



# DaVinci Pilot

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

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MAY 2005

## DaVINCI 2005 ELECTIONS!

So important is this news that it will take the normal spot of the Captain's article. At the May meeting we will be taking nominations for the position of Captain of the USS DaVinci. Yes, believe it or not, it has been 2 years and it is time to see who will be at the helm for the next 2 years. Note that this year we are not taking nominations for First Officer. In past years there were individuals nominated for both positions and this could have presented problems if both positions were won. So, this time around, the Captain-elect will be free to choose his or her own "Number One" as long as they meet the qualifications listed below.

Okay, as a reminder, there are a few qualifications that must be met in order for you to be Captain of any Starfleet chapter. First, you must be a member of Starfleet in good standing, that is, your membership must be up to date. Second, you must have taken both Officer's Training School (OTS) and Officer's Command College (OCC). Finally, you must have been a member of the DaVinci for at least the last 6 months. The only requirement for voting in the election is that you must have been a member of the DaVinci for at least 3 months prior to the election. For your benefit, those DaVinci crew personnel who qualify for the positions are:

RADM Freddy Heller  
FCPT Joe Perry  
CPT Connie Heller  
CMDR Russell Ruhland  
LTCMDR Tony Fleming  
LTJG Stacy Harris  
LTJG Stephanie Harris  
LTJG Karen Pynenburg  
LTJG Mike Walker  
LTJG George Pimentel

The list is impressive and each individual would make a fine Captain; however, it is up to each of them if they wish to have their name place in nomination. While Mike Walker and George Pimentel would love to be Captain of the DaVinci, they are just a little ineligible because Mike lives in Kansas and George in Tennessee! In addition, Connie has already made it plain that she will not accept her name being placed into nomination for Captain. It is good to see that the list is nearly twice as long as it was in the last four elections! More of you are taking OTS and OCC than ever before and this is great news.

The election process will run like this: Once the nomination process has been completed, ballots will be mailed to each qualified member of the DaVinci no later than one week following the meeting. The ballots will have a self-addressed stamped envelope addressed to Gisela Stephens, the DaVinci's Communications Officer. The ballots must be mailed to Gisela no later than the Monday prior to the June meeting (May 30<sup>th</sup>). Each crewmember may only vote once. The ballots will be tabulated and the results announced during the June meeting and published in the July newsletter. If you do not receive a ballot, it is your responsibility to notify Gisela or myself so that we can mail you a duplicate ballot.

I cannot stress enough how important the process of election is to you. Remember, the DaVinci is YOUR ship and you are the ones who have a say in who sits in the "Center Seat" for the next 2 years. The process of the election begins with the nominations and if you only attend one meeting this year, this is the one to attend! We do not need a quorum, however, we do need a good showing, and so please do your best to attend this very important meeting. Thanks and see you then.

## FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Wahoo! Did we ever have a great 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary party! Since our resident cook was not feeling 100% that day, we made the decision to go with pizza and chicken instead of burgers and dogs! I did not hear any complaints from those in attendance. Speaking of that, there were 20 DaVinci members and 7 members from other ships in the Region at the party! I would like to extend a very BIG Bajoran thanks to Mike Henigan and Kelly Hillard of the USS Pleiades (Douglasville, GA); Nancy O'Sheilds and Jan Sleigh of the USS New Hope (Montgomery, AL); Jeff Kirkland and his mom Martha of the USS Republic (Atlanta, GA); and Jonathan Cone of the Shuttle Dauntless (Orange Park, FL) for making the journey to join us in our celebration (Jonathan did not really drive from Florida. He lives in Albany but is a member of the Dauntless.)

There was plenty of food to go around. I was a bit concerned when half of the 10 pizzas were consumed in less than 1 hour. Not to worry, however, because there was so much other goodies (baked beans, macaroni and cheese, potato salad, macaroni salad, coleslaw, and various scrumptious desserts) that there was left over pizza at the end of the evening.

My overly generous "Number One" came through again and donated a box set of the extended versions of the Lord of the Rings Trilogy as a door prize! The good news is that Roger Wright did NOT win the drawing. The "bad" news is that his significant other, and newest member of the DaVinci, did win! Congratulations to Faye Cole! So, I suppose that in reality Roger did win after all.....sigh.

Well, after the food had been consumed, it was time to get down to some serious Great Dalmuti – the official game of the Region 2 and the DaVinci. About 7 folks sat down to what everyone assumed would be a closely fought contest. Well, that was far from the truth.. It seems a young Dalmuti upstart took the rest of the players to the cleaner's and back again! The margin of victory was such that the tournament was called early because there was no way for anyone to catch the leader. And so without further ado, congratulations to Travis Heller (that is my boy!) for being the Great Dalmuti at the DaVinci's 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration! And, an

equally hearty congratulation to Jonathan Cone for the honor of being the Lesser Peon! After a quick search of the premises, the appropriate covering was found to adorn the head of the Great Dalmuti and Lesser Peon. Flashes came from everywhere as the two posed for the cameras.

The DaVinci's version of Moogie's Store – the Captain's Table - was open for business during the party and it did the best it has ever done! Over \$100 was raised for the Captain's new car – uh - I mean the DaVinci coffers. More new and exciting things (to include autographs) will be found on the Captain's Table in the months to come so be sure to bring your latinum to future gatherings.

The latest Penny Jar contest had its final run during the anniversary party and the results are quite surprising as well as disappointing to the Captain (who ever it was out to get me – yes, I know who you are – remember the old Klingon saying that "revenge is a dish best served cold" so watch your six!). The contest raised about \$26 for the treasury, which is a little smaller than past contests but still a decent amount. Anyway, the results for the question "What is your favorite Trek show?" is as follows: In dead last place, the bottom of the well, the furthest point in the Galaxy, and pretty much trounced is – sigh – Deep Space Nine with a negative \$5.82 (pennies \$3.53; silver \$9.35). The second least favorite show is the Next Generation with a negative \$2.84 (pennies \$.71; silver \$3.55). Next in line was Enterprise at a negative \$1.48 (pennies \$.17; silver \$1.65). That leaves the DaVinci's top two favorite shows! In second place comes Voyager with a negative \$.75 (pennies \$.15; silver \$.90). Finally, the top banana, the number one show, the winner (only because of that dastardly fellow who shall remain nameless), is the Original Series with a very respectable positive \$3.53 (pennies \$4.33; silver \$.80). Naturally, the Captain is questioning the results and another contest looms on the horizon. This one will be your favorite Captain!

If you were not at the anniversary party, check out the pictures below to see what you missed!

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT  
WILL BE AT ZAXBY'S  
ON MONDAY MAY 16<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
COME FOR THE GREAT FOOD!  
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**



Russell Ruhland and Randy Dunn help themselves to the food at the DaVinci's 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party.



Bill and Barbara Paul (L) and Connie Heller (R) enjoying the pizza.



Jonathan Cone and Joe Perry (front) and Faye Cole, Roger Wright, and Lech Mazur enjoy the pizza!



Joe Perry, Russell Ruhland, and Mike Henigan ponder the strategy during Great Dalmuti play.



Nancy O'Shields, Jan Sliagh, and Jonathan Cone playing The Great Dalmuti



Jonathan Cone and Travis Heller, are the Lesser Peon and Great Dalmuti respectively.

On Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, the Space Science Center held Game and Hobby Expo III. As always, the DaVinci was invited to set up a table and lend a hand at the event. Due to the fact that the Space Science Center is no longer open on Sundays, the hours for the Expo were a little different. The doors opened open at 10:00 AM and closed at midnight! We did not stay that long but did manage to last until 6:00 PM. Although not as well attended as previous expos, we did manage to pick up 5 new members! Joining the DaVinci crew are Dutch Cummings and his wife Melanie and Susan Wood and her children Christopher and Jydasha. Welcome to the best ship in the Region! Not only is Dutch planning on joining Starfleet, he is giving strong thoughts on taking over as Engineering Officer! He is excited over the prospect and plans some interesting things with the Engineering department. Thanks to all the DaVinci folks who lent a hand – Russell, Joe, Randy, Todd, and Frazier.

Quite a few memberships in both the DaVinci and Starfleet have expired or are nearing expiration, so make sure you check your expiration date!

RADML Freddy Heller

## EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

This month's general membership meeting at the Ronald McDonald House beamed in eight DaVinci members and one guest. We kept the usual sci-fi babble going for most of the meeting, as there was not much business to conduct other than reminding everyone about the upcoming Enterprise Mourning Party scheduled for Friday the 13th of May at Freddy's house (be sure to read the article following this one). Of course the finale of our monthly meeting became the Game Master of the Month competition. Joe Perry, the February winner, chose to play SPACE the game. I acted as announcer and after what we all thought was going to be the longest game ever (Joe shuffled the cards REAL good), we finally came up with our playoff contestants. We had four in the final round because of a tie for third place. Fourth place went to Randy Dunn who donated his prize (two boxes of sautéed baby hairless tribbles). Second place went to Skye Camern who received her very first Star Trek collectable in the form of a Original Series Shuttlepod from the new Johnny Lightening series. Finally, first place and Game Master of the Month for April was Frazier Smith who chose to receive a D7 Battle Cruiser collectable from the same ships series. Everyone had a good time and a few of us shuttled over to a local eating establishment for dinner after the meeting closed. Where was Freddy, you ask? Unfortunately working for Uncle Sam kindly took its toll and our Captain stayed home for some much needed rest.

Well, you all know how the DaVinci loves to get together for almost any reason, and we plan to do just that at my house on Friday, 29 April, beginning at 7:30 PM for the Star Trek Movie Marathon, Part II. Shown will be all of the TNG movies (Generations, First Contact, Insurrection, and Nemesis). So, bring your favorite junk food and see if you can stay awake that long! Now, I am not the best in the world at writing directions, but should you desire to attend, here it goes.

FROM downtown Columbus: 1. Take 13th Street from Columbus into Phenix City. 2. Proceed on 13<sup>th</sup> Street./Crawford Road thru the main 80/280 junction and turn RIGHT at the Signal on Auburn Road. 3. Go all the way until you reach nearly the end of Auburn Road and turn LEFT on Lee county Road 485. 4. My house is 1/10th mile on the right

side of the road (114 Lee Road 485).

FROM the North By-Pass: 1. Turn LEFT at the end of the By-Pass. 2. Turn RIGHT at the 1st light (Old Opelika Road). 3. Go about 2 miles and turn LEFT at the Chevron Gas Station (Stafford Road/Lee Road 240). 4. Turn LEFT at the BP Gas Station. 5. Turn RIGHT onto Lee Road 485. 6. My house is 1/10th mile on the right side of the road (114 Lee Road 485).

If you have any difficulties then call me at 298-3998 and I will get you there. I'm looking forward to seeing ya'll.

CMDR Russell Ruhland

## ENTERPRISE SERIES FINALE

On Friday May 13<sup>th</sup>, the series finale of Enterprise will be broadcasted! Enterprise is ending before its time. If you have not been following the show, the past two seasons have been outstanding. Naturally, this calls for an Enterprise Mourning party. The series finale is a 2-hour blockbuster. It begins at 8:00 PM so come a few minutes early to lay claim on your favorite spot. Chips and various snacks as well as drinks will be provided, so make sure you have dinner before coming. Also bring your own pillow if you need one.

## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	330.50
Postage	30.43
Party	69.03
DaVinci Nights Out	47.00
Deposit	<u>148.13</u>
Closing Balance	332.17

CPT Connie Heller

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Leonardo DaVinci Dies (1519)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Astronaut Scott Carpenter	2 <sup>nd</sup>
CADET Jydasha Holloway	4 <sup>th</sup>
Marc Alaimo (Dukat on DS9)	5 <sup>th</sup>
First American in Space (Alan B. Shepard, Jr. 1961)	5 <sup>th</sup>

CADET Matthew Dunn	6 <sup>th</sup>
Telstar 2 Communications Satellite Launched (1963)	7 <sup>th</sup>
PO2 Lisa Neal	12 <sup>th</sup>
Last Mercury Flight (Gordon L. Cooper 1963)	15 <sup>th</sup>
LT Gisela Stephens	15 <sup>th</sup>
CADET Vincenzo Fleming	16 <sup>th</sup>
First Woman to Break Sound Barrier (Jacqueline Cochran 1953)	18 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo 10 Lifts off (Cernan, Stafford, Young 1969)	18 <sup>th</sup>
John Billingsly (Dr. Phlox on ENT)	20 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo 10 Flies to 9 Miles of Moon's Surface (1969)	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Joan Collins (Edith Keeler on TOS)	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Second American in Space (Scott Carpenter 1962)	24 <sup>th</sup>
CMDR Russell Ruhland	25 <sup>th</sup>
RADML Freddy Heller	26 <sup>th</sup>
Harlan Ellison (Scrip Writer)	27 <sup>th</sup>
Lee Meriwether (Lorisa on TOS)	27 <sup>th</sup>
Mariner Nine Blasts Off to Mars (1971)	30 <sup>th</sup>
Discovery Docks at International Space Station (1999)	29 <sup>th</sup>
Michael J. Pollard (Jahn on TOS)	30 <sup>th</sup>
Colm Meaney (Chief Miles O'Brien on DS9)	30 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Piller (Executive Producer)	30 <sup>th</sup>

## ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks and congratulations to: Tony Fleming for receiving a grade of "distinction" for Klingon from the School of College of Alien History & Culture.

Mandy Redden and Beth Redden for the very large (much to the chagrin of my son) donation of tabs.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Joe Perry (D)  
 Faye Cole (D)  
 Dutch Cummings (D)  
 Melanie Cummings (D)  
 Susan Wood (D)  
 Christopher Wood (D)  
 Jydasha Holloway (D)  
 Randy Dunn (S)  
 Mathew Dunn (S)  
 Rebecca Dunn (S)  
 Sandy Holt (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!

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

Congratulations to Sandy Holt the winner of the free dinner at the April Night Out!

## DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLOS

Although they are selling like hotcakes, we 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.

## 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>
Dutch Cummings	Apr 06	
Karen Ferris	Sep 05	
Tony Fleming	Jul 05	Jun 05
Stacy Harris	<b>Apl 05</b>	<b>Apl 05</b>
Craig Harrison	Aug 05	Aug 05
Todd Kes	Sep 05	
Leiko Koone	Oct 05	Oct 05
Lech Mazur	Jul 05	<b>Mar 05</b>
Carl Olsen	<b>Feb 05</b>	
Barbara Paul	Jan 06	Aug 05
Joe Perry	Jul 06	Nov 05

George Pimentel	Jul 05	Jun 05
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 05	<b>May 05</b>
Russell Ruhland	Aug 05	Aug 05
Frazier Smith	<b>Feb 05</b>	<b>Apl 05</b>
Joanne Vazquez	<b>Apl 05</b>	
Michael Walker	Mar 06	Mar 06
Shannon Wells	<b>Apl 05</b>	
Susan Wood	Apr 06	
Roger Wright	Jul 06	May 05

## RM HOUSE NEEDED ITEMS

Although The Ronald McDonald House needs quite a variety of items, the items needed most are listed below. Pick something from the list and bring it with you to each meeting. This is strictly voluntary. Thanks!

### Most Needed Items

Grocery Gift Certificates	Solid Queen Sheets
Styrofoam Cups (20oz)	Sugar
Spray Air Freshener	Trash Bags (35 gal)
Twin/Queen Mattress Pads	Heavy Paper Plates
Storage/Freezer Bags	Interior Flood Lights
Swiffer Wet Sheets	Gladware Containers

### Household Items

Laundry Detergent	Ready to Make Desserts
Fabric Softener	Bags of Hard Candy
Bathroom Cleaner	Vegetable/Olive Oil
Pine Scented Cleaner	Cake Icing
O'Cedar Mops	Cake/Brownie Mixes
Dryer Sheets	Lemonade
Sting Mops	Salad Dressing
Carpet Cleaner	Soups
Bathroom Cups	Box Dinners
Spray Starch	Brooms
Windex	409 Cleaner

### Miscellaneous Items

Mailing/Scotch Tape	Sewing Kit/Scissors
Copy Paper	Clasp Envelopes (9x12)
Disposable Cameras	Phone Cards (15 min)
White-Out Pens	Sam's Gift Certificates
Card Stock Paper	Clear Storage Containers
	Computer Labels (Avery 5160)
	AA, C, D, and 9 Volt Batteries

NOTE: They currently have a need for canned soups, and perishable items such as bread, meats, cheese slices, fresh fruits, and snack foods.

## 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.



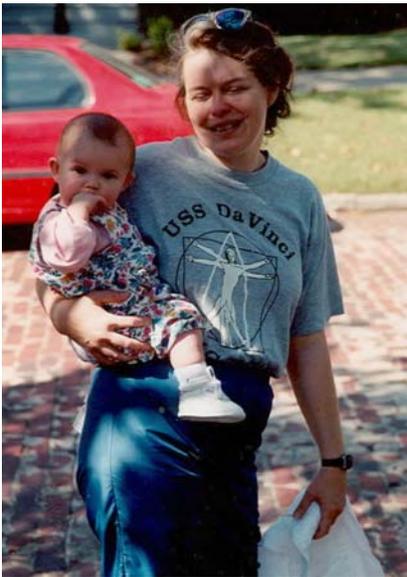
Randy Dunn and Freddy Heller finding lots of trash at the DaVinci's second Help-the-Hooch River clean-up (17 October 1998)



(L-R) Karen Baker, Malik Coles, and Chantel Billings take a well deserved drink break.



(L-R) Randy Dunn chats with Travis Heller while Freddy Heller chats with Mathew Dunn



Connie and Ariana Heller waiting for the food.



The crew chows down on hot dogs, chips, and Twinkies!



Ariana Heller gives the camera that "Where is my food?" look.



Chantel Billingsley feeds her little "sister."



Wow! Look what we got! (L-R) Ariana Heller, Chantel Billingsley, Connie Heller, Gisela Stephens, Karen Baker, Randy Dunn, Travis Heller, Malik Coles, and Mathew Dunn show off their Help-the-Hooch t-shirts.

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
WILL BE ON MAY 5<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
PLEASE COME.**

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT  
WILL BE AT ZAXBY'S  
ON MONDAY MAY 16<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
COME FOR THE GREAT FOOD!  
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**

## Top Forty-two Reasons Why Captain Kirk is Better Than Captain Picard

42. One Word: Hair.
41. Kirk can beat up a Klingon bare-handed.
40. Kirk would date Beverly Crusher -- and damn the consequences!!
39. Kirk never drinks tea. Ever.
38. Diplomacy for Kirk is a phaser and a smirk.
37. Kirk would never sing to children in a crisis.
36. Kirk can almost drive a stick shift.
35. Kirk made do with obviously low performance technology.
34. Kirk never pretends to be a barber in order to gain a tactical advantage.
33. Kirk never once stood up and had to straighten his shirt.
32. Kirk looks good with a ripped shirt.
31. Kirk's first officer NEVER tells him to stay on the bridge.
30. Kirk never leaves the room to bawl somebody out.
29. Kirk doesn't rely on the wisdom of some dumb old janitor to get him out of intergalactic scrapes.
28. Kirk never asks his bartender for advice.
27. Kirk never once said "Abandon ship! All hands abandon ship!"
26. Kirk never got "dumped" by a woman for an intergalactic busy body named after a letter of the alphabet.
25. If something doesn't speak English -- it's toast.
24. If Kirk finds a strange spinning probe, he blows it up.
23. Picard never met Joan Collins.
22. Picard hasn't fathered any children; Kirk -- probably millions.
21. Kirk has a cool Phaser -- not some pansy Braun mix-master.
20. Kirk knows how to deal with peace-loving hippy goofs.
19. Kirk once fought a Greek god. And won.
18. Kirk barely asks for suggestions. And if he does, he asks Spock only.
17. Kirk doesn't let the doctor tell him what to do.
16. One Word: Fisticuffs.
15. You can never lock up Kirk for very long.
14. Kirk plays god with lesser cultures, and then exploits them for resources.
13. Kirk's son would never drop out to become a musician.

12. Kirk can climb up a Jeffries Tube and fix anything.
11. Kirk never hired an engineer with punk glasses.
10. The Klingons didn't have a word for surrender -- until they met Kirk.
9. Kirk's bridge is not beige.
8. Picard allows cats on board, Kirk beams away even really cute things, like Tribbles.
7. Kirk specifically ordered a swivel LA-Z-BOY for the bridge.
6. Kirk would never touch SYNTHAHOL.
5. Kirk can infiltrate Gangsters, Nazis, and even the Pentagon easily.
4. When Kirk says "Boldly Go," he MEANS it.
3. Kirk traveled through The Great Barrier, met God, and wasn't even impressed.
2. Kirk would never let his Chief of Security wear a ponytail.
1. Three Words: Flying Leg Kick

## DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

<b>Commanding Officer</b>	Freddy Heller	562-8735
<b>Executive Officer</b>	Russell Ruhland	298-3998
<b>Operations Officer</b>	Joe Perry	327-5888
Finance	Connie Heller	562-8735
Community Service	Tony Fleming	568-6529
Publications	Stephanie Harris	682-5615
<b>Science Officer</b>	Lech Mazur	596-9542
Computer Science	Stacy Harris	682-5615
Counselor	<b>VACANT</b>	
Medical	Barbara Paul (478)	929-3210
Morale	<b>VACANT</b>	
<b>Engineering Officer</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	
Communications	Gisela Stephens	689-4266
Quartermaster	Randy Dunn	291-0150
Security	Roger Wright	687-8052
<b>Marine OIC</b>	Frazier Smith	298-5047
<b>Cadet Corps Commander</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	
<b>Master Chief Petty Officer</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	

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