



DaVinci Pilot

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

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FROM THE CENTER SEAT

The Columbus Game and Hobby expo was a resounding success! The folks at the Space Science Center were kind enough to allow us a membership table. All we had to do is to help out in what ever way they needed. Usually, that meant just watching the back door for folks wanting to get in without paying. Although not as well attended as the show in March (300 attended versus 500 the last time), the powers that be at Columbus State still consider the weekend a success. A BIG Bajoran thanks to Dutch Cummings and Brett Stanelli, the work horses behind the expo, for inviting the DaVinci for a second time. I spoke to Dutch on the telephone and he told me some interesting tidbits of information. Because of big budget cuts mandated by the State of Georgia, the Space Science Center may not be open on Sundays beginning the first of the New Year (Joe, you can now take a nap on Sunday afternoon). What this means is that the next Columbus game and Hobby Expo, scheduled for 2-3 April, may now be only one day. But, what a day it might be! More details to come but for now just think of midnight or possibly all night. So how did the DaVinci do in recruiting new crew personnel? We picked up one new member and had several other individuals who were real interested in joining the DaVinci. We might even pick up one of our previous members who had to drop out several years ago because of personal reasons. Most of you should remember Connie Fisher. Well she wants to rejoin the DaVinci family sometime this month or next! A BIG Bajoran thanks to all those crew personnel who lent a hand over the weekend: on Saturday it was Russell, Joe, Frazier, Stacy, Stephanie, Roger, Connie, and Ariana and on Sunday it was Joe.

The DaVinci's 8th annual Help-the-Hooch river clean-up was one of the biggest attended. Over 15 DaVinci crew personnel and their guests helped pick up trash along the banks of the Chattahoochee River Walk. The event itself had nearly 11,000 volunteers, the largest turnout since Help-the-Hooch began! Our section of the river walk had more folks assigned to it than in years past. By the time we started to walk the route, another team was just finishing up. We knew that we could do much better and that prophecy certainly came true by the time we finished 90 minutes later!



The DaVinci Crew and its collection of trash!

We amassed more cans, bottles, plastic, and various trash than we have in the past several years. Among some of the odd items found were two basketballs, a chair, part of a basketball goal, part of a trampoline, large sections of plastic pipe, and a very old, rusty, and mangles water heater! Many of the items found were discovered by our very own Rose Hutson who made a point of searching through bushes, brambles, weeds, trees, and over rocks to find what ever did not belong. On several

occasions she bolted from the group and disappeared into the overgrowth, her eagle eyes spotting a piece of trash! I am sure that Rose's husband and kids, who watched in amazement as Rose disappeared into a thicket and reappeared with some interesting piece of discarded item, wondered if they would ever see their wife and mother again!

After several unavoidable cancellations and rescheduling, the Star Wars marathon of Episodes 4, 5, and 6 finally took place! We did not have a good turn-out but had a lot of fun nonetheless. We even managed to pick up a new member! Stephanie Harris brought a friend who asked for an application following the last movie. She plans on joining the DaVinci family.

RADML Freddy Heller

STARFLEET FINAL

Karen Pynenburg wrote a wonderful article about Starfleet and Trek fans in general for her English Composition class. Many of you were interviewed for the information it contains. I thought I would share it with you. This month will conclude the paper.

POINTED EARS & GOLDEN HEARTS, PT II

Three major Fleet wide charities are The Overseas Coupon Program, The Ronald McDonald House Charities and The Starfleet Stampede. For the Overseas Coupon Program the members of Starfleet collect manufacturer coupons from newspapers and other sources. These coupons are sent to selected military bases overseas, to help defray grocery costs for the military families there. Pop tabs are collected and, along with food and toiletry items, donated to The Ronald McDonald house. When individual clubs turn in up to 53,000 tabs at a time, the collective tally goes a long way in helping Ronald help the children. The Starfleet Stampede program focuses on collecting cancelled stamps and selling these stamps to collectors through a central distributor. The money from this program funds various charities. Regions are active in charity work as well. Part of every summit is an auction and one or two other fundraisers. The proceeds from these activities are donated to charities such as The American Cancer Society, The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation or one of many other worthwhile

causes.

Since the individual chapters are the backbone of the regions, and thereby the Fleet, this is where most charitable activities are found. Starfleet chapters are very active around the Holidays. Blankets, coats and clothing are collected and donated to those in need. Gifts are gathered and donated to nursing homes, children's homes and needy families. Christmas stockings are assembled and Christmas trees are sponsored or decorated and donated to children's hospitals and the Salvation Army. Families are adopted and given the Holiday they would not have had otherwise.

Holidays are not the only time the members of Starfleet are busy. In activities such as Relay For Life, Starfleet members are found either participating in the relay directly or having fun manning the first aid and water tables. Members man phones at public television pledge drives. They volunteer at pet stores, animal shelters, thrift shops, air and space centers, science museums and the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall. Chapters work with Habitat for Humanity and even gather to paint the house of a needy family. Educational programs are assisted with Box Tops and Soup Labels for Education and volunteers for summer reading programs at local libraries. Highways are adopted, parks are cleaned, blood is donated and blood drive tables are manned. Donations are made to cerebral palsy and diabetes foundations, as well as many other organizations. Our service men and women are far from forgotten. Military units are adopted and care packages sent overseas. Starfleet's Eagle Squadron, consisting of 27 chapters and 22 (at present) individuals, has been recognized by the Secretary's of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force, the commanding officers of the army's 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, the U.S.M.C. 31st Marine Expeditionary Force, and the Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Army and U.S. Central Command, for its support of the troops.

Whatever his age the Starfleet member is young at heart. Whatever his heritage, he is a member of the family. Whatever his interests, they are enjoyed by many. Without even one of their "jobs", the chain that keeps the world running smoothly is broken. They are not recognized as Starfleet members without their costumes. With their costumes, they are thought to be somewhat kooky. This is fine – Van Gough, Beethoven and Einstein were a bit off

the wall as well. Like Van Gough, Beethoven and Einstein, Starfleet members are taking an active part in recognizing how strangely wonderful our little part of the universe is. In doing so, they are making sure that future generations will be able to enjoy an even more beautiful world. This fun loving, diverse group of people is pitching in to make a world where no one is in desperate need, where everyone fits in and all will be able to "Live Long and Prosper". Qapla Starfleet.

LTJG Karen Pynenburg

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to the following DaVinci personnel and Star Trek celebrities and events that are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in November!

LTJG George Pimentel	1 st
Sputnik II with Laika the Dog Launched (1957)	3 rd
Armin Shimerman (Quark)	5 th
Eric Menyuk (The Traveler)	5 th
First Transcontinental Airplane Trip (1911)	5 th
Alfre Woodard (Lily)	8 th
Robert Duncan McNeill (LT Tom Paris)	9 th
CADET Maxwell Walker	11 th
Wallace Shawn (Grand Nagus Zek)	12 th
Max Grodenchik (Rom)	12 th
Whoopi Goldberg (Guinan)	13 th
Mariner 9 Orbits Mars (1971)	13 th
Skylab III Launches for 84-Day Mission (1973)	16 th
Lunokhod I Lands on Moon (1970)	17 th
Star Trek Generations Premiers (1994)	18 th
Terry Farrell (LTCMDR Jadzia Dax)	19 th
Robert Beltran (CMDR Chakotay)	19 th
Alexander Siddig (Dr. Julian Bashir)	21 st
ENS JoAnne Vazquez	22 nd
Star Trek: First Contact Premiers (1996)	22 nd
Dwight Schultz (LT Barcaly)	24 th
Denise Crosby (LT Natasha Yar)	24 th
Ricardo Montalban (Khan Noonian Singh)	25 th
Jeffrey Hunter (CPT Pike)	25 th
Star Trek IV Premiers (1986)	26 th

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks goes out to: Patsy Carey from Central High School for the large donations of tabs.

TREK AND SCI-FI BUZZ

Star Trek star Patrick Stewart is recovering at home after undergoing an angioplasty procedure to widen an artery. Angioplasty involves the use of catheters to place a small balloon in a narrowed blood channel. When the balloon is inflated, the artery flows more freely. The 64-year-old Stewart - who played Captain Jean-Luc Picard in Star Trek: The Next Generation went in for an annual physical where doctors detected a blood-flow problem and recommended "pre-emptive angioplasty" to head off any future ailments. The procedure was a success and Stewart is resting before returning to work, where he plans to finish the upcoming movie "The Game of Their Lives." He will also start voice over work on the Fox TV animated series American Dad."

Perpetual Entertainment, Inc. announced that it has secured the exclusive worldwide rights from Viacom Consumer Products to develop and publish a massively multiplayer online game based on Paramount Pictures' Star Trek franchise. The license encompasses all live-action motion pictures and television series including, Star Trek: The Original Series, Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager, and Star Trek: Enterprise. The game will deliver action, adventure and combat mechanics unique to persistent world games. Its design includes a rich array of solo and multiplayer missions set in space, on planets and in Starbase's throughout the universe. At launch, it will take place during the 24th century timeline in the series with other aspects of the Star Trek universe to be interwoven and added through expansions.

DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLOS

If you had not heard by now, the new shipment of DaVinci t-shirts are in! The shirts run from \$9.00 for S-XL and \$11.00 for XX and up. See Freddy if you want a shirt. Plenty of extra shirts were ordered.

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 4th AT 7:00 PM
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE COME.**

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

At the December meeting, the 2003 Night Out locations were selected. We have some familiar locations and some new spots as well. And so, without further ado, here are the 2004 Night Out locations: (sigh....no pizza; no Hooter's). New night out locations will be chosen soon. There will be a new voting process as well. Look for the details in next month's Pilot.

December: Hunan's

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	536.08
T-shirts	399.28
Deposit	130.95
Closing Balance	283.48

CPT Connie Heller

WELCOME ABOARD!

Welcome aboard to the following crew personnel who have recently joined or renewed their membership in the DaVinci (D) or Starfleet (S).

Gisela Stephens (S)

Joe Perry (S)

FINALLY...

Many of you do not know when your membership in the DaVinci is due for renewal because most of the newsletters now go out via email. If you get your newsletter the old fashioned way, your expiration date is on the address label. Those going via email have no address label. So, to help those folks out, here are your expiration dates for the DaVinci and Starfleet:

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
Robert Crosby	Dec-04	
Karen Ferris	Sep 05	
Tony Fleming	Jul 05	Jun 05
Stacy Harris	Apl 05	Apl 05
Craig Harrison	Aug 05	Aug 05
Rose Hutson	Sep 04	
Fred Kemp	Mar 04	Mar 05
Todd Kes	Sep 05	
Lesh Mazur	Jul 05	Mar 05

Carl Olsen	Feb 05	
Joe Perry	Jul 05	Nov 05
George Pimentel	Jul 05	Jun 05
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 05	May 05
Russell Ruhland	Aug 05	Aug 05
Frazier Smith	Feb 05	Apl 05
Joanne Vazquez	Apl 05	May 04
Michael Walker	Mar 05	Mar 05
Shannon Wells	Apl 05	
Roger Wright	Jul 06	May 05

DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer	Freddy Heller	562-8735
Executive Officer	Russell Ruhland	298-3998
Operations Officer	Joe Perry.....	327-5888
Finance	Connie Heller	562-8735
Community Service	Tony Fleming	568-6529
Publications	Stephanie Harris	682-5615
Science Officer	Lech Mazur	596-9542
Computer Science	Stacy Harris	682-5615
Counselor	Russell Ruhland	298-3998
Medical	VACANT	
Morale	VACANT	
Engineering Officer	VACANT	
Communications	Gisela Stephens	689-4266
Quartermaster	Randy Dunn	291-0150
Security	Roger Wright	687-8052
Marine OIC	Frazier Smith	298-5047
Cadet Corps Commander	VACANT	
Master Chief Petty Officer	VACANT	

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AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE COME.**

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT THE OLIVE GARDEN!!
ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 15th AT 7:00 PM
COME ONE COME ALL!**

THE USS DAVINCI IN PHOTOS

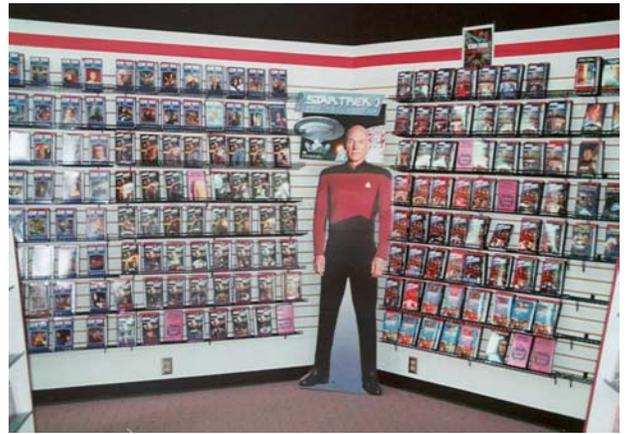
I thought y'all would enjoy a look down memory lane. Each month I will show a series of pictures from our very beginning up until the present time. Many of you will remember these faces. To others they will be complete strangers. But, they made what the USS DaVinci is today. Enjoy! Reminiscence.



Joe Perry and Travis Heller manning the table at a membership drive at the Phenix City Blockbuster Video (24 May 1997)



Joe Perry at a membership drive at the Phenix City Movie Gallery (24 May 1997)



Jean-Luc standing guard over the Star Trek video collection!



The excited and wide awake crew before the start of the Star Trek movie marathon. Yes, that really is Karen Ferris sitting on the couch giving a dual Vulcan hand salutes! (04 July 1997)



And so it begins, Friday at 7:00 PM.



Travis Heller did not make it (2:00 AM)



And neither did Tim Atkins!



Patty Williams trying to hide a yawn!



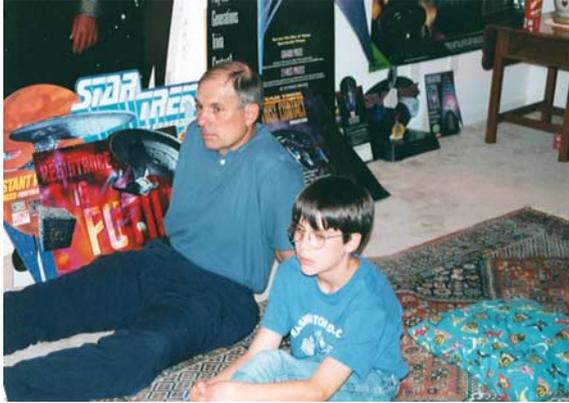
Connie Heller wondering when this will ever end!



Joe Perry responds to Spock greeting.



Joe Perry, Connie Heller, and Joanne Vazquez take a break



Sam Schiro and his son Tim wonder when the credits from First Contact will arrive.



Saturday morning at 11:00 AM!