

NATALIA NOGULICH

Hi my name is Natalia Nogulich. I played Admiral Alynna Nechayev in Star Trek: The Next Generation and DS9. I'm talking with Women at Warp. Stay tuned.

JARRAH

Hi and welcome to Women at Warp! Join us as our crew of four women Star Trek fans boldly go on a special once-in-a-year mission...

ANDI

Misadventure!

JARRAH

...to Star Trek Las Vegas. This is Jarrah. I am here with co-hosts Andi

ANDI

Hi

JARRAH

and Grace

GRACE

It's great to be here.

JARRAH

and Sue.

SUE

I feel strange but also good!

JARRAH

So we are here at Star Trek Las Vegas. This is our last night. It is Sunday evening of the convention. We have had a really exciting week and we wanted to share some of those highlights with you. Let's start with Sue. What was your highlight for this week?

SUE

Oh my gosh, possibly being stopped in the hallway when we were wearing our "A Woman's Place is on the Bridge" shirts by some fans who wanted to take a picture. But then up comes Terry Farrell and also asked to take a picture and then a few minutes later we find out that we are now her pinned tweet and her Twitter cover photo. So that's pretty cool. There was also some fantastic cosplay. We got to talk to some amazing, amazing people, fans and actors alike, including Nischelle Nichols coming up. It was just it was one really cool thing after another.

JARRAH

How about you, Grace?

GRACE

The fans really were what made this entire event for me. We saw some fantastic cosplay. We saw Ruth Bader Q. We saw an Iconian wandering around, we saw that, oh dammit, what are they from the pilot of TNG?

JARRAH:

The jellyfish space things?

GRACE

The jellyfish space station people things – they, they were beautiful - they lit up.

JARRAH

I liked the crystalline entity that we saw today.

GRACE

Oh my god, with the little ships in it? It was great. And we also got to see some beautiful, amazing artwork in the “50 Artists 50 Years” exhibit which was pretty much a small art gallery showcasing artists who enjoy Star Trek and want to express it in different work. And we got to see both some incredible pop art, and some really technically amazing classical-style art, just related to Star Trek. It was really fantastic.

JARRAH

Awesome. And Andi, what was the highlight for you?

ANDI

I have to say that the highlight was meeting everybody in person. Not just the crew, although that was amazing and a dream come true.

GRACE

Yes, it was our first time meeting all together.

ANDI

All together, all four of us. And it was fun, but also just listeners and other podcasters and people that I consider friends but have never actually physically met. That was definitely very exciting. We also just came back from getting tattoos!

GRACE

We're officially a girl gang now.

ANDI

And I actually completely freaked out when I was getting my tattoo. I didn't think I would. And I sat down and he turned on the, the needle thing -whatever that is - and it started making that noise, and I was like "nope, nope, nope, nope, nope. And also no." And I ran away. But Sue coaxed me back and held my hand and helped me...

GRACE

In a stroke of genius.

ANDI

...helped me recite "Ode to Spot," which if anybody remembers Sue and I's original "All Things Trek" appearance, "Ode to Spot" is very near and dear to both Sue and I. And um, I've heard of a lot of the words when I was, you know, terrified and in pain, but we did still have a fun time reciting that and got me through. The tattoo artist at the end was like, "Thanks for not punching me in the face," because I guess that was a fear and also "Thanks for not passing out.."

GRACE

And also a tattoo artist in the next stall overheard you guys chanting in rhyme and thought you were praying.

ANDI

Well, we kind of were

SUE

To Spot

ANDI

To Spot, our Patron Saint.

JARRAH

The tattoo artists we're also very sick of Star Trek today. So they had been forced to watch Star Trek VI on repeat and mute - mute and repeat - for like the last week. So, and they were not Star Trek fans, they were like: "We're so sick of this movie."

GRACE

Again though, as Andi's tattoo artist said, "I haven't seen it but looks pretty bad ass."

JARRAH

But me and Sue got Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations little logos on our ankles and Andi got a Delta shield on her wrist and I think they look pretty cool. Yeah, so one of my highlights from this week...There were a lot...and definitely the Terry Farrell moment was so exciting.

ANDI

I made a screeching noise that should not be ever repeated.

GRACE

She seemed to find it pretty cute though.

JARRAH

I jumped up and down a lot. I played it cool while, you know, she could see us. But after I was, "Oh my God!" Actually, I've been at this Star Trek convention before. This is my fourth year and I've been on the Women in Star Trek panel for the last three years, which is a panel that was originally started by Mary Czerwinski, a.k.a @televixen on Twitter, and this year for the first time we were on the main stage, largely thanks to the work of Amy Imhoff, who's guested on our show previously. And we were not just on the main stage, we were on the main stage with Kate Mulgrew and Bjo Trimble and that was so exciting and the room was packed. And the room can hold 5000 people so that was really really incredible. I woke up at like 4:00 in the morning that morning going, "Oh, it's today! Ahhhh!"

GRACE

That kinda audience, though. Numbers don't lie.

JARRAH

No. I mean regardless of how...it shows there is a huge demand for more programming about diversity and women in particular in Star Trek. So I thought that was really important. I thought that it was really, really cool to meet Bjo Trimble in particular. And we actually did an interview with her that we're going to be sharing with you in an upcoming episode, because it was quite lengthy - with her and John Trimble - and it's fabulous.

She came early to the backstage area and just chatted with us all as we were preparing and she is such an amazing woman who is just really, you know, not afraid to speak her mind. And I'm looking forward to being able to share more of what she said.

So she was there, we just saw Kate like right before we went on, and there was a bit of an interesting discussion on stage about like what feminism means to different people. And, like, Kate Mulgrew is someone who doesn't really want to claim the label "feminism."

So I thought that Kayla Iacovino, who has also been on our show, did a really amazing job talking about, you know she also used to have some issues with the term, and here's why she doesn't now, because she thinks it's important.

So it was just a really cool experience. It was amazing to be on the main stage being able to talk about women in Star Trek and to do it with the woman who played Captain Janeway and Bjo Trimble the super fan - one of the super fans - who saved Star Trek, So definitely highlights for me.

So let's maybe just take a quick sort of pass through the week and think about some things that we did or saw. So the first day that we were all here was Tuesday, but technically – we're going to call that technical.

GRACE

I'm not sure I'd say we were all here, here. We were all here physically but we were jet lagged and exhausted.

JARRAH

Yeah. So, I went to the Landing Party and I won trivia with some people because I was one of the first people here. The Landing Party is something that's put on by Mission Log and Trek Movie and Trek Radio, I believe, and it was pretty fun. That was basically all that happened on Tuesday. Wednesday. Wednesday was more memorable. What do you guys all remember about Wednesday? I know it seems quite a ways away.

GRACE

I remember showing up and being blown away by the giant MAC display and how huge it was. MAC, the make up company MAC, is putting out a Star Trek line and it's really cool stuff. It's all very – I'm trying to think of how to describe it. It's very trendy. It's very metallic. It's very much paying tribute to the style and aesthetics of all the characters they're trying to emulate through the collection, though. And I was blown away by the space ship set that they had for - both to put on small skits with actors dressed up as the characters who the line were about, and just for, you know, the cosmetologists and the

and makeup artists to do your makeup and show you how the products worked. They were all incredibly friendly. They were all so jazzed to be there. It was just a party. It was just a fun experience to be there.

ANDI

Yeah, Sue and I were extremely lucky that we happened to be there just as the Spock and Uhura cosplayers did the scene from Charlie X where Uhura sings to Spock and he plays his little Vulcan lute thing that I love so much. And they were amazing and it was a wonderful thing to see.

The thing that I like about the way that MAC came this year is that you really got the sense that this was not just some marketing ploy to them. You got the sense that they put thought and care into their lines. Their panels were also amazing, where they kind of described some of the inspirations behind some of the new make up that they came out with, and it was just really interesting to see. You really got the sense that it wasn't just about marketing for them, that they were actually really excited to be here and their booth in the dealers' room was just the highlight. It was the centerpiece of the whole room

GRACE

And you really didn't have to deal with, from any of those make up artists, the "Sephora Snobbery," I believe they call it. That if you show up with a bare face they'll be like, "Are you lost? Can I help you? Do you know that makeup is a thing?" They were all very friendly they were all very excited to show you how to use what products they were showing they were all just so into it. It was amazing.

SUE

Yeah I do a lot of conventions, so Wednesday was a little bit slow in terms of programming. Nothing really picked up until 1 o'clock. So it was really about getting the lay of the land because I haven't done this con before and I haven't done a Creation convention in probably about 15 years.

So it was nice to walk around before it got too crowded on the weekend, to see where everything was laid out, to hang out at Quark's and the Roddenberry stage, to go through the dealers' room and see what was there and see what we wanted to come back for at the end of the week, for what was discounted.

GRACE

That's the true secret to cons, right?

SUE

It is, but the problem is that it might sell in the meantime. Yeah it was, it was a good first day of getting everybody acclimated.

JARRAH

So I just want to just quickly touch on the MAC thing, because it's something that we talked about a bit in our Facebook group. And then there was the concerns raised about animal testing, and just because I saw this on Twitter again today I wanted to just sort of address this. I think we all bought something from the MAC booth. Their explanation just for people who are interested if that's an issue that's important to you, that they only do animal testing because the Chinese market requires it for...so like the minimal amount that they're able to do in order to sell things in China. So it's up to you whether you want to continue to go with it with that knowledge. But certainly it was an impressive show.

I'm curious what did you guys end up getting or being really tempted by in the vendors' room? Myself, I came back with a couple of action figures but I'm probably proudest of two things. First of all, today when stuff was on sale I got I think four of Leonard Nimoy's vinyl albums (I have a record player) including Leonard Nimoy's the two faces Spock? Or Two Sides...

ANDI

Two Sides

JARRAH

Yes, Two Sides of Leonard Nimoy and it has, like, one is his human face and profile and one is, like, the Spock face in profile, which features his song "Highly Illogical" ...

GRACE

Not "Logical Song" by Supertramp?

JARRAH

No, and also "Mr. Spock's Songs from Outer Space," "Outer Space/Inner Mind" and something about how I feel, or the way I feel...

GRACE

By The Zombies?

JARRAH

No. All by Leonard Nimoy, Grace and then they had some of the other albums there that him and Shatner had been on. I was just more interested in these ones, but also Rene Auberjonois was doing a charity fundraiser where you could donate money and he would draw you an Odo bucket and sign it, and he would make the Odo bucket with a thought bubble that he's thinking of a name of your choosing, and the fundraiser was for Doctors Without Borders. And so I paid for an Odo bucket thinking about my cat named Odo. So that was probably what I mostly looking forward to taking home. So what about you? We'll go in the other order – Sue!

SUE

Well there are a few things I picked up. I try not to buy a lot of memorabilia because I don't have a ton of space and I'm kind of anti-clutter, but I did find a super cute little – it's not a Funko Pop but a vinyl figure of Uhura. That was great and that was, that was my break the rule. I bought that the first day because I didn't want it to sell out, and what else did I pick up? I found today some rank pins for some future cosplay and I think my favorite has been something I just happened to come across on the Roddenberry table.

You know they're selling a lot of behind-the-scenes stuff and there were some books there and there was this book signed by Majel Barrett in a pile of books for \$5 each. And when they told me \$5, I said, "Yes, please." That was all there was to it. So since it is signed, "To Brenda," you can now call me Brenda.

JARRAH

And Grace.

GRACE

Well one that I was really excited to check out was the IDW booth. I'm a big fan of their comics, a big fan of what they've been doing with their licensed series with Transformers and Jem and the Holograms and also with Transformers. They've got some really fun young adult titles that they're putting out right now that I really wanted to pick up for some of the younger readers in my life, and also there are these really fun classic edition hardcover classic editions of classic Star Trek comics, which are just the kitchiest thing imaginable. And the lover of camp in me could not resist. Also I wanted to catch up on some of the J.J.-verse comics, you know, for funsies. Also I got a Martia action figure from The Undiscovered Country, because I wanted something to keep my David Bowie action figures company.

JARRAH

Yay, what about you Andi?

ANDI

I actually am not a huge fan of, like, action figures and stuff like that, not so into that sort of stuff, so I didn't actually pick up a whole lot from the dealers' room. I did pick up a signed script of "Journey to Babel," signed by D.C. Fontana, and kind of freaked out about that. That was amazing.

SUE

Another case where it was also just in a pile of thing on a table.

GRACE

It was pretty damn cool.

ANDI

Absolutely. And so that was probably my most exciting find. I also bought one of the Anovos Beyond dresses which were gorgeous. Unfortunately, they weren't letting you take them away. You know, they had to have them shipped to you. So that was unfortunate, because I would have loved to wear them but Grace and I have Geek Girl Con coming up, so I'll wear it there. I also got an engineering T-shirt dress from the Roddenberry table, which was pretty cool.

GRACE

Super cute super cute.

ANDI

So yeah, I mean there was, there was a lot of cool stuff on display. We had a good time perusing it.

GRACE

Definitely. There was something for everyone there.

JARRAH

Cool. So Thursday was definitely a bit more of a busy day - I think really a highlight day for a lot of us. Anyone want to jump in with what they enjoyed about doing on Thursday?

SUE

Oh my gosh. Thursday was Whoopi day.

GRACE

That's right, it was Whoopi day. Oh my God.

SUE

So Whoopi Goldberg at her first ever Star Trek convention - amazing. She tore the house down. I mean it was a fantastic panel. She was great at reading the room. The energy was amazing. It was just absolutely wonderful. And then after the panel, we just happened to be - not even directly after, a few hours later - we all just happened to be standing in the hallway talking near the memorial wall they had set up for Anton Yelchin, and she comes out, picks up the pen and just starts signing the wall. We're there with maybe three or four other people around, so we were just happened to be a very select group of people who were able to witness such an icon pay tribute to another actor in the franchise. And it was a really lovely moment.

GRACE

There was no pomp and circumstance. She was not doing it in front of cameras except for ours, because we were there. It was really just her trying to pay her respects and it was incredible. I don't think I'm ever going to see something like that again in my life.

ANDI

Her panel was so inspiring, I mean just really funny and smart. But the thing that really made me so happy is I think that she so succinctly summed up what Star Trek means to us, because they asked her you know why has Star Trek survived this long? And she was like, "Because it never gave up hope." And I just I swear I got chills. I was just like, that is exactly right. That is exactly why.

And also just the way she would talk about how Star Trek helped her feel like she belonged in the future, and seeing a black woman, Uhura, on the bridge helped her understand that science fiction is not a place where she was unwelcome and that made me so happy because it's so amazing - the place that Star Trek holds, and that sort of thing.

I mean, you have Whoopi inspiring Nichelle, I mean Nichelle inspiring Whoopi, and then Whoopi inspiring other young black women. And then you have Dr. Mae Jemison being inspired by Uhura as well. It's just it's like a cascading effect. And it really just kind of highlighted to me the fact that representation does matter, and you can see it, you can see the actual gifts we have gotten because of Star Trek and the way that they highlighted diversity.

JARRAH

Absolutely and Whoopi was really, really funny too.

GRACE

That's kind of her thing and she's still doing it well.

JARRAH

She made a lot of jokes about Q, and how, you know, she and Q Both could have destroyed the universe if they wanted to, but they probably had a baby a couple of millennia ago.

ANDI

That could've been Picard eventually.

GRACE

Oh man, there's a theory for you. Kids, write the fanfic!

SUE

I'm sure it exists.

JARRAH

She was told by Gene Roddenberry that she would be someone who was incredibly old and wise that could be like the great, great, great, great, great-grandparent of anyone on the Enterprise so she thought that maybe Picard was one of her great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great-grandchildren. So that was pretty cool.

And, like you were saying about, you know, the inspiring part of her being inspired by Uhura, or Nichelle as Uhura, we also got to see - she brought up three Guinan cosplayers on stage with her, who it was clearly like one of the most meaningful moments that they had had, at least at this convention. And they talked about what she meant to them as women of color. And it was just like, me and Sue were sitting there, tearing up for sure.

ANDI

I was still kind of, I was like my fingers are crossed that Aliza Pearl, who has been on her show and does an amazing Guinan cosplay, I was like waiting for her to show up, but sadly... But the cosplay that was there was amazing. They were very genuine and it was very cool to see them all interact. And then during the Nichelle panel, Whoopi came back.

GRACE

Aw, the Nichelle panel.

ANDI

It just, is really touching.

SUE

The Nichelle panel was really lovely. It was more of a tribute panel she didn't tell a whole lot of stories. We did hear, you know, the standard ones of how she went out and helped in the space program. The one thing that she said that really stuck with me is that she went out and spoke anywhere that she could get a crowd of people who weren't being represented. And that was just really amazing. But it was just full of fans one after the other telling her what an inspiration she was and what she had done for them as individuals and as members of minority groups, whatever that minority group may be. And then Whoopi came out and basically reiterated those points everything she's said before, but directly to Nichelle and it was just really, really beautiful and such - it's something that we'll probably never see again. It was lovely.

JARRAH

Yeah I feel like that it was, it was a really powerful day. There was just this real sense of optimism throughout that not just is our franchise surviving and thriving, but that our

franchise is committed to diversity, with the, you know, the way that we've seen that it looks like the new show is going to go as well. So it was a really great day and the four of us wrapped it up by appearing on the official Star Trek CBS podcast Engage, with Jordan Hoffman and that was super, super fun.

GRACE

He brought us beer. It was great.

JARRAH

Yeah he brought us Orion Syndicate beer, which is from the Federation of Beer and has kind of like an Orion pin-up girl on the front so one of the things we started talking about was, like first of all, what do you feel about the representation of women on this beer bottle? For the record I am a big fan of Federation of Beer. I particularly like their Vulcan Ale which was their first drink that they came out with. There was an anniversary convention in these town of Vulcan, Alberta. So yea,h I mean I feel like it was really fun to chat with Jordan and we'll make sure that we share the link as well for that podcast. Did we miss something for Thursday? I feel like we missed something

ANDI

One of the things that I got to do on Thursday that was really exciting was to see my friend Jim Moorehouse who is also known as @EnterpriseExtra and who apparently does not know Grace as anything other than Bonecrusher.

GRACE

Absolutely.

ANDI

So if you don't know who he is, he is very active on Twitter. One of the things he does is Trekranks.com, where he has a very, very thoughtful list of his rankings, in which he is

very wrong quite often. But it's ok, it's ok. We talked about it and we agree that it's ok for him to be wrong sometimes.

And he had the lovely experience of being able to be an extra on Enterprise, and he had a really cool panel where he basically just walked us through how much fun it was to just spend a day on the set of Star Trek. And he, you know, got to fire phasers and it was like the highlight of his life basically, and just his passion and humor about it all was extremely fun, and he was one of the highlights of the con for me because he was one of my very, very, very, very first follows when I started @FirstTimeTrek, so just an example of those types of people that you feel like you know really well, but never actually get to talk to you in person. So it was really fun to see him in his panel was very entertaining.

JARRAH

And just for people who haven't been to the convention, or especially weren't here this year, since there have been some changes, when we're talking about the different stages, there's basically three stages at the convention. There's the main stage, which is also called the Leonard Nimoy stage. That's generally where you have celebrities - the biggest celebrity panels. Then there's the secondary stage, which is the DeForest Kelley stage, and that's generally fan panels, or you know people like maybe a panel of writers or associate producers - not necessarily the biggest names in Star Trek, but still people with something significant to say.

And then the new stage this year was the Roddenberry stage, which I actually thought was a really cool addition. I mean they had a lot more people this year, so they they needed an extra stage, but it was really nice to have an option of another place to go that was a bit more interactive, instead of just having to watch different types of speakers.

So the Roddenberry stage this year, they had like three or four trivia things that you could go to daily. There was a cookie-decorating contest. There was a display of some amazing Star Trek cakes. There were these, I would say, really entertaining engaging talks. There was a podcasters' summit today that Andi was on, and we will talk about that a little bit more later. Generally, it was cool and that was

located in Quark's bar. There was a bit of issues with the audio, that there was really only a small area that could actually hear what was being said on stage. But overall I think it was a really welcome addition to the convention.

And then there's basically like the Promenade, which is the area you can walk through and there's all kinds of photo ops like Borg Queen photo op, transporter room, giant delta shield, tribbles - we forgot to take a tribble photo, you guys! Anyway...So let's jump to Friday. Anyone want to talk about something that was cool on Friday?

GRACE

Well it's not probably up there with seeing Nichelle or Whoopi talk but it was my favorite cosplays I saw this weekend: there was an Orion Slave Girl showgirl, paying tribute to the fact that we're having this massive Star Trek convention. Which already pretty much has quirks of its own, and we're doing it in Vegas, which is a pretty friggin' quirky city. And I thought it was just a really fun combination of the two, and she seemed to be having a great time with it. And it just made for some hilarious photo ops.

JARRAH

The big guest on Friday was Kirstie Alley. I definitely felt like her panel - I guess it was a Q and A - it was interesting. I felt like she did really well. Like Whoopi, it was her first convention. I wouldn't say her appearance was as moving or memorable necessarily, but she spoke really from the heart about her experience being cast after having her parents be in this really catastrophic accident, what it was like working with Nicholas Meyer, what it was like working with Shatner and Leonard Nimoy, and what it was like playing a Vulcan, and then answered a lot of questions from the audience in a really, really nice way, so I appreciated her appearance on stage. That was definitely the major guest that was on Friday.

SUE

I have to mention we also had a part one of *Star Trek The Next Generation*, which was Gates, LeVar and Brent together, which that was my can't-miss panel of the day. Not unsurprisingly. But they're just so much fun. I've said it before, I'll say it forever. I love

the TNG cast so much and I love that they love each other and there's just such a sense of family and relationship and also all of that cast, including you know the, the group that spoke at another time, just absolutely positively speak their minds, and they are so forthright in their convictions about what Star Trek should be and where we need to be. You know Brent Spiner even said the ideals that are in Star Trek are where we should be headed right now. And it's just, I love them so much. I can't say that enough.

ANDI

One of the highlights for Jarrah and I on Friday is we were able to be on Bridgemates, which is a game show that was built by Phillip Gilfus of Earl Grey and we got to play against Team Free Enterprise, which is Darren and Daniel from Earl Grey, and Team Lizard Babies, the ultimate champions, which is Char and Tristan from To the Journey, (To the Journey!). So that was really fun. We got to hang out with them and have some fun playing, you know, trivia. Jarrah and I knew some of the trivia without having to look it up on Memory Alpha.

GRACE

It was incredible.

Jarrah

We also got two out of three of the scenes right, where they had members of the audience come up and read dialogue from different episodes and you guessing the episode, so that was pretty fun and Grace guest acted in one of those. Me and Sue also hit up a Mission Log panel in the secondary theater, featuring Rod Roddenberry and the Mission Log podcast, of course hosted by John Champion and Ken Ray, and it was about how Gene Roddenberry's vision affected Star Trek in both good and sometimes limiting ways. So one of the limiting examples they talked about, just for example, was around the episode where Jeremy Aster's mom dies and Gene apparently felt that in the future the amount of, the level of perfection that society would have achieved would include

that the kids wouldn't feel that grief over the loss of a parent.

ANDI

But I mean in "Where the Children Shall Lead" or whatever that horrible, horrible TOS episode is, like, hey, they need to feel grief!

GRACE

What kind of a Children of the Corn future are we looking at here?

Jarrah

So they had an interesting discussion about that, and then a lot of people coming up from the audience just to, you know, talk about - one of the most interesting discussions, I thought, was has was a member of the audience came up and talked about how he used to be an original series snob and he just really looked down on people who preferred other series, and over time and through listening to Mission Log, he realized that he was not only not really being welcoming to other people, but also depriving himself of enjoying new things, and that because Mission Log helped him see things in a new way, he was able to go see Star Trek Beyond and really enjoy it.

And Rod and John and Ken, you know, talked about how it's so important, essential in our fandom, to be able to have differences of opinion. To say, you know, I like something or I don't like something, and have a discussion with someone about that rather than just assuming they're not even worth talking to because of that opinion. So it was pretty cool. And then later we had a meet up!

ANDI

So we had Women at Warp meet up at Masquerade Bar, which was super fun. The Earl Grey guys kept buying me James T. Kirks, which got interesting.

SUE

That's a drink.

GRACE

Can you guys describe that drink for our listeners?

ANDI

Gin!

JARRAH

It's basically blue gin with a cherry in it.

SUE

It was. It was intense.

GRACE

It was one of the drinks of the con along with the raktajino, which was mostly Bailey's,

SUE

But they also had more there than some of the other bars. They had a Chaotica's death ray, which is what I was drinking. That thing was good, anyway.

GRACE

The tranya wasn't bad either.

SUE

We had a really great turnout for this meet up. It was awesome to talk to your fans. We had a lot of different age groups. We had a lot of different types of people from all over

the place. It was so much fun. We did some show trivia and gave some prizes. And yeah, it was great and went on much longer than we anticipated, because we didn't want to leave.

GRACE

We were having such a great time seeing all the fans who showed up. We want to thank you again for showing your support for us and for just giving us a great evening out.

ANDI

Even though I am a little sad that you guys can't name our cats. Just saying.

JARRAH

For the record our cats names are: Andi's cats are named Mary Cat and Jerry Cat, Jarrah's cats are named Odo and Sandwiches. Sue's cats are named Oswin and Lina and Grace has kept Bronson.

GRACE

His full name is actually Charles Bronson Ripplemort the Third, Destroyer of Worlds.

JARRAH

Excellent. So the next time we have a meet up and we have trivia, you have no excuses. Ok, so Saturday was the day that was my main stage panel on Women in Star Trek, so we kind of already covered that. Anything else that you folks want to talk about Saturday awesomeness?

ANDI

We did get a chance to talk to Bjo Trimble after the panel, which was super fun. And one thing that I want to point out about her, besides the fact that she is one of the most fun people I've ever met in my life - she has bright pink hair, by the way, which is amazing -

is that she pointed out that on my badge I had a rainbow delta shield and a rainbow pin that says "Oh my" and my "I'll Go With You" trans-friendly lanyard.

And she reached out and pulled my badge towards her, and she started telling us stories about how she would have to stand up for the LGBT community within the Star Trek community and how they got pushback on that. And she was just super excited to see like all this open queer Trekkie swag everywhere. And she was just delightful and I really thought that was amazing and lovely to talk to her about that.

JARRAH

Yes she had a really funny comment about one time when Facebook changed people's photos to rainbow flags - I'm assuming that was after the same-sex marriage victory - and she talked about how you know she couldn't really believe that Star Trek fans would push back against that. And like clearly they weren't watching the right show and you they didn't understand the show. And then one of my favourite parts was then she talked about, you know, "Then I discovered two very helpful buttons: the ban button and the block button."

GRACE

I love that - there was just this wonderful button you can press and you don't see anything from them ever again.

JARRAH

It was great. So like I said, we actually did more in-depth interview with the Bjo and John today, on Sunday, so we will be airing that as part of a future episode, which is part of a series we're trying to put together on the history of women in the Star Trek fandom.

SUE

I just want to touch really quickly and expand on what Andy mentioned about our lanyards that say "I'll go with you." This is a campaign that you can find on Facebook and

it is growing and it's fantastic. They have lanyards and buttons and the idea is, this is for essentially cis fans or cis people to wear to show support to the trans, agender, genderqueer community, that says I will go with you if you feel uncomfortable going into a gendered space such as a bathroom. So if someone who doesn't feel comfortable sees someone wearing a lanyard or button with the trans flag colors and it says "I'll go with you," it means you're totally fine being approached and asked to accompany someone into that space to make them feel more comfortable and to back them up an. It's actually really cool. We've all been wearing them all con and I haven't been approached to actually take that action. But I did have a couple of people stop me and say that they appreciated seeing that from fans. So those buttons are available, buttons and lanyards are available online. The easiest place to find this campaign is to look it up on Facebook, and they're doing some really great work. I am prepared to do this. You know at every con I go to, and I even bought a zipper pull that I wear on a purse every day, because it is I think a really great thing for all of us to do. And that's all I have to say about that.

JARRAH

Cool. So a couple of quick things that happened on Saturday. Kate Mulgrew did another Q&A just by herself. That was pretty cool there was a really adorable moment where she brought up a little girl named Ezri on stage and sort of encouraged her to ask her question that she had felt too shy to say at the mic, and it was it was a pretty adorable moment. We also did an interview with Natalia Nogulich, you played Admiral Nechayev on The Next Generation. So here's where we're going to share a little clip from that interview.

NATALIA NOGULICH

Once I got on the set I was completely confident about what my character wanted. She was determined. She was persevering. She was principled. She didn't back down. She was not going to take any lip from anybody. And that dynamic between Patrick and I really worked, because when I came onto, actually some of my fans were calling me the "Uh oh" Admiral, because when I came onto the set it was like "Uh oh, somebody did

something wrong” or “Somebody is going to have to do something they don't want to do,” which was often the case you know with Patrick, and I had to give him, I mean Picard, I had to give him orders to do something he didn't want to do. But pretty much I got my way and I loved it.

I mean the whole concept that Roddenberry came up with the vision of a world where it didn't matter if you were a woman or a man you know green or orange or big or small, that you could be treated like an individual and create your own identity as an individual. It was a magnificent world to be a part of.

JARRAH

Absolutely. So did you have a backstory thought up for Nechayev at any point? I'm not sure if you're aware of her backstory in the novels, or I'm interested in your thoughts on what you thought her background was coming in.

NATALIA NOGULICH

Well I write a backstory for every character I play. I mean I have tons of biographies of all of the characters that I play. Yes, so I wrote a biography of Nechayev and I imagined that she came up through the ranks through hard work and hard knocks and I imagined that her arrival at Admiralty was not easy and that perhaps she had come into a family of military and she probably was one of those daughters that's followed her dad's footsteps in his military experience.

And then I had a lot of personal things that I create for the character, which I never share with anybody. In terms of the books, I do hear that there is quite a story behind Nechayev and also quite a future with Nechayev. I must get hold of these books and read them, because I am dying of curiosity to know what, where, how they see her going. If she gets tougher or softer or what. I don't know. But I can't say that I don't wish she had gone on longer in this series or started earlier, so that I'd had more episodes, because I do think there would have been a relationship of some nature developed between Patrick, between Picard and Nechayev, that might have led to some reconciliation in terms of what she wanted for the Federation and his part of running

the Enterprise. You know, that was that was the conflict, you know, I, my character, was looking at the bigger whole picture and it was, you know, I think it could have gotten very interesting.

JARRAH

Sue has a question.

SUE

Based on that what you're saying about the relationship with Patrick, or with Picard rather, I always felt like when I was watching the show like the characters have some kind of history. I don't know if that would be a personal history or professional history. Did you and Patrick Stewart ever talk about something like that or did that just happen to come off in the way the characters were written?

NATALIA NOGULICH

That's a very interesting question. I mean I did not imagine a history between Nechayev and Picard, except to the extent that it existed with my being his superior officer. But I think that what you probably detected was a mutual respect and rapport that Patrick Stewart and Natalia Nogulich had. We both came up through this theater in our careers and had a lot of mutual respect for that. I also happened to be doing a play at the time at the Mark Tapper Forum, and Patrick came to see it and it turned out one of his old colleagues from the Royal Shakespeare Company, Juliet Stevenson, was in it, so he came to see her, and then we saw each other. And I mean he, we talked outside, you know, once they called cut we would talk about our experiences as actors and we had a really terrific rapport and that's probably what you detected.

And it's great when that happens because you can't, you can't fake that. And just like Picard had to have some kind of respect for Nechayev, whether he agreed with what she was asking him to do or not. And I think that Nechayev showed him respect when at one point I give him orders to move the Indians off the land. It was obviously something he didn't want to do. And after addressing him, I finally, the character finally says, if

you're uncomfortable with this I understand and I'll get someone else to do it. And giving him that regard had him respond with, "No that won't be necessary" and that kind of mutual working things out, I think, was an indication that that could have gone on, and there could have been more understanding between, you know, the admiral and Picard. It was great fun working with him. He's an extraordinary actor and a wonderful human being. So it was it was one of the highlights of that period of time for me.

JARRAH

Amazing. Do you have any ongoing project or work that you'd like to share with our listeners?

NATALIA NOGULICH

Yes. I am always an ongoing supporter of the military. I have three main charities I give to, mainly the Wounded Warriors Project, and I have a can on my table at conventions and people donate as they wish. And then at the end of the convention I write a check to the Wounded Warriors coming from the donations that I got from fans and then adding some of my own. I also give to disabled veterans and blind veterans. And when I had a theater company some years ago I did a big benefit for the Wounded Warriors and that was very rewarding.

There are a lot of military that are fans of Star Trek for obvious reasons and through the years they have given me mementos in the form of challenge coins that

GRACE

You have quite the collection

NATALIA NOGULICH

I have about 80 now. It was started in 2003 when soldiers were getting ready to be deployed for the second Iraq war. It so happened that there were a lot of them that

were at the convention in Pasadena before they were going to deploy. And I was so touched that they were getting ready to leave that I gave all photographs and autographs away free to the military that weekend, and later as many of them came back, thank God, they presented me with these coins, which they get when they do a particular operation and I collect them with great reverence.

Other than that I also have written a book, speaking of war, called *One Woman's War*, which is a historical fiction book. It deals with the wars in the 1990s in the Balkans, the civil wars, which are always the most gruesome wars, including our own United States Civil War in the 19th century and it's about a particular woman, a strong woman as you may imagine, who has to endure a horrific loss and come around to conquering her desire for revenge. And I have gotten so much feedback from people who've read it who said, "My God, that could be the Balkans, it could be almost anywhere in the world where we have now a lot of kind of desire to get back at.

And it's not exactly the world we want to live in but that that's where we are. So my book *One Woman's War* is available on Amazon.com. I would, of course, like the world to read it. I'm working on the second book as well. That's not quite ready to be published.

The other thing I'm doing that's interesting is I'm directing one man show called *Bearing Witness about*, written by a Vietnam veteran who is performing in it. And it's about his story and how it connects with his father, who was a doctor at Mauthausen one of the camps in Austria actually. And how the two wars differ and the connection between the father and son. And it's a very healing. And I'm directing this healing theatrical piece I'm directing it to open in Orlando Florida at the inauguration of the Global Peace Initiative, a new non-profit that's opening down there and we're going to inaugurate that piece down there so I'm really thrilled. I mean I guess everybody will never come to Orlando but that's something I'm working on that I love.

And then I continue to audition and do my acting gigs and write. And teach and direct and do conventions, which, which I love. And it's really a pleasure to meet these four extraordinarily lovely and bright young women, who are interested in in the stories of strong women. I'm very interested in that as well. And I'm grateful for the opportunity.

Thank you for asking me.

JARRAH

Well thank you so much Natalia Nogulich for your time. We really loved having you on the show and we're big fans, so best of luck with the upcoming projects. Thank you so much.

[End interview]

JARRAH

All right. So anything else that you folks want to say about Saturday before we head on to today?

SUE

Yeah, one really cool thing that happened toward the end of the day Saturday is that Michael Westmore took the stage and walked us through a live makeup application for a Borg. It was really super cool to see that happen and to see what work went into it and some neat things he said about how he really trusted his makeup artists and that no two Borg were ever the same.

He showed us a bunch of slide shows. He even said that - this is I think the coolest - that that after attending Gene Roddenberry's funeral he took home one of the flower centerpieces and then turned the base of that flower pot into one of the Borg eyes used on the show, which is really neat and like kind of a weird tribute, but also kind of an awesome tribute. And he also talked about his time on Face Off on Syfy, mentoring upcoming makeup artists and how much he enjoyed it. And you could just see how excited he was when he was talking about teaching, which was really super cool.

JARRAH

So on Saturday we also had a very brief chat with Nichelle Nichols, and of course can't - it's not possible to overstate how amazing it is just to be in her presence. It was the end

of the day so we didn't get a chance to talk for very long. She was tired but we wanted to share this little excerpt from the conversation we did have.

NICHELLE NICHOLS

This is Nichelle Nichols, and I'm very proud to speak to you. I'm having a wonderful time here with Women at Warp and I love that title. I want to be a complimentary member.

JARRAH

Absolutely you are an honorary member. Guaranteed. Right now, we're signing you in.

NICHELLE NICHOLS

I'm having fun signing autographs for all the beautiful women that come up to me and are happy to see me. And I'm happy to be here with you.

[End interview]

JARRAH

On to Sunday, which was today. We woke up. We did things. Tell people about them.

SUE

We went to the buffet.

GRACE

It was awesome. There was a breakfast buffet. We had breakfast dessert. It was awesome. Also there were some more Star Trek stuff.

SUE

Today again, sort of like Wednesday, was a little bit more low key. A lot of people were heading home. A lot of the stars were already heading home. Today was the day to hit the vendors' area to score your last-minute deals because vendors would rather sell you stuff than take it home with them. But yeah, Andi was on the podcast summit on the Roddenberry stage,

GRACE

And it was boss. You want to tell us about that Andi?

ANDI

I guess I can tell you about that. So I was lucky enough to - John Champion and Ken Ray from Mission Log decided to do a kind of podcasting summit to talk about the state of Trekkie podcasting, and you know some of the challenges and great things that come from being a Trekkie podcaster. So we had a lot of really cool people on there, including Kayla Iacovino, who writes for TrekMovie.com and has Shuttlepod podcast, who has been on our show, who's one of our favorite guests, and Terry Lynn Shull from G&T, Aaron Harvey from Saturday Morning Trek, Lisa from Trek Radio, Elijah from Priority One and Bill from Trek Geeks. So a lot of really cool people and we just had a conversation and it was really fun.

We got to talk a lot about kind of what it's like to be a podcaster. And you know, I love it. To be honest, I love being able to come in and talk to these ladies about Star Trek all the time. And but there are challenges and there are obstacles sometimes. It was really fun to have kind of an open conversation about that with so many dynamic people from so many awesome podcasts.

JARRAH

Yeah, absolutely. Another thing that happened, like Sue said, we didn't really go to a lot of the actual programming today. There wasn't really a ton going on but another thing that we did go to was the Shakespeare in Trek panel that was hosted by Amy Imhoff

with Brooke Wilkins, who also did an amazing job running Garak's Tailor Shop, which provided cosplayer repair during the convention.

So I really, really enjoyed this panel. It started out and they had surprise guests John de Lancie and Robert Picardo come out and do some readings. And there was a sort of open discussion with people from the floor about favorite Trek quotes from Star Trek. So you know, some scenes that came up again and again, like Picard's scene at the end of "Ménage a Troi". There's some scenes from "The Conscience of the King," of course Star Trek VI, a lot of these came up and it was nice to be able to, you know, recall these memories of the great Shakespeare scenes in Star Trek.

And then there was a really fun part where they said, you know, let's cast Hamlet with characters from Star Trek and you know who's going to play Hamlet? And I remember someone from the audience yelled out: "Wesley Crusher!" And you know now that I'm going into it, I can't remember who they ended up actually choosing.

GRACE

Would that mean Jake Sisko and Icheb Rosencrantz and Guildenstern?

JARRAH

This was all like a hilarious conversation. And then there was a big conversation happening in the back channel on Twitter about, like, other people's picks. So you know I remember that there was a discussion about Ophelia and that it would be someone who would be stuck in a weird relationship. And I was like oh it would be Kes. So this was part of the discussion I was having with folks in the back channel.

And then of course because it's our podcast, I had to suggest in the back channel, you know, what about we have Riker be Hamlet and then Pulaski and Riker's dad Gertrude and Claudius, and then Jordan Hoffman from Engage was like, "Ok can we work Barclay into this?" Like obviously Barclay would be Horatio. Protecting Troi, like thinking he can actually fight Riker.

So it was it was a really fun discussion though. Amy and Brooke really did a fabulous job in just answering some, some really good Q&A from the audience as well so it was a nice way to go to something in the main stage on last day and still get to do the vendors' room and all that other jazz. So, yeah.

ANDI

And then we got tattoos.

JARRAH

And now here we are and its almost time for the Rat Pack. So were going to go to that but thanks for joining us for this special Star Trek Las Vegas edition of Women at Warp. And my name is Jarrah and just want to remind you before we go about the Women at Warp Patreon. You can help support us doing this kind of reporting, and we've also been, you know, taking photos and doing interviews and posting Storifys or live tweeting throughout this convention, and that's thanks largely to our lovely patrons' support. You can help support that work at patreon.com/womenatwarp. That's patreon.com/womenatwarp. Andi, where can people find you elsewhere on the internet?

ANDI

Easiest place to find me is on Twitter @FirstTimeTrek, where I'm live tweeting my first time through Star Trek,

JARRAH

And Grace.

GRACE

You can find me on Twitter @bonecrusherjenk and for the next 12 hours...Margaritaville

JARRAH

And Sue.

SUE

You can find me on Twitter @spaltor, that's S-P-A-L-T-O-R or at anomaly podcast.com
And if you want to find me in person you can do so at 50 year mission Cherry Hill at the end of August, or at Dragon Con in Atlanta at the beginning of September, and Grace and Andi will also be at Geek Girl Con in October.

JARRAH

And I'm Jarrah. You can find me on Twitter @jarrahpenguin or on Tumblr at trekkiefeminist.tumblr.com. You can also contact our podcast itself at crew@womenatwarp.com, or you can find us on Facebook or Twitter @womenatwarp. Have a great night.