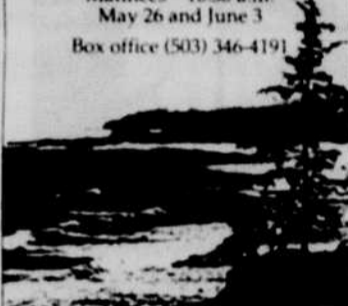


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**TREK**  
Continued from Page 7

Now, *Star Trek* fan clubs are just as serious as the conventions. Every town is called a starbase, so it's the Portland Starbase. Every club in Portland is a starship. Portland's first club is called the U.S.S. Phoenix.

Kathryn Braeme-Burr, co-founder of the first Portland club and member for 10 and a half years, describes the club as a lot more than a bunch of people getting together to watch *Star Trek*.

"It's set up like the military on a starship," Braeme-Burr said. "You start out at the bottom and make points by doing things for the club like writing in the newsletter, setting up speakers and working on the conventions. Then you get promoted. I just made commander."

Braeme-Burr met her husband in the club while other members have grown to become each other's best friends.

"There is a lot more going on than just *Star Trek*," Braeme-Burr said.

Two auctions of rare *Star Trek* stuff, two blooper films, a costume contest and a trivia game later, the lights dimmed. We watched a video of Q's scenes from various *Star Trek* episodes to the tune of "Bad to the Bones"

by George Thorogood before John de Lancie came on stage to answer questions.

A 25-year acting veteran, de Lancie devotes his time to movies and guest starring positions, which he calls 'freelancing,' and teaching acting.

Star struck fans asked de Lancie questions about being on the show, playing Q and working with the cast. He added a sense of reality to ideas he believed the audience had.

"For you, I'm sure it would be the greatest thing to happen to you, to be on *Star Trek*," de Lancie said. "But for me it's just work. We all get paid to wait, not act. Everyone has their own routine and I'm not a part of it."

When questions turned to acting, de Lancie started sharing acting techniques as if he were teaching a class, using his work as Q as an example.

"The secret is to keep a window in the character where the audience can do the other half of the work," de Lancie said. "It's like running a marathon. If I pass the baton just right, you'll run the rest of the race and usually run further than I ever intended you go. You all have your own perceptions of Q as a result."

After an hour on stage, de Lancie answered the last question—how he came to play Q, the bad

boy of the continuum.

A few years back, one of the producers of *The Next Generation* was in the hospital with quadruple bypass surgery when de Lancie was a regular on *Days of Our Lives*.

"At one o'clock the hospital slowed to a stop," de Lancie said. "He watched every day and told me 'You made me laugh when I thought I was going to die. I swore that if there was any way I could get that actor back for that gift, I would.' So he asked me to audition for Q."

A *Star Trek* convention is an experience. It's place where you meet new people, catch up on gossip about your favorite science fiction shows, not just *Star Trek*, see everyone's costumes, meet an actor or actress and maybe learn a thing or two about getting into the business yourself.

*Star Trek* conventions are put on by private companies separate from Paramount Studios and the producers of *Star Trek*.

Pamela Rimington and her company Infinite Visions put together this month's show, her first show on the West Coast.

"Turn out is low on your first visit to a region," Rimington said. "It will be better next time after I get a mailing list together of everyone who attended this time."

**GRUNGIES**  
Continued from Page 8

Bathtub Gin is starting to get a lot of outside help where marketing and management are concerned, Martinez said.

But they're not giving up creative control, or their willingness to scrub, chop and shovel in the daytime to make music that matters to them.

"We're trying to do things our way instead of letting other people dictate our course," Martinez said.

Pocket Full of Empty, which also was featured in the NAMA showcases, subscribes to the same blue-collar ethic.

Guitarist and lead singer Theron Stevenson works days in the Starbucks coffee-roasting plant. Stevenson moved from Spokane to attend the University of Washington in Seattle, then "started getting more into playing music and decided I couldn't do both of them."

Lead guitarist Steve Faucher, who attended Spokane's Lewis and Clark High School with Stevenson, joined him in Seattle, where he now works at Kinko's copies. Bassist Timm Shere works as a delivery driver for Pizza Hut, and drummer Tony Leamer here it is works in investments for Safeco Insurance Co.

"He's the guy that wears a suit," Stevenson said.

The group plays a housewive style of grunge that's hard enough for most any Seattle audience and varied enough, with Stevenson and Faucher trading guitar licks, to keep the moshers interested.

Pocket Full of Empty is taking about a month off from playing live to write songs and develop the act, then hopes to be able to develop a strong local following, Stevenson said.

Four-piece group Thinkfeed had a bit of a dilemma in their NAMA show. Singer Rafe Pearlman missed his ferry after a weekend of reflection across Puget Sound from Seattle, and the band had to put on an unaccustomed instrumental show.

They acquitted themselves well. In fact, the crowd's response to guitarist Scott Ralston's strong-arm barre-chord slice and drummer Kent Rountree's frustration-fueled pounding was perhaps the most enthusiastic for any band that night. They especially liked it when Rountree beat an expensive splash cymbal into shapeless submission.

Ralston works in construction by day, Pearlman sells his arts-and-crafts creations, bassist Tim Devine works at a Kidd Valley fast-food restaurant and Rountree spends his time playing his drums and beating the hell out of them," Ralston said.

"We want to take it as far as it will go," Ralston said. "If it will get big and go big then we'd love to do that."

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