“President Obama is a Trekkie.”

At least so said the headlines late last week after actress Nichelle Nichols, who played communications officer Lt. Uhura in the Star Trek TV show and movies from 1966 to 1991, appeared at the White House and was photographed with the president giving the Vulcan “live long and prosper” salute. Obama never said specifically if he prefers Star Trek over Star Wars, but the photo’s implications have generated a flame war online between the two camps.

This comes after William Shatner, Capt. Kirk from Trek, and Carrie Fisher, Princess Leia from Wars, traded online insults with each other late last year about the merits of the two franchises. Shatner fired the first salvo: “Star Wars is derivative of Star Trek by 10, 15, 20 years.” Fisher — looking older and frazzled than Shatner, who is 81 years older to her 55 — followed that with this jab: “My space buns are so much better than [Leonard] Nimoy’s ears.” In a response video, Shatner shows off his biceps and then goes on to say, “You (Star Wars) guys forgot about story, and character and plot development.”

The whole thing almost got way out of hand — Shatner insinuated, with a creepy hand gesture, that Fisher needs extra bra support — before being mediated by diplomat George Takei, who played Sulu from Trek. “Fellow star folks, cool it down,” he said in his video response. “What’s needed now more than ever is star peace.” (He would later ask both sets of fans to point their rage at the Twilight franchise.)

The YouTube videos and the photo of Obama are further proof that this three-decades-and-growing rivalry between Star Wars and Star Trek is unlikely to find a resolution any time soon. It also proves that we as a people really enjoy arguing, election year or not. Here are some other feuds that just refuse to die.

— Michael Clawson