



DaVinci Pilot

Newsletter of the U.S.S. DaVinci
Columbus, Georgia

Volume 5 Number 8

FEBRUARY 2000

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Hello all! I hope you have recovered from the holiday season and that the New Year is being kind to you. The holidays in the Heller home went quite nicely even though I was sick the week leading up to Christmas. Anyway, on to ship's business.

I have scheduled a highway clean up for Saturday, February 5th at 9:00 AM. The meeting location will be the usual place -- the Burger King near the intersection of Veterans Parkway and the North Bypass. As always, we will meet for breakfast and then spend a few hours picking up the trash left by the litter idiots. Our last clean up was well attended and I would love to see another good turnout, even though the weather will be a little colder. So, when you do come, dress for the cold.

As of press time, there will be a membership drive on Saturday, February 12th at Waldenbooks inside Peachtree Mall. It will last from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM. What I need are volunteers to man the table. I would prefer those who have either a uniform or DaVinci shirt to help out. (If you do not have either, that does not mean you cannot lend a hand.) This is probably one of the most important drives the DaVinci will have since our very first one 4 years ago. I now send out only 20 newsletters, which go to 36 total members! Just six months ago, I sent out over 30 newsletters. We have lost quite a few members due to moving and non-renewal. We need to build the membership back up.

Okay, this calls for a contest! Whoever brings the most members into the club by the February meeting will win something from the Captain's Trek Closet! So, now go out and recruit, recruit, recruit! Thanks.

FCPT Freddy Heller

SICK BAY

Y2K Flu Bug: Don't Catch It!

Of course you have all heard by now about the bugs: Y2K, flu, etc. Well, only one is really hazardous to your health: the flu bug. Officially known as influenza, the flu this year has everyone (or so it seems) in its grasp. Hospitals in lower Alabama are reporting having to turn away patients because their beds are full. This flu is THAT serious.

You know the remedy: lots of fluids, bed rest, and medications as prescribed by your physician. Some over-the-counter medicines are helpful, such as Thera Flu or my personal favorite, Alka Seltzer Plus Cough and Cold. Take your choice, with your doctor's advice of course.

Better yet, avoid the flu if you can. Y2K Flu Bug ---don't let it catch YOU! Plenty of vitamin C, found in citrus juices such as orange and tomato will be a benefit. Also, that time-tested and-true good old-fashioned chicken soup (NOT for the soul: Vulcan, Christian, Romulan, or whatever) is great on those cold winter days when you are not feeling up to par (I prefer something a little more tasty, like Clam Chowder, New England Style. Campbell's is best!).

LTCMDR Steve Gordon
Shuttle Shadow Hawk

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY THE
17TH OF FEBRUARY AT 7:00 PM AT
THE CAPTAIN'S HOUSE.
COME ONE COME ALL!**

TREK BUZZ

In case you missed it, Entertainment Weekly ranked the hundred greatest entertainers of the past fifty years. Star Trek placed in the number 33 slot.

Spacehab Inc. and its partner RSC Energia are building a module for the planned International Space Station. Their module, which includes crew quarters and experimental space, is being named Enterprise after Star Trek. The company plans to have a corresponding web site devoted to the module. The module is not expected to be ready for several years

The Hirogen will be returning in a February episode guest-starring WWF wrestler The Rock as a Hirogen.

The forthcoming Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda TV series will have coverage of 80 percent of the US market, in 87 cities, when it debuts next year.

Walter Koenig and Nichelle Nichols are on the advisory board of GalaxyOnline.com, a new science fiction online entertainment network. GalaxyOnline was scheduled to debut 1 January.

William Shatner has signed on for another two years as spokesperson for Priceline.com, while James Doohan has signed on to be spokesperson for PayPal.com.

Marina Sirtis and husband Michael Lamper recently purchased the Casa Coyotes restaurant in Lake Arrowhead Village, California.

Marina is also shooting a movie next summer in England titled Meg Foster.

LeVar Burton was named honorary mayor of Sherman Oaks, California, in December. The honor was for "15 years of dedicated service to the community." LeVar is the town's first-ever honorary mayor.

A Sci-Fi Wire report noted that according to Brannon Braga, the only question about whether Voyager will make it back to Earth is whether it happens as a final episode of the series, or earlier to allow their return to play out over multiple episodes.

Canadian TV Guide this week features articles of the best television has had to offer this past century. Under the top ten television pioneers who made television what it is today, Gene Roddenberry placed third, between Jim Henson and Aaron Spelling.

Thanks to Dateline: Starfleet for the information!

PASSAGES

Stephen Edward Poe died at age 63 on 6 January. Under the pen name, "Stephen Whitfield," Poe co-wrote the classic book, "The Making of Star Trek" in 1968 with Gene Roddenberry. Amazingly, this wonderful book is still in print 32 years later. During the last few years, Poe fought leukemia. During his struggle, Poe wrote his final book, "Vision of the Future: The Making of Star Trek Voyager."

**NEXT DaVINCI NIGHT WILL BE AT
SHONEY'S ON AIRPORT THRUWAY
ON FEBRUARY 7TH AT 7:00 PM
Y'ALL COME!**

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY THE
17TH OF FEBRUARY AT 7:00 PM AT
THE CAPTAIN'S HOUSE.
COME ONE COME ALL!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to the following DaVinci personnel and Star Trek celebrities and events who are celebrating birthdays in February!

Brent Spiner (Data)	2 nd
Ethan Phillips (Neelix)	8 th
CMDR Connie Heller	14 th
LeVar Burton (LTCMDR Geordi LaForge)	16 th
Michelle Forbes (ENS Ro Laren)	17 th
Gary Lockwood (LT Gary Mitchell)	21 st
Jeri Ryan (Seven of Nine)	22 nd
Majel Barrett Roddenberry (Lwaxana Troi)	23 rd
Chase Masterson (Leeta the Dabo Girl)	26 th
Barbara Babcock (Voice of Loskene, Trelane's Mother, Isis the Cat, and others)	27 th

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	51.32
Deposit	27.00
Closing Balance	78.32

CMDR Connie Heller

BROWSING THE WEB

Think the Star Wars crowd is not Trek fans? Did you catch the Enterprise flying around in Phantom Menace? Look carefully in the night scene where Queen Amidala tells Palpatine that she is going back to Naboo. Well, check it for yourself at http://www.theforce.net/prequels/hidden_stuff_page_11.shtml and become a believer.

Tired of not knowing when your favorite show is airing? Well, now you can find out when and much more. Just go to <http://www.sftv.org/sftv/sftv.html> and browse through the numerous listings!

BROWSING THE SKY

The year 2000 is looking to be one of many sky events on our big blue ball. For instance, there are 10 major meteor showers for starters. Here is a list of the major events and the approximate times and dates.

The meteor showers:

Quadrantids	04-06 Jan	0530-0600
Lyrids	22-24 Apr	0320-0340
Eta Aquarids	03-07 May	0300-0330
Delta Aquarids	26-29 Jul	0200-0230
Perseids	11-13 Aug	0315-0335
Orionids	19-22 Oct	0420-0435
Southern Taurids	04-06 Nov	0030-0045
Northern Taurids	10-12 Nov	0030-0045
Leonids	15-17 Nov	0510-0530
Geminids	12-15 Dec	0140-0200

Eclipse

Lunar	20 Jan	1001-0125
Solar {partial}	05 Feb	North America
Solar {partial}	01 July	South America
Lunar	16 July	Western USA to Japan
Solar {partial}	25 Dec	North America

FUNDRAISER

CRMN Randy Dunn has found some nice plastic Star Wars cups. They are made by Applause and come in the following designs: Stormtrooper, C3PO, Ewok, and Darth Vader. Purchase a cup for \$2.00 and the club gets \$1.50!v5t

NIGHTS OUT SET FOR 2000

At the January meeting the members suggested restaurants then drew names from the hat for the following Night Out locations:

- February – Shoney's on Airport Thruway
- March – Mazzio's Pizza on Macon Road
- April – China Buffet on Macon Road
- May – Bonanza
- June – Philly's
- July – None; big July 4 party instead
- August – China Moon
- September – Golden Corral
- October – Pizza Hut on Manchester Expressway
- November – Applebee's on University
- December – Burger King Depot

Now, see what you miss by not coming to the meetings?

FUNDRAISER

CRMN Randy Dunn has found some nice plastic Star Wars cups. They are made by Applause and come in the following designs: Stormtrooper, C3PO, Ewok, and Darth Vader. Purchase a cup for \$2.00 and the club gets \$1.50!v5t

DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer Freddy Heller 562-TREK

Executive Officer Joe Perry 327-5888
Finance Connie Heller 562-8735
Community Service Teri Massoud 568-9943
Publications Freddy Heller 562-8735

Science Officer VACANT
Counselor JoAnne Vazquez 563-9185
Morale VACANT
Medical Emma Certo 582-3442

Engineering Officer VACANT
Communications Karen Baker 323-4217
Quartermaster Randy Dunn 291-0150
Security Zach Farley 682-0140

Cadet Corps Commander VACANT

Master Chief Petty Officer VACANT