

Title:	Stardate:	OAirdate:	RAirdate:	Director:	Writer(s):
The Man Trap	1513.1	09-08-66	09-29-07	Marc Daniels	George Clayton Johnson
Charlie X	1533.6	09-15-66	07-14-07	Lawrence Dobkin	D.C. Fontana
Where No Man Has Gone Before	1312.4	09-22-66	01-20-07	James Goldstone	Samuel A. Peeples
The Naked Time	1704.2	09-29-66	09-30-06	Marc Daniels	John D.F. Black
The Enemy Within	1672.1	10-06-66	01-26-08	Leo Penn	Richard Matheson
Mudd's Women	1329.1	10-13-66	04-19-08	Harvey Hart	Stephen Kandel
What Are Little Girls Made Of?	2712.4	10-20-66	10-06-07	James Goldstone	Robert Bloch
Miri	2713.5	10-27-66	09-16-06	Vincent McEveety	Adrian Spies
Dagger of the Mind	2715.1	11-03-66	10-13-07	Vincent McEveety	S. Bar-David
The Corbomite Maneuver	1512.2	11-10-66	12-09-06	Joseph Sargent	Jerry Sohl
The Menagerie, Part I	3012.4	11-17-66	11-25-06	Marc Daniels	Gene Roddenberry
The Menagerie, Part II	3013.1	11-24-66	12-02-06	Marc Daniels	Gene Roddenberry
The Conscience of the King	2817.6	12-08-66	09-22-07	Gerd Oswald	Barry Trivers
Balance of Terror	1709.2	12-15-66	09-16-06	Vincent McEveety	Paul Schneider
Shore Leave	3025.3	12-29-66	05-26-07	Robert Sparr	Theodore Sturgeon
The Galileo Seven	2821.5	01-05-67	09-15-07	Robert Gist	Oliver Crawford & S. Bar-David
The Squire of Gothos	2124.5	01-12-67	09-15-07	Don McDougall	Paul Schneider
Arena	3045.6	01-19-67	10-21-06	Joseph Pevney	Gene L. Coon
Tomorrow is Yesterday	3113.2	01-26-67	05-05-07	Michael O'Herlihy	D.C. Fontana
Court Martial	2947.3	02-02-67	05-10-08	Marc Daniels	Don M. Mankiewicz
The Return of the Archons	3156.2	02-09-67	12-08-07	Joseph Pevney	Boris Sobelman
Space Seed	3141.9	02-16-67	11-18-06	Marc Daniels	Gene L. Coon
A Taste of Armageddon	3192.1	02-23-67	12-15-07	Joseph Pevney	Gene L. Coon
This Side of Paradise	3417.3	03-02-67	07-28-07	Ralph Senesky	D.C. Fontana & Nathan Butler
The Devil in the Dark	3196.1	03-09-67	09-23-06	Joseph Pevney	Gene L. Coon
Errand of Mercy	3198.4	03-16-67	05-12-07	John Newland	Gene L. Coon
The Alternative Factor	3087.6	03-23-67	12-01-07	Gerd Oswald	Don Ingalls
The City of the Edge of Forever	3134.0	04-06-67	10-07-06	Joseph Pevney	D.C. Fontana & Harlan Ellison
Operation: Annihilate!	3287.2	04-13-67	02-23-08	Herschel Daugherty	Steven W. Carabatsos

NOTES:

OAirdate = Original Episode Airdate

RAirdate = Remastered Episode Airdate

BUILDING THE TICONDEROGA IN LEGOS

By John Hubenthal

Last fall, after the Comic Con event, I began to take more seriously the idea of creating the starship Ticonderoga out of Lego as I felt it could be displayed at monthly club meetings, a fitting accompaniment to the flag. A few years before, I successfully created a globe, so I'm familiar with techniques of making three-dimensional shapes, and I now had the motivation to follow through on a new design.

The first step in design was to find a good silhouette reference drawing, then decide upon the scale to be used, and finally to sketch out the top, side, and front view using graph and brick paper. I wanted it to be big enough to capture the details of the shape and form, and I was influenced by existing models, but I chose a slightly bigger scale that I felt would have a good table top presence. Having acquired large 48 by 48 stud baseplates previously, I sketched out the top view silhouette using tiles. The ship would be just four studs shy of two baseplates. These baseplates form paving units on the Utah Lego User's Group display, and probably had the most influence of the chosen scale.

To make a sizeable model, I wanted to acquire the elements as economically as possible. As part of a club which participates in 5 annual public displays, Lego allows us to order elements directly on the condition that we do not discuss pricing and elements with non-participating members. We are limited to ordering 85 elements, chosen from a list of available parts. We make a wish list and the club as a whole, as moderated by a chosen ambassador, comes up with the year's available parts to order as a club. There ended up being about 8 elements which I either chose or selected from other submissions, mostly grey, to order to help make this model. In the design phase, I had to choose a limited number of elements I felt would still let me shape the form. My experience in making the globe was valuable in this effort, as I knew what I needed in over-lap, as well as knowing I needed one-stud-wide elements. The list was finalized around New Year's Day, at which time I worked on the prototype, making enough of half of the saucer section to adequately predict the number of parts I'd need to order. The result was brought to January's club meeting to show everyone what I was working on.

I had thought that I would have had plenty of time to finish the design well before the parts arrived, but apparently life happened while I was doing other things, and I had given the design barely a second thought in the meanwhile. May 17 was the counting day after the order arrived, and the model was completed two weeks later. 27 club members participated in the order, so we had to count out each person's order from the bag of each part in the shipment. Most elements must be ordered in groups of 50, and I ordered parts in quantities varying from 200 to 600 mostly. We were told the count should be accurate to +/-2%. I chose parts which I had ordered in high quantities to count, and we spread out the overages or shortages. On Sunday, the 18th, I leisurely re-counted to verify quantities and organized elements into stacks for convenience, or poured smaller elements into small bowls to be on hand for building. The first part I started working on was the platter, formed of four layers of plates, which would make the base of the saucer section, and using the template of tiles this went quickly.



I was nervous about running out of parts, and also I was uncertain whether the large overhang would be unsupported and not tip over. I know from experience that projects such as these are quite heavy. My first response was to knit the plates and bricks together well enough for that internal cantilevered effect. I then thought about the shows to which I intended to bring this, and while some have good parking, I don't like to pay \$12 a day for the Salt Palace, so I end up walking a couple blocks, so I needed to build in sections that would fit the containers I'd use to carry it. I chose clear bricks as support pillars and decided that would have to do. I started on the "drive" section of the separated model, building forward from the aft shuttle bay. I had built profile sections as a guide to assist with the design. I think this section was completed in just a couple of hours.

As I resumed the saucer section, I was again confronted with my incomplete plans! I

also saw how I had not accounted for some of the details and features, so I worked on scaling the name plate on a tile, and I happened to have some grey wedges to use. One of these wedges was not extra, but was stolen from a Clone War era micro star destroyer. I also looked at some other versions of Voyager some fans had made to see which details they considered important to include on the front view. Luckily I could make these features with parts that were on hand.

The contours of what I consider to be the "back of the neck" on the ship were another puzzle to solve. In general, the ship's shape was conceived by the side profile defining elevations which would each bear an oval on the top view. Calculus addresses solids build of stacks of flat shapes, ovals in this example. There is a transition in the back that is trickier to capture. If I were able to make a clay sculpture and slice it into horizontal sections, without having it deform by the slicing process, I could capture the cross section. I took a chance and transitioned from concave to convex segments and the result worked well enough. I took sections of 5 studs at a time, and from the width and height defined by the schematic, drew smooth transition curves, labeling the layers not hidden by the proceeding one. I then built this section as a three dimensional guide template to use to follow in making the final model. I'd learned from Marianne Asunama that she always built a prototype and then made the final model, so she ended up making two, but in her case it was necessary because the final was always glued.

Once I labeled layers in the top view alphabetically, it became easier to define transitional levels, and the design was finished a few days before the model was completed. I was ecstatic when, the saucer section not yet being 100% complete, as I set it in place, I discovered the supporting pillars were no longer necessary! It was completed that evening. I also happened to have the opportunity to display it at three separate events before the first debut at a club meeting. It also seemed to be an ice breaker for recruiting neighbors who seemed to be very interested in Star Trek. We'll see if they end up coming to a meeting after all!

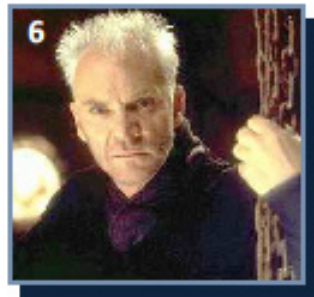


In 1976, following another fan-organized letter-writing campaign, NASA named its first space shuttle orbiter, Enterprise (OV-101), after the fictional starship. The Enterprise was used in a number of flight tests, but NASA's plans to make it spaceworthy were canceled as impractical. Enterprise was occasionally used for engineering tests and was also used to investigate the 2003 Columbia accident, but has spent much of its life in storage and is now displayed at the Smithsonian Institution's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center outside Washington, DC. The opening sequence of the later series *Star Trek: Enterprise* (2001) features a shot of this real-life space shuttle in homage, intending to show it as a namesake for other ships in the *Star Trek* universe. An image of the Shuttle Enterprise was also seen in *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*.

STAR TREK AND the SPACE SHUTTLE OV-101
'Enterprise'

Knowledge Builder

How many of the following TNG characters can you identify?



1. Geordi 2. Dathon 3. Red Larson 4. Odan 5. Nikolai Rozhenko 6. Geordi 7. Lal 8. Shinzon 9. Sarajka 10. Hugh 11. Lwaxana Troi 12. Scott

Created by Lt. Cmdr. Galen Anderson, CO, USS Mystic

Salt Lake Comic Con 2014: A Three Day Adventure into Madness

By Patricia Darby

Salt Lake Comic Con. Just the name makes the comic, gaming, anime, and sci-fi/fantasy fans squeal with delight. Everybody wanted to go as a VIP, but sadly the tickets were so out of reach they were in another star system. Some of us, mainly me, were lucky enough to win tickets. My first reaction upon seeing that I had won tickets to SLCC months prior to the con was one of ecstatic joy and jubilation. My mother can attest to me jumping around the house screaming and squealing with joy as I read and reread the post stating that I had won two gold passes.

Fast forward to Thursday, September 4, 2014. Opening day of Comic Con. I am going to share my experience and emotions of that day. I went with a group of friends, we got to the Ogden Frontrunner station at 11:30 to catch the noon train up. We were not able to pre-register due to the closest location being in Centerville. Arrival time was about 12:45 in the afternoon.



Now begins the *real* quest. Where to stand in line for registration! We were in high spirits though, for we knew that our salvation was near. After spending 30 minutes walking up and down the lines trying to figure out where we needed to be, finding not a single volunteer in sight, with stroller in tow we finally found where the line for registration was.

We enjoyed the pleasures of standing outside in the heat with a 7 month old for over two



hours. Finally we found our way near the entrance, where I spied this beautiful shiny beacon of hope.

Plenty of Deadpools lined the way as we approached

the golden steps of glorious nerddom, only to find that

we had to stand in yet another line to gain access to our coveted wrist bands. Another hour and finally the moment of our grand entrance approached.

I stepped across the threshold, golden wristband held high and let the waves of geek and nerd roll across me in a bliss I hadn't felt since Fan-Ex. Where to start? What did I want to see? My initial irritation at missing the only panel in existence that I wanted to go to, Cary Elwes, was still riding high. I have been a fan of the Princess Bride for more years than I can remember. I first watched it when I was about 6 years old, and I have gone through over 5 VHS copies, 3 DVDs and am now on a Blu Ray.

We wove our way through the crowds to obtain our gold pass t-shirts and continued our journey over to the food court where we sat on our behinds for about an hour, recovering from the over three hours of standing in line on hard concrete in the heat. We snuck in some snacks to keep us going so that we wouldn't have to spend nearly \$15 for a drink, sandwich and a bag of chips.

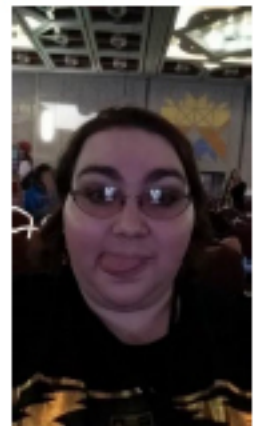
We finally ramped up the energy to begin our trek through the Con. It was a little after 5 by this time, and we decided we wanted to go to see the Geek Show Podcast live broadcast, so we wound our way upstairs, down a long slanted hall, up some more stairs, to stand in....you guess it, another line! Room 255F was a smaller conference room, perfect for the podcast. We laughed and

listened for the fifty minutes that the podcast lasted, during such time they spoke of Joan Rivers and we had a moment of silence for her.

After the podcast we went back downstairs to wander the Con some more, looking through the booths and enjoying the vast sights to be seen. Thankfully we had the app installed on our phones for us to know when the next panel was. About 7:40 we made our way upstairs to the same room for a Big Shiny Robot pub quiz. We failed horribly, but it was a great way to end day 1 of the Con. We trudged back to the station where we made our way home and rested up for Day 2.

Bright and early Friday morning we were on the 10AM train back to the Con! Today was a day of panels and we just *had* to make it on time. Oh the satisfaction of seeing everybody in line waiting to get in, and up the stairs we went, wrists still held high and entrance obtained.

The goal for today was to go see the Vic Mignogna panel in the South Ballroom. Easier said than done. If you ever made it to any of the panels in the South Ballroom, you would understand. Oh My Goodness was there a lot of people! I was able to slide in with a friend of mine, get pretty good seats, and wait for the arrival of one of my most favorite voice actors ever... Vic Mignogna. Who, by the way, is a total Trekkie. He also plays Captain James T. Kirk in the online web series *Star Trek Continues*. My favorite part of the panel, "I'm not a millionaire, but if I was I'd use it all to buy Star Trek stuff."



I chose to wander after the panel. I had a couple of hours before it was time for Alan Tudyk's panel and so I began to wander... and my feet took me to the Star Trek booth where I got to see Admiral Stark and Rhonda Hollinger. I stopped for a few moments to chat and see how things were, then my feet led me off on another adventure. I eventually found my way to the autograph

booth for Vic, got all the way into the line and then chickened out at the last minute. Back to the Star Trek booth I went! Rhonda gave me some courage and said "Do it!"

I made my way back to the autograph booth and stood in line. I'm a total anime fan girl, I've seen almost everything that Vic has been in and I tell you, the moment I stood in front of him my whole body was shaking and I couldn't help but stutter. I ended up blurting out that I fall asleep to Ouran High School Host Club every night, and then I told him that of the two voice actors I have as a favorite, he was one of them right next to Crispin Freeman.

Oh boy, what did I get myself into? Vic smiled at me, and said these beautiful words as he came around his booth, "Well, I will guarantee you, you will not get the warmth and appreciation from Crispin as you will from me." As he said this, he wrapped me in a very tight embrace, and then very gently kissed my cheek. I just about melted right then and there. We got a picture and then I made my way back to the Fleet's booth on wobbly knees.



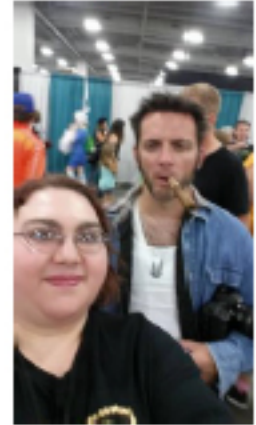
By the way, he smelled amazing. I finished the day with some more panels, and wandering the stalls looking for amazing things to purchase. I found out that even Captain America likes Ice Cream too. Day two was full of excitement, and for me it ended up being the best of my 3 day con excursion. There were more people than day one, but it was still not overly crowded and there was plenty of fun.



Onwards to day 3! There were so many people there that I kept getting lost. I went with my cousin's on day 3, and I tell you, 10 feet in front of me and they were nowhere to be seen. I spent a

lot of time speaking with people that I had met in lines, or even random friends of mine that I got to see. I felt like it was a sea of bodies that was crushing me against the shore!

I enjoyed my lunch time conversation with Wolverine, who had brought his daughter for her birthday to the Con on a day pass. It was really nice to see her dressed as Kitty Pride. The best part was that his wife, who was at home, was due to deliver a baby boy at the same time. They were expecting to be called away from the Con for the birth, but they were alright with that! Talk about fan dedication.



Oh, another amazing thing happened. My cousins and I got to have a picture taken with Alan

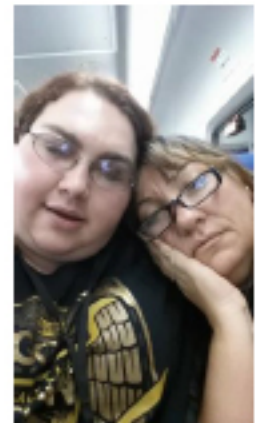


Tudyk, a.k.a Wash from Firefly/Serenity. I saw his panel the day before and he was amazing.

All in all I think this was one of the greatest Con experiences that I have had, and I can't wait till next year. I know that it was exhausting, and some of us

spent way too much money, however getting the chance to meet the people we admire and are fans of is an amazing thing.

So the adventure ends as we ride the train home, our bodies exhausted to the point that we didn't even want to get up to get off the train. We drug ourselves home into our beds and slept the night away, relishing in the time we had to embrace our inner geeks and dreamt of space, the final frontier. These are the voyages of me, through SLCC 2014.



Part A: First Comes Marriage

A Story by Dave Stock

Even Bryan had found it amazing when the question suddenly popped out of his mouth.

“Will you marry me?” He and Teresa had not been dating for that long. Hell, they hadn’t even been *on* a date when the moment hit him.

There they had been crawling through a jeffries tube, trying to repair damage to the power relay, when Bryan began thinking about how well they worked together, both on and off duty. Thank God Dave had insisted that they team up to solve problems!

Anyway, as they made their way across, Bryan had casually mentioned the possibility of them spending some shore leave together. Then wham! The words had come out and there had been no way to take them back.

Teresa had stopped, twisted around to face him. He had expected her to react in one of two ways: either dismiss the proposal as impetuous and continue on as though it had never been suggested, or fill his ears with a few choice words.

Instead, she responded, “Yes Bryan. I will agree to that affiliation.”

Something about her response nagged at him. A voice in the back of his mind told him, he was rushing. Teresa was still figuring out how she fit into the human universe. Or was it just Ishara Miller admonishing him every chance she had? “Bryan, she was a Marquis for eighteen years! The doctor may have removed her mechanical parts, but she can’t so easily shed the emotional link to the collective.”

Although he understood where his friend was coming from, the simple truth was that Bryan was already hooked. He was infatuated with Teresa former Marquis, and he didn’t want to fight his desire for her. On a small starship with a crew of less than one hundred and fifty moving in one direction, his choices for a mate were rather slim.

And he loved Teresa. Didn’t he?

They originally had made plans to have the wedding ceremony in the mess hall as Ishara and Weylin had done for theirs. However, The Ticonderoga happened on a welcoming beacon from a resort planet known as Haldik Prime only days before the wedding ceremony. The signal turned out to be much more than a beacon, containing a large data stream of information on the pleasures Haldik Prime had to offer, and the couple quickly changed their minds about where they wanted to be married.

“I’ve often thought about being married,” Bryan told his best friend as Ishara helped him prepare for the ceremony. They were inside Ishara and Weylin’s quarters, while Weylin was with Teresa, offering the bride assistance. “But I’d never actually given much thought to how I would get married. Why am I so nervous? I’ve had weeks to prepare!”

“Bryan, from my experience, it doesn’t matter how little or long you have to prepare for a

have to prepare for a wedding,” Ishara replied. “The event changes your life forever and that’s a pretty scary thing.”

“Thanks for making me feel better,” Bryan said sarcastically as he undid his tie for the third time. “Maybe we should have opted for wearing casual clothes to the ceremony. It’s suppose to be a pleasure planet, anyway.”

Ishara grabbed his friend by the shoulders and gently spun him around to assist with the tie. “When it’s all over with, you’ll be glad you wore this monkey suit. Besides, think about Teresa walking down that aisle or rather beach wearing a long white gown. She’ll smile at you, perhaps shed a little tear.”

“Teresa?”

“Don’t underestimate the power of love, Bryan. As she’s walking toward you, closing the gap between your mutual destinies, you may become a bit emotional yourself. But you’ll cherish the memory of that moment for the rest of your lives. Not to mention the one of stripping that gown off her after the celebration.”

“Ishara!”

“Weylin to Ishara,” the Ensign’s wife came over his commbadge. “Is the groom ready to beam down to Haldik Prime?”

“Of course, he is,” Ishara replied with a smirk. “Give us five minutes to make it to the transporter room ahead of you. We don’t want the bride and groom accidentally meeting in the corridor and jinxing their marriage. The groom’s nervous enough.”

“So’s the bride.” When Teresa of Nine had first come aboard Ticonderoga, Weylin had openly demonstrated mistrust and hatred of the former Marquis, but since Teresa and Bryan had started dating, the chief engineer had reevaluated her relationship with her. Even so, Ishara had been surprised when his wife offered to serve as Teresa’s matron of honor. “All right. I love you and I’ll see you down on the planet.”

More to come next time.

A Note From the Editor

Our newsletter is back! It's a big job, but it's been a lot of fun getting this put together. I'd like to extend a big thank you to everyone who contributed. Your work is appreciated. I hope everyone enjoyed this brand new, long overdue edition of the Ticonderoga Transmissions! Be sure to catch up with us next quatter, and please, send in your submissions!

Sarah Podwys

