

DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 10 Number 7

JANUARY 2005

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

The annual Thanksgiving get together was a great success. It was also a sad time as this was one of the last times that Rose Hutson and her family will be attending any DaVinci events. If you did not know by now, Rose's husband, Johnny, was offered a job in Arlington, Texas. The dinner was not as well attended as past events but we, nonetheless, had a good time. There was plenty of ham, turkey, stuffing, corn, macaroni and cheese, green salad, macaroni salad, bread, pies, ice cream, and munchies to go around. Thanks to all who attended and made this event so special.

The DaVinci had a membership drive at Walden Books. The mall opened early so we set up the table inside Walden Books around 8:00 AM. The mall did not really become busy until its normal opening hour of 10:00 AM. We had very few folks drop by to chat. A couple of folks seemed really interested in the club and took the information I gave them. Whether they call me back is something we will wait to see. A BIG Bajoran thanks to Stacy and Stephanie who helped man the table and to the folks at Walden Books who said we can come back anytime we wished. Oh, for those of you who are interested in this sort of thing, the manager informed me that Border Books has purchased Walden Books and that they are slowly reorganizing the store to Border Books standards. Renaming the store Border Books remains to be seen.

Our 8th annual Christmas party and dinner was a resounding success! What a great time everyone had! Of course we feasted on the usual turkey, ham, dressing sweet potato casserole, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, salad, bread, and more desserts than you can throw a stick at. Once everyone had

finished the last bit of dessert, we had drawings for door prizes as well as a special prize donated by Russell – the new Star Wars boxed set! Tony, Margaret, Todd, Gisela, and Russell each won an international Santa. Joe won a box of Danish Butter cookies, Leiko won a box of chocolate covered cherries as well as the Star Wars boxed set (this was Leiko's special day as she finally received her promotion certificate to Acting Ensign), Stacy and Stephanie won a large candy cane, and Roger won the latest Communicator. Also, several movie posters were handed out thanks to a kind donation from Randy. Following the door prizes the crew changed locales from the Great Room to the back television room to open the gag gifts. Not everyone participated in the exchange, but those who did received some unique gifts. Randy picked up a View Master with a Sesame Street sheet, Tony was the lucky recipient of a Pickup and Reaching tool (great for highway cleanups), Lesh loved his ceramic potato and "Shoot or be Shot" DVD (starring the illustrious William Shatner), Gisela added to her cup collection by selecting two C3PO mugs, Russell selected the book "Davy", Roger received a crocheted Kleenex box cover, Todd was quite excited about his blindfold and ties (promising to put them to good use), and Freddy's ream of paper will come in quite handy printing out the next issue of the Pilot or when the toilet paper runs out. We were all disappointed that Lesh did not recycle his gift from last year but we also understood his reluctance to do so! I have to apologize to all the folks who left before we had a chance to draw for the 2005 Night Out locations. I forgot all about it. The selections were made, however, but with a much smaller crowd than I had originally hoped for. The final list can be found below. A BIG Bajoran thanks to all who came to the celebration.

Well, you would think that that the great Christmas party would have been a good way to round out the old year, but we have one more event this year. Yes, it is the long-awaited Lord of the Rings extended versions marathon and New Year's Eve party! It will be held at Stacy and Stephanie's house in Hamilton on December 31st beginning at high noon! Joe will supply the drinks but all who attend need to feed the kitty to repay him. If you want to bring your own drink that is fine. Also, we need for everyone who attends to bring some kind of snack (chips, nachos, pretzels, etc.) enough for about 15 people. Sometime after the second movie we will take a well-needed dinner break and hit the new Chinese buffet in Hamilton. Directions to the Harris residence is on the last page.

RADMIL Freddy Heller

EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

OK, directly from Cyberslayer.Co.Uk, we have for your reading pleasure the top twenty things that never happen on Star Trek. You can take these with however many grains of quardro, uh, quartro, eh, quinto, oh what the hey, alien wheat you want so here goes:

20) Most things that are new or in some way unexpected.

19) Data is fired from his high ranking position for not being able to understand the most basic nuances of about one in three sentences that anyone says to him.

18) Wesley Crusher gets beaten up by his classmates for being a smarty, and consequently has to go at making some friends of his own age for a change.

17) The warp engines start acting up a bit but seem to sort themselves out after a while without any help from Wesley Crusher.

16) Counselor Troi states something other than the blindingly obvious.

15) The Enterprise successfully ferries an alien VIP from one place to another without a serious incident.

14) Kirk (or Riker) falls in love with a woman on a planet he visits and isn't tragically separated from her at the end of the episode.

13) The Enterprise visits an earth-type planet called "Paradise" where everyone is happy all the time;

however, everything is soon revealed to be exactly what it seems.

12) Enterprise is captured by a vastly inferior alien intelligence which they easily pacify by offering it some sweeties.

11) Enterprise is captured by a vastly superior alien intelligence which does not put them on trial.

10) Enterprise runs into an energy field of a type it has encountered several times before.

9) Enterprise goes to visit an outpost of scientists, who are all perfectly alright.

8) Some of the crew visits the holodeck and it works properly.

7) The crew discovers a totally new life form, which later turns out to be a rather well-known life form wearing a funny hat.

6) The crew get afflicted by a mysterious plague, for which the only cure can be found in the well-stocked Enterprise sick bay.

5) The Captain has to make a difficult decision about a less advanced people which is made a great deal easier by the Starfleet Prime Directive.

4) A being of pure energy tries to interface with the Enterprise computer, only to find out it has forgotten to bring the right leads.

3) A power surge on the bridge is rapidly and correctly diagnosed as a faulty capacitor by the highly trained and competent engineering staff.

2) A major Starfleet emergency breaks out near the Enterprise, but fortunately some other ships are able to deal with it to everyone's satisfaction.

And, the number one reason this never happens of Star Trek.....

1) The Enterprise is involved in a bizarre time-warp experience which is in some way unconnected to the late 20th century.

More next month! Bye!

Commander Russell Ruhland

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE ON JANUARY 6th AT 7:00 PM
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE COME.**

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT RUBY TUESDAY ON
VETERAN'S PARKWAY ON MONDAY
JANUARY 17th AT 7:00 PM**

TREK AND SCI-FI BUZZ

Joss Whedon, writer and director of the upcoming SF movie Serenity, told the Whedonesque Web site that the film version of his canceled Fox TV show Firefly has been pushed back to Sept. 30, 2005, from its original April 22 opening date. "See, sometimes studios shuffle around release dates," Whedon told fans on the site.

After 8 years, more than 200 conventions, more than a million autographs for fans, Slanted Fedora Entertainment is closing for good. They are longer able to meet their financial obligations in order to keep going, and all planned conventions are cancelled.

Star Trek-style phasers should be issued to police officers so they can "temporarily switch people's brains off," according to a top Midland (UK) cop. Ian Arundale, Assistant Chief Constable of West Mercia Police, said the futuristic non-lethal firearm would make it easier for Bobbies to safely apprehend dangerous criminals. But he conceded that such sci-fi weaponry, as used by Captain Kirk and Mr Spock, would not be available "in my lifetime."

The first four seasons of Star Trek: Enterprise will be available on DVD throughout the coming year sources at Paramount recently said.

MSNBC recently compiled a list of the 10 most overrated stars. Guess who was at the top of the list? Yep, William Shatner. As they say in the very first paragraph: "Many actors have extended their careers as mediocre TV drama leads by making fun of themselves (like David Hasselhoff, Patrick Macnee, and especially Leslie Nielsen), but Shatner never really had to try." Ouch!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

First Woman in Space (Valentina Tereshkova 1969)	1 st
Deep Space Nine Premieres (1992)	2 nd
Mars Probe Spirit Lands on Mars (2004)	3 rd
Aron Eisenber (Nog)	6 th
First Around-the-World Trip by Commercial Plane (Pacific Clipper 1942)	6 th
Mark Allen Shepard (Morn)	7 th

Four of Jupiter's Moons Discovered (Galileo 1610)	7 th
Michelle Forbes (Ro Laren)	8 th
Last Probe Lands on Moon (Surveyor VII 1968)	9 th
CADET Jacob Sprouse	11 th
First Hispanic in Space (Franklin Chang-Diaz 1986)	12 th
Kirstie Alley (LT Saavik)	12 th
Voyager Premieres (1995)	16 th
CRMN Clint Hurst	17 th
DeForest Kelley (Dr. Leonard McCoy)	20 th
David Gerrold (Author & Script Writer)	21 st
LTJG Michael Walker	25 th
Mars Probe Opportunity Lands on Mars (2004)	25 th
James Cromwell (Zephram Cochrane)	27 th
Apollo I is Lost (1967)	27 th
Shuttle Challenger is Lost (1986)	28 th
Moon Probe Ranger VI is Launched (1964)	30 th
US Launches First Satellite (Explorer I 1958)	31 st
Apollo XIV is Launched (1971)	31 st

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

At the December Christmas party, the 2005 Night Out locations were selected. We had some familiar locations and some new spots as well. So without further ado, here are the 2005 locations. Bon appetit! Sorry no Hooter's again this year!

January	Ruby Tuesday (Veteran's Parkway)
February	Giddi's (Phenix City)
March	O'Charley's
April	Hunan's
May	Zaxby's
June	CiCi's Pizza
July	Country's on Broad
August	Olive Garden
September	El Vaquero (Phenix City)
October	Deorio's
November	Lieutenant's
December	Jason's Deli

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	394.55
Christmas	32.69
Deposit	56.03
Postage	6.85
Hutson farewell (Golden Corral)	25.94
Closing Balance	385.10

CPT Connie Heller

DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLOS

There are still plenty of DaVinci shirts available for purchase. If you do not have one get yours before your size is gone. 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.

PASSAGES

Elizabeth Rogers, who appeared in two episodes of Star Trek, passed away on November 6. Rogers died of complications from a series of strokes and lung cancer, according to reports. Ms. Rogers appeared in several movies and television shows throughout her career, including the hit film "An Officer and a Gentleman." Star Trek fans will remember the blonde actress as a sometime fill-in for Uhura on the Bridge as Lt. Palmer, specifically in the episodes "The Doomsday Machine" and "The Way to Eden." She also voiced the part of the Companion in "Metamorphosis."

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
Todd Kes	Sep 05	
Leiko Koone	Oct 05	Oct 05
Lech 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	
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	

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! Reminisce.



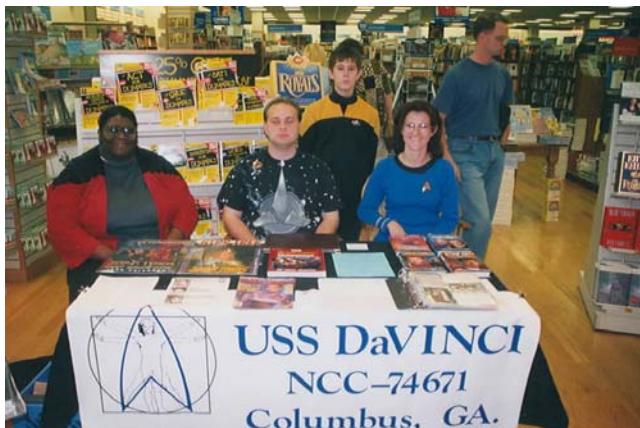
The gang playing – what else! – Chinese Checkers at a membership meeting (18 September 1997)



Patty gets a surprise autographed photo!



Captain Freddy and Joe Perry at a Walden Books membership drive (4 October 1997)



Patty Williams, Josh Ainsworth, Kalan Vazquez, and JoAnne Vazquez join in on the action.



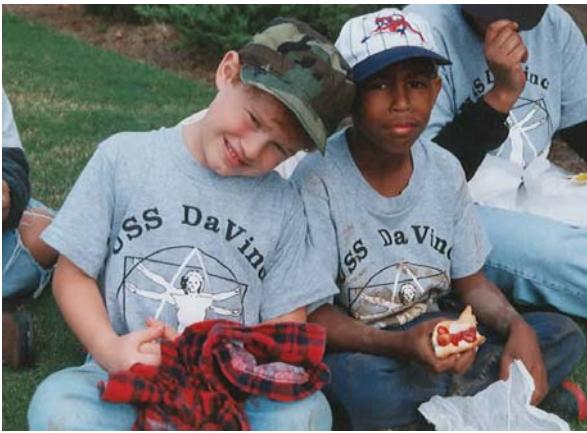
JoAnne tries in vain to get a couple of interested folks into the club.



A good turn-out for the very first DaVinci participation in the Help-the-Hooch River clean-up (18 October 1997)



Frazier Smith seems to be enjoying himself (or is that an "I am going to kill you for making me come" smile!)



Good friends Travis Heller and Malik Coles enjoy the free food at the gathering behind the ballpark.



Look what we got!

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JANUARY 17th AT 7:00 PM
COME ONE COME ALL!**

DIRECTIONS TO THE HARRIS'

1. Take Hwy 27 (Veteran's Parkway) to Hamilton.
2. Once in Hamilton, turn RIGHT at the first light.
3. Turn RIGHT at the Stop sign.
4. Turn LEFT at the four way stop.
5. Second house on the LEFT. It is the only brown house on the block and the second house with a fence.

