

Command Center Jan./Feb. 1978

Welcome to the January/February issue of Command Center. This issue is dedicated to Martin Landau, alias Commander John Koenig of Moonbase Alpha. The biography below was written by Main Mission Alpha member Gail Paradis, one of Mr. Landau's devoted fans:

MARTIN LANDAU

Back in 1973 when Gerry and Sylvia Anderson were looking for someone to portray Commander Koenig on their new science Fiction series SPACE:1999, they immediately recognized the capable acting abilities of Martin Landau. Martin, looking for some different and interesting series idea, was fascinated by this new venture of the Andersons'. It also gave him the perfect opportunity to work alongside wife Barbara Bain, which he had been longing to do since they had enjoyed working together on MISSION:IMPOSSIBLE for three seasons.

Martin Landau was born on June 20th in Brooklyn, New York. Since an early age, Martin had been fascinated by the theatre, but decided on a career in art. He studied at the Pratt Institute and the Art Students League in New York. Later, he became a staff artist on the New York Daily News. The life he had chosen did not turn out to be as exciting as he thought. One day he decided to quit and try his hand at acting, since it had always been in his blood.

For three years he studied acting in drama classes to discover whether or not he had the capability of being an actor. He did work with small theatre groups and a few off-Broadway plays which helped him gain confidence.

Eventually, he came to Lee Strasberg's world famous acting studio to continue his training. There he met, and eventually married a young, pretty model named Barbara Bain. They have been married for 21 years and have two daughters, Juliet and Susan.

Martin's earlier roles varied enormously. He played a psychopathic killer in a tour of "Detective Story", a millionaire playboy in STALAG 17, and portrayed a fifty-year-old Dr. Astrov in Chekov's "Uncle Vanya".

By the time Martin and Barbara married, his career took off with a bang. They both landed roles in "Middle of the Night" with Edward G. Robinson. After its closing, Martin landed a role as a sinister spy in Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest*, which was the beginning of his film career. His movie credits now include: *Park Chop Hill, The Gazabo, Cleopatra, The Greatest Story Ever Told, The Hallelujah Trail, Nevada Smith, They Call Me Mister Tibbs, The Savage Report, A Town Called Bastard, Win and Welcome Home, Johnny Bristol*. He also landed guest spots on numerous TV series, but his biggest break came when he was asked by Bruce Geller to be in one episode of a new series called MISSION:IMPOSSIBLE in which he was to portray Rollin Hand, master of disguise. Things worked out so well that he remained with MISSION:IMPOSSIBLE for three seasons, working alongside wife and co-star Barbara Bain. The rest is history.

What is in store for Martin for the future? There are wide-spread rumors of a possible new TV series for him and Barbara in which they will play a husband/wife detective team. A pilot film will precede and, if successful, will go into a weekly television series.

Also, Martin will be in the up-coming science fiction blockbuster movie METEOR, a film about one of the possible ways in which the world will end. Watch for its release in Spring of 1979!

I know everyone at Main Mission Alpha wish nothing but the best for Martin, and look forward to seeing him more on television. His talents are very much missed!

--by Gail Paradis

Dear MMA Members:

Two years ago, Main Mission Alpha was formed to join together fans in SPACE:1999. It was a noble idea, and though some backlash came into the club after some time, my time spent in this club was good, and I enjoyed making friends with those whose ideals matched my own.

Now, two years have passed. I look back, for the most part, with good memories to gaze upon, and there is nothing that can take some of these memories away from me. But I've outgrown my club, outgrown the ideals I set for myself two years ago. New ideals, new meanings in life have emerged for me.

I may sound melodramatic, but don't be mistaken--I am sad that I can no longer share this common interest with you, the club members.

I've taken on a new responsibility and I forsake all other responsibilities to make this new venture work out as it should. You can read more about that later on in this issue. It is my life--my new future. And there is no one who can say that I am not the best person in the world to take on its responsibility.

So, sadly, I am leaving Main Mission Alpha. Your new commander, Mary B., who has taken on the club for the past few months and is doing a good job of running the club. I will probably have honorary member status from now on, and that will be more than enough to suit me.

I wish you all well, and hope for everyone, the best life has to offer.

Peace,
Mary Hartery

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(Now we'll see how many people actually read past the first page of this newsletter!) I have an announcement to make, my first as official president of Main Mission Alpha. As of March 15, 1978, MMA will have a new address. (Don't hit! The kid bruises easily!) I realize that all these moves are making you dizzy, and I admire the patience many of you have shown with us--more patience than the post office has shown with us, let me tell you. This new address is permanent, honest, it really is. Honest. Cross my heart. Knock wood. Anyway, my two new roommates are from Pennsylvania, and many of you know them already--Debbie Walsh, editor of MOONBEAM, author of CATCH THE FINAL SUNRISE! (and owner of this typewriter); and Pam Beckett, co-editor of the COMLOC letterzine, and you can write to us all at this address: 5 Lamson Street #2, East Boston, MA 02128. One request--in addressing mail to Main Mission Alpha (or for that matter, any of us) please be sure to put our own name on the envelope, to avoid giving the poor overworked mailman fits. Among the three of us, we'll be keeping the Post Offices in these parts in business!

Now, as to why this newsletter is late. Excuse # 246. Ah--it was a short month? Actually, I do believe that February 1978 was one of the longest months I've ever lived through. (Is there anyone out there who didn't hear about the White-Out of Boston?) All of which brings me to one of the points I wanted to be sure to bring up in this newsletter. It has been brought to my attention that many of you have written to me and have not received answers. There are several reasons for this. The first is that perhaps you did not include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your letter requesting information. I'm afraid that with the large volume of mail Main Mission Alpha receives daily, I must insist that if you write to us with a question, that you include a SASE. If you wrote just to drop a comment, to say hello, and/or to wish us all well, let me assure you that each and every letter is read (and appreciated very much, thank you. I wish I had time to write to each and every one of you who have written to us and thank you personally, but the schedule just does not permit.) The third reason is the most upsetting of all, at least to me. Especially after the White-Out (also known as the Great Blizzard of 1978) a great deal of correspondence seems to have gotten lost in the mail. Please bear this in mind when you write to me--there is a very strong possibility that more than half of the mail sent just before and during the Blizzard is irrevocably lost.

Alpha Log #2 was sent out just after the Blizzard. The journal was sent to all those members who had joined after July 1977 and who had not previously received Alpha Log #1; it was also sent to those members who have renewed for a second year in Main Mission Alpha. (For those of you who received Alpha Log #1, you will receive #2 upon rejoining. For a second year) Now, if you fall in one of those categories and you have not received your copy of Alpha Log #2, please let me know, and I can go and have a long talk with my post office. Also, we welcome all comments on the journal and its contents; please specify when writing whether or not you wish your comments to be printed in Command Center.

Now, as for those of you who received Alpha Log before they received any of their membership materials--all right, I admit it, I goofed. I held off on sending out the membership packages for those people who joined in February because I did not have access to a typewriter to type up the membership cards. The typewriter I usually borrowed to use was accessible only by a forty five minute subway ride--and said subway was impassible during the Blizzard and immediately afterward. (I despise being snowbound!) By the time the tracks and the weather cleared, it was nearly time for this issue of the newsletter and so I decided to hold off sending out the membership packages until this issue was ready to send out. In the meantime, Alpha Log #2 was sent off to the printers and was put together with the (welcome) assistance of Darlene Palenik. The journal was sent out according to the membership listings at the time, which included those persons who had not yet been sent their membership packages, and that is why you received the journal before your membership materials! I apologize for the delay in getting you the packages, and I hope to be a lot quicker about getting them out in the future, now that I have a roommate willing to lend her typewriter to a worthy cause, at least until we raise enough in the typewriter fund to purchase one of our own.

SPACE:1999 Convention Update: Confirmed guests are NICK TATE (Captain Alan Carter) and DAVE PROWSE (Robot Alien from THE BETA CLOUD; Darth Vader, STAR WARS). The major SPACE:1999 stars have been invited, including Martin Landau, Barbara Bain, Zienia Merton, Tony Anholt, Catherine Schell, etc, and the committee is presently awaiting word on whether they will indeed accept the invitations to attend the convention. (Keep those fingers crossed!)

The ticket policy has been revised. Ticket price for three-day attendance at the convention is \$15 per person until May 1; after May 1st, the price goes up to \$20 until July 1st. Ticket orders postmarked on or after July 1st will be \$25 until the con date. No tickets will be sold at the door. The amount of advance ticket sales will determine how many of the SPACE:1999 stars the convention will be able to invite, so be sure to send in your money for your con tickets early.

BANQUET: The banquet is a private dinner with the invited stars in attendance. Tickets for the banquet are on a presold basis only and are \$40 dollars apiece. Ticket sales for the banquet are limited to 50 people only. (The purpose of the banquet is to raise money towards meeting the expense of running the convention and bringing the invited guests over from England--if you attend the convention, you will have a chance to meet the stars even if you do not attend the banquet.)

The Costume Call is scheduled to run at the same time as the banquet, so those of us who will not be attending the banquet (yes, Virginia, even SPACE:1999 club presidents can't scrape up \$40 for a banquet ticket, I'm afraid) will be at the Costume Call.

Those members who would be interested in attending a Main Mission Alpha get-together at the convention itself, drop us a line--there is a possibility that we will be able to get a meeting room large enough to hold us all, and we'll be able to hold the Very First Main Mission Alpha En Masse Meeting!

For more information about the convention, room rates, room accommodations, rooming services, dealers room rates, banquet information, ticket sales, etc, write to: The NATIONAL SAVE SPACE:1999 ALLIANCE, P.O. Box 20185, Columbus, OH 43220.

The SPACE:1999 convention will be held July 28, 29, and 30, 1978 at the Sheraton Hotel in Columbus Ohio. Proceeds from this convention will be donated to the Children's Hospital in Columbus.

THE FORUM

Sandra Sprecker, Box 111, Battleford, Sask, Canada, SOM OEO

...Since you have left this open, I'd like to explain something to you about my interest in SPACE:1999. When the show first came out, I had heard a lot about it and was really interested in it since I like sci-fi. Even then it turned out far beyond my imagination! It was on a Friday night from 6:30-7:30. Often the whole family would sit down and watch it, which was quite unusual, because my mother is not a TV buff, but this caught her eye. I watched it off and on because some Friday nights were pretty hectic.

Then the second season rolled around. One Saturday (time, about 5:00) I tuned in and it turned out to be THE METAMORPH. I was really interested in it then something went wrong and I didn't see the end! Was I upset and I made it a point to tune in next week and the next. Soon I was hooked on SPACE:1999 and very happy.

Now that the second season is over and I'm re-watching the first season shows and seeing for the first time some, I really enjoy it. The first season wasn't as bad as it was made up to be. But I did notice that the guest star/alien's character was put in much more detail rather than the regular characters' feelings. Maya and Tony did take away from Alan and Sahn. But they still shine through the second season. I'm learning more about Alan, Sahn and Paul. Victor always did stay in my head and I never have forgotten him, he is one of a kind. Paul Morrow was a person I never got used to, I don't know why, but maybe because he was in love with Sahn and I had always put Alan and Sahn together. David Kano was the kind of guy who understood a machine and could relate that understanding to a human being. Victor was the father of the base who would rather use his head than a computer.

Lisa Putman, 413 Circle Drive, Takoma Park, MD 20012.

...My favorite character is Tony Verdeschi. Why? I enjoy going against the opinions of vast numbers of people. Seriously now, folks...Tony is very appealing to me.

I like him because I think he's genuine. A great deal of this can be attributed to Tony Anholt's great acting ability. Verdeschi is infused with a difference, making him an individual. I admire his loyalty, perception, aggressiveness and his imitations. Whoever added that little touch made Tony come that much closer to life.

Part of Tony's appeal also lies in Maya. I really enjoy their interplay; their oneness. For us Tony and Maya fans, it has gotten to the point where we almost consider them a single entity. Maya is perfect for Tony and she brings out many of the things I like best about him.

Tony Verdeschi is unpredictable; interesting. A real live wire. I admire original, exciting, different people; that's why I like Tony Verdeschi.

Diane Steitz, 60 E. 32nd Street, Apt 505, Chicago, Illinois, 60616.

I wouldn't change anything about the show, except to write more episodes about the challenges faced by Helena Russell. What I would like to change is some of the scientific criticism of the show, which is too serious and always manages to miss the point. For example, the authors of FANTASTIC TELEVISION (Harmony Books, 1977) object because "the moon is always drifting in a sunless void, yet it is always illuminated brightly." Well, who would find it exciting or entertaining to listen to John Koenig's feet racing over the lunar surface while staring at a pitch-black TV screen? A lot of this sort of criticism of SPACE:1999 ignores the fact that it is a drama about human beings facing the unknown, not Astrophysics 401. The integrity of SPACE:1999 should be, and is, found in its characters, and should not be judged by demanding that the show conform strictly to what little of reality in space we know today..

Rickey Jones, P.O. Box 65, Caruthersville, MO 63830.

...In number 11 of STARLOG magazine, on page six, Janice Carlson writes in about the way SPACE:1999 is treated at STAR TREK conventions. Saying, and I quote, "...someone would invariably ask Scetty, Uhura, etc, what they thought of SPACE:1999. This was always followed by a chorus of boos, hisses, and groans." Unfortunately, Miss Carlson even goes on as to say that when she proclaimed herself to be a fan of 1999, she was deeply hurt when she received the same treatment.

In a magazine, I'm sure is out of print by now, called Art and Story #2, on page 50, a Martin Pappaterra writes in and he ends his letter condemning 1999. Which brings the editor to his feet for defense. The editor writes and I quote, "...I take issue with your judgement of SPACE:1999 as unbelievably bad. I consider this show to be the most intelligent SF series to ever appear on TV, and I am amazed at the harsh reception accorded the show from several quarters, including fandom and Dr. Isaac Asimov (both of whom should know better). I strongly suspect that the real objection to SPACE:1999 was that it was not another STAR TREK--a fact for which (though I like STAR TREK) I'm very grateful." Unquote.

The editor of Art & Story, Mr. James D. Denney, hit the nail on the head and summed up the whole issue concerning 1999 and Trek when he stated "...the real objection to SPACE:1999 was that it was not another STAR TREK."

Even the actors of STAR TREK put 1999 down, and the impression that one gets is that the ones with Trek believe that -STAR TREK is all there is to it, that Trek is, and will always be the best. Now, there are a lot of ignorant people out there who believe the same way. Don't get me wrong, I like STAR TREK too, although I like SPACE:1999 much better. And when someone stands and begins throwing all this "Trek is better", "Trek is all this, all that, blah, blah, blah...", I am not going to sit back and take that. It is mindless, objective, much that is dished out like that to 1999 fans.

What I'm saying is that SPACE:1999 should be recognized for what it is, a terrific SF product, just as STAR TREK is. If this hatred continues between these two good quality shows, the newspapers will one day read, "Trek and 1999 fans fight it out at a recent convention to see which show is the best." Which would put an ugly dent in the world of Science Fiction.

Marybeth Fitzgerald, 123 Fawn Valley Drive, McMurray, PA 15317.

...I'm happy my SPACE interest is shared with so many others. I do have to comment on one article. The STAR TREK/SPACE comparison. First, let me say I did like Trek very much, it was the best we had at the time. But why, why, why do we have to compare the two series? It really seems a waste of space to me to even bother with trivial comparisons. I'd really like to know what others think of this point of view; maybe I'm just too turned off to the Trekkies to be fair.

(Ed. Note--Jimmy Doohan (Scotty) and George Takei (Lt. Sulu) have made it publicly and repeatedly known that they recognize both STAR TREK and SPACE:1999 as fine science-fiction programs, and in fact, at a recent Trek convention, Jimmy Doohan publicly chastised the audience for their hissing and booing of an entrant in the Costume Call who was wearing an Alphan uniform. Gene Roddenberry the creator of STAR TREK, has stated from the beginning that he considers SPACE:1999 a major step forward towards more good-quality Science Fiction on television.)

Tod Ellsworth, 3691 Sheridan Road, Portsmouth, OH 45662.

...I want to speak out on a point from "Breakaway" that's been bugging me. In the news broadcast from Earth that was witnessed in Main Mission before they were hurtled out of range, the news caster stated the personnel number at 311. I think he was wrong. First you have the Meta Probe astronauts. If Gorski wouldn't allow Helena to issue a report on their conditions, how are we to know she was given permission by Koenig to let their death be know on Earth? We have no mention of this communique. There may not have even been the time to.

Then there are the men checking the radiation in the beginning, Nordstrom and his buddy. Koenig later told Commissioner Simmonds, but since Simmonds wanted things kept under wraps, I doubt if he told the Lunar Finance Committee or anyone.

There is, don't forget, Collins, who contracted the disease after taking Prof. Bergman and John out to the Disposal Area. They never showed any contact with Earth on that death because they were too busy sending out a Rescue Eagle to John and dispersing the atomic waste. Then, after the nuclear explosion, we were never told how many people had been killed. With all those Eagles and pilots, there had to have been a lot of deaths. Remember, one Eagle drifted into the orbiting space station that was to launch the probe. Both were totally destroyed. All the Alphans who died at this time could not have been reported to on Earth because they lost contact. Therefore, I doubt if there were 311 men and women on Moonbase when it was hurtled out of Earth orbit! What do you other Alphans think?

SPACE:1999 STUNNERS

By Tod Ellsworth
&
Janet Conrad

- 1) Who shot Koenig in THE BRINGERS OF WONDER, Pt. 1?
- 2) Which form of Maya's finally defeated the cloud creature from THE BETA CLOUD?
- 3) Who led the revolt in THE SEANCE SPECTRE? How many people were involved?
- 4) Out of which elevator did Maya step in SPACE WARP?
- 5) In THE TAYBOR, how many forms did Maya have to transform into before she escaped Taybor?
- 6) In AB CHRYSALIS, which fell for Koenig--A or B?
- 7) In which episode did Maya first turn into a plant? What kind was it?
- 8) In which episode did Maya mention the fact that Psychon had a moon?
- 9) In THE RULES OF LUTON, how many judges were there?
- 10) In THE EXILES, Cantor wanted someone badly on Golos. Who?
- 11) What did the rook want in ALL THAT GLISTERS?
- 12) How many Archanons did Pasc kill when he got the killing sickness?
- 13) Which Eagle was destroyed in THE DORCONS?
- 14) In DORZAK, who died on Alpha?
- 15) What was the source of Magus's power?
- 16) In which war did Koenig's wife die?
- 17) What is the name of Ellna's moon?
- 18) Who played Fraser's wife on THE METAMORPH?
- 19) Who was Dr. Shaw?
- 20) What was the name of the planet on THE SEANCE SPECTRE?
- 21) What are the letters on the chest patch of Maya's uniform?
- 22) What was the giveaway towards the false Koenig on SEEDS OF DESTRUCTION?
- 23) Where was Dorzak sentenced to exile?

SPACE: 1999 EPISODE REVIEW

by Rickey Jones

WAR GAMES

Screenplay by Christopher Penfold
Directed by Charles Crichton

The moon has wandered within range of a sinister looking planet, and without warning, the planet launches an attack on Alpha. Under Commander Koenig's orders, a flight of Eagles is launched to meet the alien ships nearing the moon. Upon closer look, Professor Bergman identifies the alien ships as being Mark 9 Hawks.

Koenig waits until the last second before he orders Carter in Eagle One to open fire on the attacking ships. The alien ships are destroyed, one, two, three; as Carter makes the remark, it was too easy. The sound of relief vanishes when Sandra reports that three more alien ships are approaching the moon from the far side. Realizing that the first three were decoys, Koenig orders the second flight to lift off. Before the Eagles can lift thirty feet off the pad, they are hit and destroyed.

After taking care of the second flight, the ships head towards Alan Carter and Flight One. Carter is told by Koenig and his group of Eagles are prepared for the dog-fight. The aliens score first by eliminating an Eagle, but soon the score is evened when one of the Eagles fire and destroy one of the attacking ships. An even match is not for long as a strike from an alien vessel destroys another Eagle, leaving Carter and Eagle One. Alan wastes no time, hitting and blowing up another alien ship, but the hit backfires as debris from the craft hits the Eagle. Carter is forced to shut down the engines and hope the aggressors take Eagle One as a dead one.

The lone alien ship heads back for Alpha and starts devastating the entire base. Section after section of Alpha is completely uprooted from its foundation. In medical, a hit cracks the window. Dr. Russell and others, including Koenig and his staff, move patients out into the corridor. Dr. Mathias, separately trying to seal the crack up, loses time. The window gives way, and he is sucked out into the vacuum of space.

The attack is not yet over, as the sinister planet has now sent forth the doomsday weapon, which is to ensure the certain destruction of Alpha. But Carter, still in the drifting Eagle One, intercepts and destroys the weapon in time. Thinking that Carter was dead, Koenig is relieved to hear his voice. Moonbase Alpha is barely operational after the vicious attack, so Commander Koenig and Dr. Russell take an Eagle and head for the planet. Upon arrival, the Eagle is taken under control and is set down by a mysterious force.

Koenig and Helena soon find themselves stepping into a solid white upright tube. They disappear and soon reappear within a room that is full of multi-colored tubes on several stands. In the back of the room appear an alien man and woman, both seated in glass cages. Koenig and Russell approach the aliens and after a discussion of the situation Alpha is now in, the aliens state that the Alphans have no future, no place in space, that they are a virus, that would surely destroy their perfect world. A world without fear.

Koenig cannot take their judgement and starts to wreck the room. The Male alien suddenly appears, outside the cage, holding a laser rifle. Koenig ducks, but is shot in the back by the female alien, also holding a laser rifle.

Helena is put in a glass cage, alongside the aliens. The male alien tells Helena that she can bring Koenig back to life with powers borrowed from him. Koenig revives, tries to reach Helena and fails. He then goes back to the Eagle and lifts off. Racing back towards Alpha, Commander Koenig then informs Professor Bergman to evacuate Alpha, that they are going to fight for a place on the planet.

With the total evacuation of Moonbase Alpha, Carter docks his Eagle with the Commander's Eagle, and Alan goes aboard with Koenig. Nearing the planet first, Alan and Koenig discover a force field being generated from the planet which engulfs them. At the last moment, before the Eagle is destroyed, both Alan and Koenig eject from their Eagle. Koenig floats in space and helplessly watches as Carter, dead, drifts away from him.

On the planet, Helena realizes what has happened, and begins screaming for John. She tells the male and female aliens that she doesn't want their world. Helena screams for Koenig, until like magic, there he is, standing in the doorway of the room, holding a stun gun. Koenig turns, sees the male alien holding the laser rifle, and fires, which, as if planned, starts a chain reaction of explosions.

Through the debris, John finds Helena on the floor, half conscious. He holds her as the massive explosion continue. Soon the entire planet seems to be engulfed with terrible explosions, leading up to the final big one. Koenig holds Helena as he uses his comloc to call Paul Morrow, who by now is ready to land on the planet's surface, along with the other 300 people of Alpha. Koenig tells Paul, "If you're going to die, you might as well die on Alpha."

With the blink of an eye, Koenig finds himself back in Main Mission on Alpha, watching the big screen as three Hawks near the moon. It is a repeat of the beginning, which changes before Kano can begin counting down. Koenig orders Alan in Eagle One to hold fire. With that, the three Hawks, one by one, disappear. The male alien appears on the big screen, stating that Alpha has been given a second chance, and that the Alphans were shown what would happen if they ventured down to the planet. The male Alien ends with "Because you are so primitive, so governed by thought of fear, you would indeed destroy our perfect world."

POINTERS: Special Effects within WAR GAMES include the devastating of Moonbase Alpha, the spectacular dog fight between the Hawks and Alpha's own Eagles. The explosion of the Doomsday weapon, and the futuristic city on the alien planet being totally destroyed by a chain of explosions.

HOW NOT TO GET TO NEW YORK CITY FOR A STAR TREK CONVENTION

BY Mary Bloemker

- Rule 1: Be forewarned--despite their claims, car rentals are not infallible. They can break down just as inconveniently as your own 1957 Klutz.
- Rule 2: When the generator light goes on and won't go off, it does not mean that the generator is working just fine.
- Rule 3: Be nice to the nice Highway patrolman who stops to find out why your car rental is causing a ten-mile traffic jam on a state highway umpteen miles from nowhere, and he'll even put up some flares for you so that the nice diesel trucks don't make nasty tire track over your fragile bodies. He'll even stay with you until the wrecker comes to cart you off.
- Rule 4: Be pleasant to the nice people at the car rental place as they fill out the forms to give you a new car--and remember that you aren't being charged for those 14 miles between where you broke down and where you are now. Those 14 miles will come in handy when you get lost in Mt. Kisco.
- Rule 5: Be pleasant when you finally find New York City (ten hours after you left Boston on what is only a four hour drive) and pull into the hotel to find that your reservation has been lost. But, never fear, empty rooms abound, although they neglect to add that the quad you paid for only has two twin beds.
- Rule 6: There is no Rule Six! (Because we all sack out as soon as the hotel brings up two more cots. Good night!)

The convention itself was rather sparsely attended--whether this was due to the bad weather the week before, or the fact that the only two stars in attendance were William Shatner (Captain Kirk) and Bruce Hyde (Kevin Reilly, NAKED TIME and CONSCIENCE OF THE KING), it's hard to say. Highlights of the convention were the Miss Galaxy Beauty Pageant and the Masquerade Spectacular. Other guests included Dr. Isaac Asimov, noted scientist and author of many fine science fiction stories; Howard Weinstein, writer of THE PIRATES OF ORION segment of the STAR TREK animated series; Joan Winston, author of THE MAKING OF THE TREK CONVENTIONS and co-author of STAR TREK LIVES! Unlike the previous convention, Star Trek America back in September of 1977, there were no surprises this time--Leonard Nimoy did not show up unexpectedly, Mark Hamill was not discovered wandering around the huckster room, etc, etc. The conventions was quiet, organized, and maybe a little boring to those of us who have grown to expect something a little different with each convention we attend. We did have the opportunity to meet many of the Main Mission Alpha members who were at the convention--and we would particularly like to thank those members who took time to help us with the massive collating job we had with MOONBEAM #3. We'd have never been able to do it without you guys--thanks! (Whew!)

The winner of the raffle announced in last issue is Susan Cole. Congratulations, Susan! You'll be receiving your autographed copies of CATCH THE FINAL SUNRISE! and MOONBEAM 1/2 in approximately three weeks.

The typewriter is doing well, and I'd like to thank Diane Steitz for her generous contribution; also Janice Simmons, Karen Robinson and Pam Beckett for their contributions to the fund. We've raised approximately half the amount necessary to purchase a new typewriter for the club, and we are holding another raffle to benefit the Fund. This time, an autographed copy of MOONBEAM #3 (a special STAR WARS edition, dedicated to Sir Alec Guinness) and an autographed copy of the all-new second edition of THE LONER, a SPACE:1999 novelette, original story by Michael Heyes. (an MMA member!) Chances are 50¢ a piece, and the drawing will be held April 15, so get your chances in now! Help this club get a typewriter to call its own!

MMA has back issues of Command Center available for 50¢ per issue. A limited number of the December 1976 issue are still available, with a short story "Christmas Spirit" and the Moonbase Alpha version of "The Night Before Christmas". Also available: March/April 1977, with news of the FANTASTIC JOURNEY cancellation; a limited number of the May/June newsletter, a special Nick Tate birthday issue with the SPACE:1999 character biographies and a STAR WARS Salute; July/August 1977 the Barbara Bain issue, August Party con report and the first Forum; September/October 1977, Zienia Merton issue, Star Trek America convention reports, book & episode reviews; Christmas 1977, with the SPACE:1999 convention news and episode review of Collision Course.

Also available (finally) is the second edition of the Sales Directory, revised and updated. For your copy of the new directory, send 25¢ and a business sized self addressed stamped envelope to the club address.

ANSWERS TO SPACE:1999 Stunners

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Helena | 13) Eagle 4 |
| 2) a bee | 14) Yesta |
| 3) Sanderson; Four | 15) Light |
| 4) #3 | 16) War of 1987 |
| 5) 3 | 17) Entra |
| 6) A | 18) Anoushka Hempel |
| 7) THE METAMORPH; an orange tree | 19) Helena's teacher |
| 8) THE BRINGERS OF WONDER, part 2 | 20) Torra |
| 9) Three | 21) LSRO. |
| 10) Ragnor | 22) The part in the hair |
| 11) Water | 23) Thessalina |
| 12) Two | |

How well did you do? Check your Status:

If you got 21-23 correct answers: Excellent! You are Command Material!
16-20 correct answers: Pretty Good--You've earned a transfer from Security to Command Center.
11-15 correct: Not Bad--Eagle Pilot Trainee
6-10 correct: Eh--You've just flunked Elementary Eagle Flight Training.
0-5 correct: You didn't make it past Breakaway.

FOR SALE--I have a limited supply of spare STAR WARS Cards and stickers to sets 1 and 2. Cards are 10¢ each, stickers 15¢. Send numbers of cards needed and also self addressed stamped envelope to: Linda Volp, 127 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571. Please send check or money order, I will not be responsible for money sent through the mail.

COMLOC: A SPACE:1999 letterzine, an excellent way for fans to keep up on the opinions of other fans and to express a few opinions of their own. Send SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) for more information to: Chuck Raue, 804 Rowell St., Mobile, AL 36606; or Pam Beckett, 5 Lamson St., #2, East Boston, MA 02128. (Address active after March 15)

EAGLE:1 : SPACE:1999 fan club. Send SASE for more info to: Eagle:1, c/o Karen Robinson, 15 Rockledge Place, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009.

TIMETRAP: Original SPACE:1999 novellette, by Pat Brimer, Steve Eramo, Sharon Hutchinson and Darlene Palenik. Send check or money order (no cash, please) for \$4.00 (first class postage included) to: Darlene Palenik, 1128 Commonwealth Ave Apt #5, Allston, MA 02134.

THE LONER: A SPACE:1999 novellette, now in its second printing. By Michael Heyes. Send check or money order for \$3.00 to: Deborah Walsh, 5 Lamson St, #2, East Boston, MA 02128.

MOONBEAM #3: Now available. Special STAR WARS edition, dedicated to Sir Alec Guinness. Also contains SPACE:1999 and MAN FROM ATLANTIS material. Send SASE for information to: Deborah Walsh, 5 Lamson St, #2, East Boston, MA 02128 (address active after March 15). Also, limited number of MOONBEAM #1/2 are still available--send SASE for info/or to reserve a copy to order.

ALPHA NEWSLETTER: SPACE:1999 newsletter, published on a regular basis. Single issues \$1.00, subscriptions \$6.00 per year. Send SASE for more information to: Steve Eramo, 5 Kimball Drive, Stoneham, MA 02180.

UNCLE HQ: MAN FROM UNCLE fan club, monthly newsletters, annual journal; dues are \$3.50 plus 12-13¢ stamps per year. Send SASE from more info to: Patricia Munson, PSC Box 7565, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming, 82001.

Mary Hartery has embarked upon a new mission--save BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON, and have fun doing it. Mary has become president of the official BLACK SHEEP fan club, with the expressed approval of all the BLACK SHEEP--Robert Conrad, and other cast members, and the approval of the series' two producers, Alex Beaton and Don Bellasario. There is no other fan club for this series. For the yearly dues of six (6) dollars, members will receive quarterly newsletters of 10-15 pages, a gold-plated dog tag, a membership card with a Corsair design and b/w photos (2 1/2 X 3 1/2) of the original seven Black Sheep, and one of the newest Black Sheep cast members, Jeb Stuart Adams. Also, the \$6 dues will include a contribution to the postage fund to keep BLACK SHEEP on the air. If you enjoy this series, the BLACK SHEEP people want to know! Write to NBC-TV as often as you can--the address is 3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523. Write to BLACK SHEEP, too, at Universal Studios, Universal City, CA 91608.

The club welcomes Henry Chmielewski as Vice-President, and Mary B. as Treasurer. Make all checks payable to: THE BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON FAN CLUB. Please include SASE's when requesting information and address all correspondence to: BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON, 139 Chestnut Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, c/o Hartery

Mary offers 8X10 b/w photos for sale through the club for \$2.00 each. There are approximately 25 different stills--send for a complete list. Many of them have been provided by the cast members themselves.

PSYCHON INFORMATION PACKET: Mark Gonzaga, 671 Bronz River Road, Apt 3K, Yonkers, NY 10704. \$3.00/per copy. Send SASE for more information.

Well, that's it for this issue. I'd like to give very special thanks to the following people for the following reason: Debbie Walsh, for the loan of this marvelous typewriter so that this club could have a January/February newsletter; Gail Paradis, for getting the Martin Landau Biography to me in less than 24 hours; Pam Beckett and to Darlene Palenik; to that Mysterious Voice On The Other End Of the Phone From Stoneham, A.K.A. Steve Eramo (the Fig Newton of Our Imaginations); to Pat Brimer, for being willing to go with us to the movies at the drop of a hat whenever we needed a STAR WARS fix; to all the members of Main Mission Alpha, for their letters and encouragement; and to Nick Tate and Zienia Merton for just being in the club.

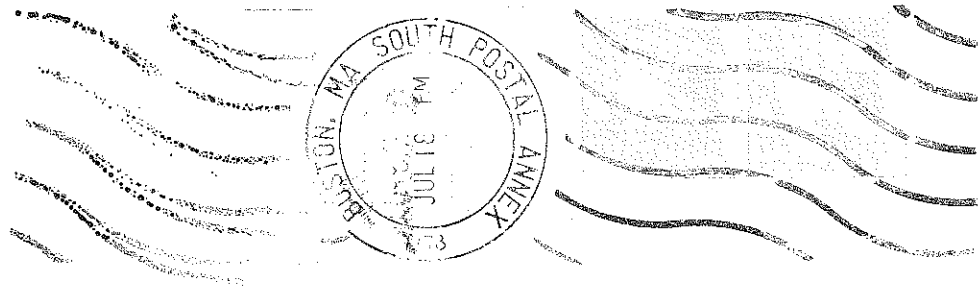
And thank you everyone for your incredible patience! It's so nice to know that you still love us even when we're not around.

Take care! May the blessing of Psyche be with you all!

CIAOI



MAIN MISSION ALPHA
c/o Mary Bloemker
5 Lamson Street, #2
East Boston, MA 02128



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

SERIAL NUMBER

EXP DATE