

A Tale of Two Jacks

Battlestar Fan Club President Shawn O'Donnell had the opportunity to sit down with Jack Stauffer (Bojay of the original series), as Jack had one of his famous stories to tell from his years of experience working in the entertainment business.

Please visit him at www.jackstaufferbojay.com you'll be sure to find it a fun site.

Jack relates for us now this humorous tale of working with Jack Lord on the set of Hawaii 5-0...

JS: The famous Jack Lord Story!

I have to think back in my head and remember when all this happened...it was after Galactica, actually I think it was in 1979, so it was a pretty lucrative year!

I needed to go to Hawaii to do an episode of Hawaii 5-0, I was going to play Andrew Duggan's son....I had done a 5-0 years before, I had met Jack Lord, but I had never really spent that much time on the set with him.

What was fun was that this was at the last part of the golden age of perks...they flew you first class on a 747 into Honolulu.

The whole thing was shot in and around Labor day weekend...I went in on a Wednesday, started work on that Thursday was off Friday...and Saturday, Sunday and Monday everything was shut down and I went back to work on Tuesday.

Those were four free days in Hawaii that they had to pay me for!

Anyway, I played this sniveling, whining son of Andrew Duggan who had always felt oppressed and basically tries to kill his father.

Of course Jack Lord comes in and books me and all that shit at the end of it...anyway....

It was the last season and at that point Jack was pretty cantankerous and grumpy and a lot of people didn't like him.

I found him pleasant.

Anyway, I remember on the second day of shooting...I brought a camera with me, because you like

to take pictures and stuff.

So I went to the AD (Assistant Director) and he told me, "Don't you dare bring any cameras onto this set, if Jack Lord sees a camera on this set he's been known to smash them on the ground...doesn't like his picture taken...don't do it!"

So I thought, "Ok, I won't do it!"

Later on I'm shooting a scene with Jack Lord and Andrew Duggan and the scene's finished and Jack's standing there and I turn to him and say, "Mr. Lord, I keep a scrap book and I would very much like to have a photo of you and Mr. Duggan and myself."

And he couldn't have been nicer!

He was so gracious, he said "Of course, of course...I would love to have my picture taken with you!"

So I said, "Well, I have a camera.."

He said, "Well, give your camera to the AD...and the AD is standing there blinking away...so they took a couple of pictures, a picture of Jack with his arm around me another with me between him and Andrew Duggan and that sort of was the end of it...I thought.

So the next day we're back and they are shooting on the beach and I'm not in the scene...but we're out on location so everybody's there and I'm sitting on the beach.

Everyone's down by the water and the equipment is set up and all of a sudden from out of his trailer comes...Jack Lord.

He's looking like a Japanese tourist, with like four cameras around his neck and he's looking around wildly.

Well of course when he stepped out of his trailer...everybody ran!

Then he comes striding down to the beach, looking around and then points at me and says "Come here!"

And I said "Oh shit! I'm fired!"

Then he says again, "Come here! I want you to go out there," he says pointing at the water..."you see

that rock out there in the surf?"

I said "Yes, uh huh".

He says, " I want you to go out and sit on that rock!"

And so I go out...and now you have to realize that when Jack Lord came out on the set, everything ground to a halt, everything just stopped, the shooting stops and everyone is just standing around.

So he puts me out on this rock and he starts taking pictures!

"Sit this way on the rock!"

"Sit that way on the rock!"

"See a loved one off in the distance, wave to them!"

"Oh! There's a shark coming, look distressed, look distressed!"

So this goes on for fifteen or twenty minutes...with his cameras clicking away.

And everybody is standing around doing nothing.

Then he doesn't like the light and he goes and gets two of these reflector boards...he has stage hands move them over to where I'm sitting to put light on me and then he finishes taking all of these pictures.

He then turns and says, "Thank you!" and walks back up the beach and goes into his trailer.

And I'm sitting on the rock saying, "It's not my fault! I didn't do anything!"

So they come and get the reflector boards and everyone goes back to work and I stumble out of the surf and I go up to the AD and I said, "What was that?"

And the AD says, "I've been with this show for seven year and I have never seen anything like that".

I said, "What does it mean? What does it cost this company?".

He said it probably cost around \$60,000 to hold up production for that long.

So, we finished the show and Jack Lord was very nice to me and I was getting ready to leave on the last day of shooting, I did my scenes in the morning and was leaving later in the day and as I was getting ready to leave, I check in with the AD to let him know and he says "Yes, but Jack Lord wants to see you!".

So I said, "Oh, ok" and I went over and knocked on his trailer and he opens the door and comes out and throws his arms around me and kissed me on the forehead.

Then he said, "I hope I see you again and I'm going to mail you all the pictures."

Well, I never saw the pictures and that was the last year of the show and I never saw him again!

I flew back home with Andrew Duggan and on the plane Andrew just looks at me and says

"Amazing, simply amazing!"

And that's the Jack Lord story...