



DaVinci Pilot

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

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FEBRUARY 2005

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Happy New Year to everyone! I would like to send out a BIG Bajoran thanks to Stacy and Stephanie who were the gracious hosts for the DaVinci Lord of the Rings and New Year's Eve party. Unfortunately I was not able to attend but from what I heard, all who were present had a good time.

I am sorry I did not make the last meeting but I developed the 4-day case of the "honey, I do not feel good" illness. It hit me suddenly. One minute I was my happy self, the next, I was sweating, feverish, coughing, and very weak. Most of the "severe" symptoms only lasted a day but the weakness continued for about 3 more days. Anyway, I am feeling fine now. I hope Russell carried on well as my substitute.

One of the things I asked Joe to discuss was how to make the meetings more interesting. For a while now, the meetings were only a short prelude to going out to eat. In other words, a second Night Out. I want to get away from this and make the meetings more fun once the business portion is over. Perhaps it is the locale. I do know that since we stopped having the meetings at my house and began having them at the Ronald McDonald House, attendance at the meetings has fallen. One idea may be that we ask for volunteers to host the monthly meetings so that we meet at a different residence each month. Another idea is that we keep the "second Night Out" concept but instead of meeting at the Ronald McDonald House we meet at the restaurant. We could change the meeting to Saturday afternoon so that folks who cannot attend during the week because of work or school may now have an opportunity to do so. No matter where or when we decide to hold the meetings, the

question still remains on how to make the meetings more interesting. Some of the things suggested at the January meeting were trivia contests, games, and bringing back SPACE: The Game. If you have any comments on the above or perhaps suggestions of your own, please send me your thoughts via email or post office. As the saying goes, "together we can make a difference." Speaking of suggestions, read Russell's article!

We have a change in the February Night Out. The restaurant we chose, Gitti's Café, in Phenix City, is closed on Mondays. Fortunately during the Night Out selection process we drew one additional "just in case" locale. So, the February Night Out will be at Chili's. Please make note of this change.

Speaking of the Night Out, I have devised another special treat for those attending this monthly get together. Anyone who attends the Night Out will have their name put into the hat. One name will be drawn and that person's meal is compliments of the DaVinci's treasure trove. So, if you want the chance to win a free meal please join us on the third Monday of each month!

May the Prophets be with you.

RADML Freddy Heller

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WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 3rd AT 7:00 PM
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE COME.**

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT CHILI'S ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 21st AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**

EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

January's monthly general membership meeting touched on ideas to make the meetings more interesting, not to mention memorable for everyone attending. Beginning with the February meeting, after ship's business is discussed and along with all the usual sci-fi babble, we are initiating "Game Master" or "Gamester" of the month. What this involves is at each meeting, one of our crew members will volunteer (or be volunteered) to provide a gaming mission for the next meeting. I volunteered for the February meeting and so we will offer either Star Trek UNO or The Great Dalmuti. Whatever game is not selected for that month can be carried over to the next month if desired. One game will be played due to time constraints and the winner will be awarded a "Game Master of the Month" certificate and a small trophy. The trophy will have to be passed on each month to the new winner and twice a year at the July and December DaVinci gatherings we will play sudden death for an annual award of priceless sci-fi proportions. Sounds like a big Romulan "whoopie!" to me.

OK, now here's your top ten list for this month:
Top 10 Signs You Have An All-Vulcan Crew -
10) No one will laugh at any of your jokes.

9) Your ship's dedication plaque reads: "Ship dedication plaques are illogical."

8) Every 3-D chess tournament ends in a draw!

7) Sehlat guano everywhere!

6) Your crew roster has both an Ensign Taurik and Ensign Vorick who claim to be two different people, yet you have never seen them together!!!!.....

5) Ship's store is always out of Q-Tips and earmuffs.

4) The crew's idea of a fun evening is an eyebrow lifting contest.

3) Your efforts to organize a talent contest ends up with all 432 crew members volunteering to play the lute.

2) Spock, Tuvok. Tuvok, Spock. Surak, Sarek. Sarek, Surak. T ' Pring, T ' Pel. T ' Pel, T ' Pring. Saavik, uh... the other Saavik...

And the number ONE sign you have an All-Vulcan crew.....

1) Every seven years.....PA A A A RTY!!!!

CMDR Russell Ruhland

SCIENCE STATION

Hildegard Von Bingen was born in 1096 in Bockelheim, Germany, and died in 1179. She was a nun, musical composer, writer, mystic and poet. Hildegard was sent to a convent at the young age of eight to receive a religious education. She was educated by an anchoress. Hildegard's anchoress name was Jutta. Anchoresses lead an ascetic life, shut off from the rest of the world, living in a room attached to or adjacent to a church.

Most of Hildegard's time was spent in prayer, contemplation, stitching and embroidery. They would also attend services at the church. This went on until Jutta's death. Upon Jutta's death, Hildegard became the head of the small convent at the anchorage. Around 1150 Hildegard moved the convent from Disibodenberg to Bingen, 30 kilometers north on the banks of the Rhine. She founded another convent across the Rhine from Bingen in a town called Eibigen.

Her musical contribution from the middle ages consists of collected poetry and song in "The Symphony of the Harmony of Celestial Revelations" (1150's), and a musical composition entitled "Ordo Virtutum" , before 1158. "Ordo Virtutum" is one of the earliest examples of a morality play, a musical story depicting good and evil. She also wrote music and texts to her songs in two forms: 1) liturgical plainchant, about the saints and Mary, and 2) antiphons.

In 1141, she had a vision of God that heralded the beginning of her religious writings. She claimed to understand the meaning of the religious texts, and was told by God to write down everything she observed in the visions.

She wanted her writing to be approved by the Catholic Church. She wrote a letter to Saint Bernard. Saint Bernard brought it to the attention of Pope Eugenius (1145-1153). He exhorted Hildegard to finish the writings and with the Papal imprimatur she was able to finish her first visionary work, entitled "Scivias" or "Know the Ways of the Lord." She wrote two other books of visionary writings. The second was "Book of Life Merits," and the third was "Book of Divine Works."

She also wrote books on science and medicine. "Physics" and "Causae et Curae" (1150) were both books on natural history and the curative powers of various natural objects. Together they are known as

“The book of subtleties of the Diverse Nature of Things.” These books did not present things in the visionary form (like her religious books did), and they didn’t contain any references to a divine source of revelation.

Her scientific views came from Greek cosmology of the four elements – fire, water, earth and air. Fire represent heat, water – moisture, earth – cold, and air – dryness.

She also wrote about and believed in the four humours in the body. These are: 1) cholera (yellow bile) 2) blood 3) phlegm, and 4) melancholy (black bile). She believed that the human constitution was based on one or two humours. Sickness upset the balance of the humours and one had to consume the right food to get the body back in balance.

It is believed by some today that her visions were the results of migraine headaches.

ENS Margaret McGillicuddy

TREK AND SCI-FI BUZZ

The Sci-Fi Channel confirmed that Farscape star Ben Browder will join the cast of Stargate SG-1. Browder will join the cast in the show's upcoming ninth season. There is no information on what Browder's role will be. Meanwhile, the show's producer, MGM, is still working on a deal to bring back Richard Dean Anderson (Gen. O'Neill) in some capacity. Stargate SG-1 will air the remaining new eighth-season episodes in a new Friday 8 p.m. timeslot, followed by the new episodes of Stargate Atlantis at 9 p.m. and the new original series Battlestar Galactica at 10 p.m.

Recently, inside sources at Paramount Studios let it be known that the studio Comp Controller made an inventory of all of Star Trek Enterprise’s assets on the lot from props, costumes, and set dressing. This is usually done when a series is about to be cancelled! While it is widely known that Star Trek Enterprise barely had a fourth season, this current chain of events might seal its fate from coming back for a fifth season. The time of complacency is over. If you, as a Star Trek fan don’t act now, all aspects of Star Trek will be over. There won’t be any more features, books, series, and/or other merchandise. Star Trek fans must unite and let the Powers That Be at Paramount and UPN know that you care for

the franchise. Send letters or call the following individual to let your voices be heard:

Dawn Ostroff
United Paramount Network
11800 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

LORD OF THE RINGS BASH

The New Year's Eve 'Lord of the Rings' marathon was held December 31 at Stacy and Stephanie's house. I was the first to arrive and brought with me a 'The One Ring' chocolate cake that I had baked and decorated. Joe brought a cooler of drinks, which he was quickly relieved of by thirsty crewmates. At half past noon the the viewing commenced with the showing of 'The Fellowship of the Ring'. At the movie's end we took a break for lunch composed of fried chicken and sub sandwiches. Stephanie and I almost missed this lunch break as we had to battle with my broken-down vehicle before we could drive to the restaurant. Upon our return, we watched 'The Two Towers'. Margaret and Lech arrived bearing chips shortly after the movie began.

At some point towards the end of the movie Stephanie and I began playing Lord of the Rings themed checkers. I soundly defeated her by the end of the movie. At this point we took a break and admired, then cut, 'The One Ring' cake, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.



The One Ring Cake! Yum Yum!!

Once armed with plates full of cake we began the final leg of the marathon with 'The Return of the King'.

Stephanie and I continued our battle of Lord of the Rings themed Stratego and Trivial Pursuit. By the end of the movie midnight had come, and with it a new year. We had a toast with sparkling cider and welcomed the New Year. After the movie credits ended, and the cider bottle ran dry, everyone went their separate ways.

ENS Leiko Koone

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Shuttle Columbia is Lost (2003)	1 st
Brent Spiner (Data on TNG)	2 nd
First Female Shuttle Pilot (Eileen Collins 1995)	3 rd
First Untethered Space Walk (McCandless and Stewart 1986)	7 th
Ethan Phillips (Neelix on VOY)	8 th
Jerry Goldsmith (Composer)	10 th
Philip Anglim (Vedek Beareil)	11 th
Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager (Test Pilot)	13 th
CPT Connie Heller	14 th
Andrew Robinson (Elim Garak on DS9)	14 th
ENS Roger Wright	15 th
LeVar Burton (LTCMDR Geordi LaForge on TNG)	16 th
Maiden Flight of the Shuttle "Enterprise" (1977)	18 th
Pluto is Discovered (1930)	18 th
First American to Orbit the Earth (John Glenn 1962)	20 th
Ranger 8 Crashes on Moon (1965)	20 th
Shuttle Columbia Test Fires its 3 Main Engines (1981)	20 th
Gary Lockwood (LT Gary Mitchell on TOS)	21 st
Martha Hackett (Seska on VOY)	21 st
Jeri Ryan (Seven of Nine on VOY)	22 nd
Majel Barrett Roddenberry (Lwaxana Troi on TNG)	23 rd
Chase Masterson (Leeta the Dabo Girl on DS9)	27 th
Barbara Babcock (Voice of Loskene, Trelane's Mother, Isis the Cat, and others on TOS)	27 th

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	385.10
Closing Balance	385.10

CPT Connie "I Need Chocolate – NOW!" Heller

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks to Patsy Carey from Central High School in Phenix City for the large donation of tabs.

A super BIG Bajoran congratulations goes out to Tony Fleming for receiving a grade of "distinction" for History of the Enterprise 4, History of the Enterprise 5, and Federation Law 3 from the School of College of Federation Studies, a grade of "distinction" for Betazoid from the School of College of Alien History & Culture, and a grade of "distinction" for The Federation from the School of College of Alien History & Culture!

Barbara Paul who is our new Medical Officer!

WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Barbara Paul (D) (S)

Bill Paul (D) (S)

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 appetite! Sorry no Hooter's again this year!

February	Chili's
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

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.

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	
Barbara Paul	Jan 06	Aug 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

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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.



Connie Heller and the future Ariana Nerys smile for the camera!



The usual gang playing Chinese checkers at our 2nd Annual Thanksgiving celebration. Clockwise: Rose Hutson, Lisa Neal, Gisela Stephens, Karen Baker, and Patty Smith. (22 November 1997)



Kim Townsend jamming to some tunes totally unaware that her picture has just been taken!



Connie Heller enjoying a game of Scrabble while Travis Heller looks on.



Joey Allcorn, Rob Anthony, and Rusty Touchton in conversation while Randy Dunn walks off.



A hungry crowd digs in at our 2nd Annual Christmas Celebration! (20 December 1997)



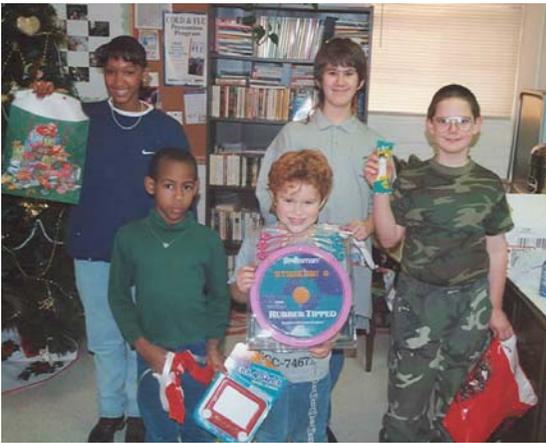
A shy Patty Williams hides her face as Lisa Neal smiles at her predicament.



Gisela Stephens digs in while Travis Heller smiles for the camera.



Frazier Smith received by far the worst gag gift in DaVinci history! Please do not pass it on!!



(Back Row) Chantel Billingsley and Kalan Vazquez
(Front Row) Malik Coles, Travis Heller, and
Mathew Dunn show off their presents!



Amid the chaos, Connie Heller and JoAnn Vazquez
share a conversation.



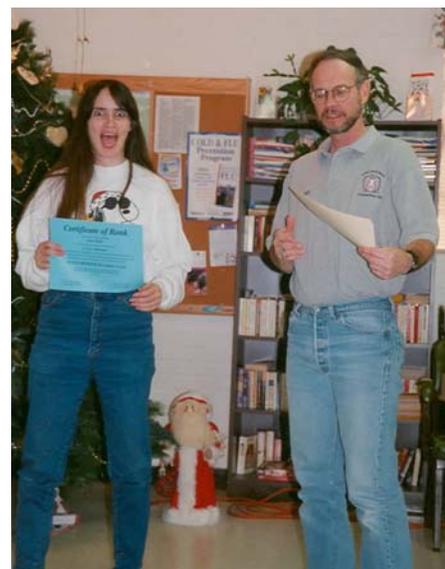
A hard fought game of the Great Dalmuti is being
played by (L-R) Rob Anthony, Frazier Smith,
Travis Heller, Steve Gordon, Kalan Vazquez, and
Joe Perry.



CPT Freddy congratulates Rob Anthony on his
promotion!



(L-R) Kim Baker, Patty Williams and Lisa Neal
enjoy a game of - what else - Chinese checkers.



No one except Lisa Neal would get that excited
about a promotion!

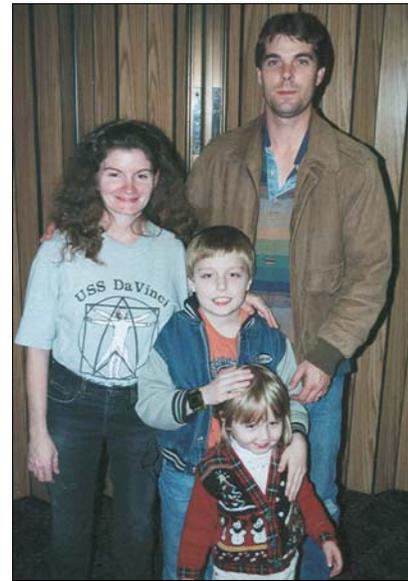
DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

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	VACANT	
Medical	Barbara Paul (478)292-3210	
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	

Interested in a position within the ship? See Freddy or Russell at any of the DaVinci events or give them a call.

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Johnny and Rose Hutson with their kids Nickolas and Deborah at Golden Corral following the December meeting. We miss you guys! Our loss is Texas' gain.