



# DaVinci Pilot

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

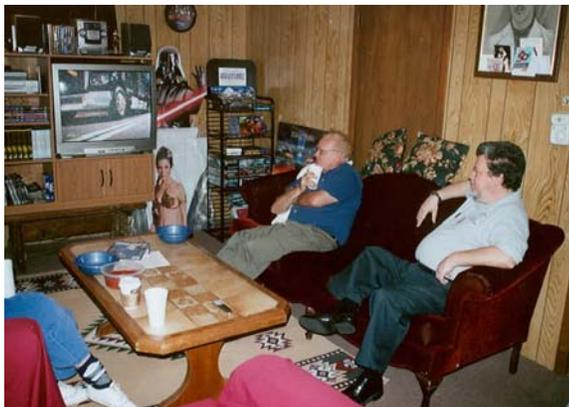
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JUNE 2005

## FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Greetings all! Well, our Fourth of July party is just around the corner! This is usually the biggest get together of the year. This year's cookout will be later than usual because of the Starfleet International Conference is being held in San Antonio, TX that same weekend and several crewmembers will be in attendance to include our resident burger flipper, Connie Heller. So, this year, the festivities will take place on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at the usual time of 2 PM. A sign up sheet will be circulating at the various DaVinci events. As always the DaVinci will buy the burgers and dogs and the rest will come from the crew.

At the very end of April, Russell Ruhland hosted the Next Generation Movie Marathon II. We had planned on watching Generations, First Contact, Insurrection, and Nemesis, but only managed to watch the first two. Everyone pooped out. Hummm, maybe old age is catching up with us! Including our gracious host, there were 7 crew personnel in attendance.



Lech Mazur and Joe Perry engrossed in TV before the start of the Next Generation Movie Marathon II. Those are Margaret McGillicuddy's legs on the left.

Although not as well attended as we had hoped, had many more crew personnel shown up, the room would have a bit cramped. There was plenty of food to go around – pizza, cookies, chips, and chocolate cake. In between movies we had a drawing for a new copy of the special edition of First Contact, which was won by your illustrious Captain! Since he already bought this version of the film, I am sure you will see it in future door prize drawings!



Randy Dunn and Russell Ruhland getting ready for the marathon as Princess Leia looks on.

On the first Saturday of May, a hearty band of 6 DaVinci personnel and one special guest met at the Veteran's Parkway McDonalds for breakfast prior to cleaning up our Adopt-a-Highway intersection. There was a threat of rain, but that did not stop us from making the attempt. We had been picking up trash for about 10 minutes when the first drops of rain started to fall. It was a light rain but started getting heavier as time passed. Lightning lit up the sky and the cracks of thunder shook our very souls. Still, we refused to surrender to the inclement weather. We had finished just about 1/3 of the intersection, when a very wet Joe Perry with water

pouring from his head looked at me and said: "Don't you think it is raining enough?" I looked at his sad pitiful wet face and figured he was right. Enough was enough. Soaked to the bone, we headed for our cars and left for home. What was surprising was the amount of trash we did pick up in the short amount of time we had. We left six full bags of trash and I took home two full bags of cans and bottles. A BIG Bajoran thanks goes out to Russell Ruhland, Joe Perry, Tony Fleming, Randy Dunn, Danette (Skye Cameron's mom filling in for her), and Ariana Heller for braving the rain.

We also had a fairly good turnout for the Enterprise Mourning Party. Although we expected a 2-hour finale, only the second 1-hour episode was the series finale. Without giving too much away if you have not seen it, you will not be missing much. I did manage to record it, so if you have not seen it and wish to do so, let me know. Do not get too excited, it was a pretty lousy ending for a decent show. Anyway, eight DaVinci personnel and their guests munched on chips, nachos and salsa, peanuts, and ice cream while watching Captain Archer and the crew of the USS Enterprise end their 4-year mission. Todd Kes was the lucky winner of the door prize, a Pink Panther action figure.

If you have not yet sent in your election ballots please do so as soon as possible. Remember, it has to be back to Gisela no later than Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> for your vote to count. If for some reason you did not get a ballot, it is not too late. Call me as soon as possible.

RADML Freddy Heller

## EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

Hi-di-hi there friends and Trekkies it's your friendly neighborhood Number One again with the latest in his bag of monthly whatever to fill up article space. I really do not know what to write about this month but I am willing to bet that if I babble long enough it will fill the required space anyway and I will not need a subject; however, one thought just came to mind. This is the month in which the newest Star Wars movie is released and I got to thinking (yes, sometimes Freddy really does allow me to think!) what if the USS DaVinci had its version of movies. Hmmmm, what would they be like?

**STAR TREKKIN - USS DaVINCI - THE MOVIE:** The ship and its faithful crew come into contact with an alien species of unusual qualities that is causing spatial anomalies. No....wait....it is really our good pal Joe Perry shaking things up by finally writing his own article for the newsletter!

**STAR TREKKIN' II - USS DaVINCI - THE WRATH OF CONNIE:** After a long awaited promotion to Rear Admiral, our favorite Ship's Captain, Freddy, has one too many photographs taken with those young, beautiful sci-fi actresses. Connie invokes her revenge by deleting "Freddy's Women" from the ship's database and website, causing the DaVinci to be lost in space until he can find the xenophobic "Chocolate Planet" to make up for his mistakes.

**STAR TREKKIN' III - USS DAVINCI - THE SEARCH FOR CHOCOLATE:** Nothing to say about this sequel. It speaks for itself!

**STAR TREKKIN' IV - USS DAVINCI - THE VOYAGE ANYWHERE:** After the last two sequels, a voyage anywhere seems like shore leave. Everyone is happy, absolutely zero problems with the ship or its fine crew and....no....wait....it can't be....this must have been the "Mirror Mirror" version.

**STAR TREKKIN' V - USS DAVINCI - A FINAL FRONTIER:** Having been drummed out of Trekfleet for writing this article, the former CMDR Russell hijacks the DaVinci and its crew taking the ship beyond the edge of the known universe to search for answers to the ultimate question: "Why did I have to spell the Captain's first name with a "ie" one too many times?"

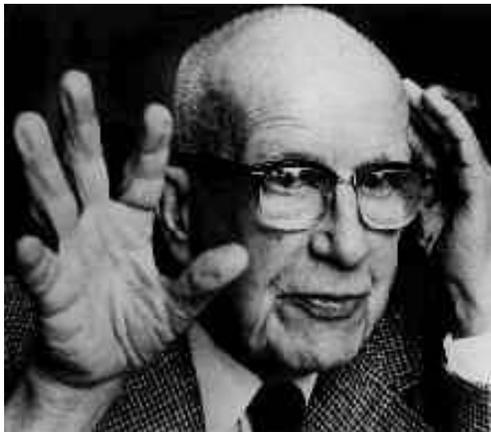
**STAR TREKKIN VI - USS DAVINCI - THE UNDISCOVERED WHAT?:** After 5 already humored movie parodies the entire ship's crew wakes up to find out it was all a bad dream; that none of these actually happened in the first place and it was all just babble written by the undersigned because he could not think of anything else. See ya'll next month.

PS. The winners of the Gamester of the Month for May were: first place, Lech Mazur; second place, Connie Heller; and third place, me. Enjoy the spoils!

CMDR Russell Ruhland

## SCIENCE STATION

As Trekkers we are awed by the advanced technologies of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> centuries that are depicted in the Star Trek movies and television shows. Future scientific technology will have played a key role in eliminating most of the problems and desires related to our every day survival and enjoyment of life. Endless sources of energy are provided by anti-matter reactors. Replicating devices quench our thirst and our hunger for material needs. Our needs are transformed into a spirit that is governed more by a longing for learning, exploration; truth seeking and spirituality in its many forms--i.e. boldly go where no one has gone before. The universe becomes less restrictive because we are no longer subject to the brutal grip of sheer physical survival. Buckminster Fuller was one of the twentieth century's greatest scientists, philosophers, inventors, architects, writers, mathematicians and poets. He was a true Renaissance man. Perhaps in the most admirable way, Fuller adhered very much to those ideals from above. His desire was to cure the world of its problems by invention. Fuller's thinking was in some ways similar to Nikola Tesla's in that both gentlemen disregarded material wealth as a prime objective in their endeavors to benefit human kind. At a relatively young age, Fuller had an epiphany whereby he chose to live on the edge of survival from day to day for the rest of his life. He chose to plow back his considerable earnings from his inventions and designs back into further research and development. He kept for himself and his family enough to make a living.



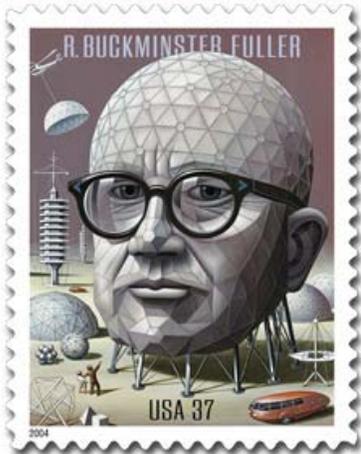
Buckminster Fuller

R. Buckminster Fuller was born in 1895 in Milton, MA and died in 1983 in Los Angeles, CA. He was the great-nephew of the transcendentalist writer, Margaret Fuller. He attended Harvard University. He was kicked out of the university on at least two occasions. He abandoned the traditional methods of thinking of the time and embarked on his own method of thinking. He never earned a college degree other than an honorary doctorate that he was awarded later in life. Fuller's way of thinking was that in the natural universe most of our resources are abundant. There are enough resources to evenly and comfortably distribute to all human kind. Fuller introduced the concept of "Space Ship Earth" with the meaning that we are all bound to work together in solving our problems like a crew of a ship would work together to achieve their goals. The problems of the world, he believed, could be cured by invention. Technology, rather than being the purveyor of many of our problems, would in the end provide the means to liberate humanity from many of its tensions. Fuller's reasoning was that, "human nature – and nature itself – could not be reformed and therefore it was the environment – and our response to it – that must be changed." From an environmental perspective, Fuller believed that maximum results could be achieved with minimal means. In other words do more with less, an environmental concept way ahead of its time in the 1940's and 50's.

The invention that Fuller was most famous for was the geodesic dome. It was a hemispherical structure based on the simple frame work of a series of triangular panels. Fuller believed that the triangular structure maintained one of the strongest constructed bonds in the universe. As an example, his geodesic domes were capable of withstanding winds of 210 miles per hour and strong earthquakes. Perhaps coastal Floridians and Californians should take note of these facts. The concept of triangular strength is in some ways similar to the trinity concept of Father, Son and Spirit, which from a spiritual or metaphysical point of view is the strongest bond of all.

In 1932, Fuller created the Dymaxion corporation in order to incorporate his innovative designs. The word Dymaxion was a play on the words, maximum, dynamic and ion. He produced the Dymaxion house, which was a completely self contained circular house that was transportable and

factory assembled. He also designed the Dymaxion car, which was a three wheeled omni directional vehicle that got 30 miles per gallon while transporting 12 people. This was way ahead of its time for the 1930's. One wonders why some of his inventions or designs haven't been adopted as much as one would think. In Fuller's words, "I just invent. Then I wait until man comes around to needing what I've invented."



On July 12, 2004, the US Postal Service issued a commemorative postage stamp.

Among his published works are, "Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth" (1969), originally published in 1938 as "Nine Chains to the Moon". Among many other works were "Approaching the Benign Environment" (1970) and "Synergetics: Explorations in the Geometry of Thinking" (1975), written in collaboration with E.J. Applewhite.

Fuller's legacy is that he was an independent original thinker. He was one who abandoned the traditional approaches of learning and growth, and in the spirit of the original Greek philosophers, he questioned everything.

ENS Lesh Mazur

## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	332.17
Postage	18.60
Party	16.53
DaVinci Night Out	9.48
Deposits	<u>86.00</u>
Closing Balance	373.56

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 June!

Star Trek III Premiers (1984)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Rene Auberjonois (Odo on DS9)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Anthony Montgomery (ENS Travis Mayweather on ENT)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sally Kellerman (Dr. Elizabeth Dehner on TOS)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Surveyor I Lands on the Moon (1966)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Suzie Plakson (K'Ehleyr on TNG)	3 <sup>rd</sup>
First American to Walk in Space (Ed White 1965)	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Star Trek II Premiers (1982)	4 <sup>th</sup>
Deep Space Nine Ends (1999)	6 <sup>th</sup>
James Darren (Vic Fontaine on DS9)	8 <sup>th</sup>
Star Trek V Premiers (1989)	9 <sup>th</sup>
CADET Ivy Walker	10 <sup>th</sup>
DeForest Kelley (Dr McCoy) Dies (1999)	11 <sup>th</sup>
Malcolm McDowell (Dr. Soran from Generations)	13 <sup>th</sup>
Probe Pioneer 10 Leaves the Solar System (1983)	13 <sup>th</sup>
Robin Curtis (Savik from Search for Spock)	15 <sup>th</sup>
First Woman in Space (Valentina Tereshkova 1963)	16 <sup>th</sup>
First US Woman in Space (Sally Ride 1983)	18 <sup>th</sup>
First Woman to Fly Across Atlantic (Amelia Erhart 1928)	18 <sup>th</sup>
Mariette Hartley (Zarabeth from TOS)	21 <sup>st</sup>
First Privately Funded Space Flight (SpaceShip One 2004)	21 <sup>st</sup>
Tim Russ (LT Tuvok from VOY)	22 <sup>nd</sup>
LTJG Stephanie Harris	22 <sup>nd</sup>
CRMN Dutch Cummings	23 <sup>rd</sup>
ENS Margaret McGillicuddy	24 <sup>th</sup>
Alice Krige (Borg Queen from First Contact)	28 <sup>th</sup>
Jeri Taylor (Executive Producer)	30 <sup>th</sup>
Three Soyuz Eleven Cosmonauts Die Upon Reentry (1971)	30 <sup>th</sup>

## ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go out to:

Patsy Carey from Central High School for the large donation of tabs.

Roger Wright for his usual donations of tabs, stamps, and coupons.

Randy Dunn for his donation of tabs and stamps.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Lech Mazur (S)  
Margaret McGillicuddy (D)

## 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!

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 Joe Perry, the winner of the free dinner at the May 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	
<b>Tony Fleming</b>	Jul 05	<b>Jun 05</b>

<b>Stacy Harris</b>	<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	May 06
Barbara Paul	Jan 06	Aug 05
Joe Perry	Jul 06	Nov 05
George Pimentel	Jul 05	<b>Jun 05</b>
<b>Karen Pynenburg</b>	Jul 05	<b>May 05</b>
Russell Ruhland	Aug 05	Aug 05
<b>Frazier Smith</b>	<b>Feb 05</b>	<b>Apl 05</b>
<b>Joanne Vazquez</b>	<b>Apl 05</b>	
Michael Walker	Mar 06	Mar 06
<b>Shannon Wells</b>	<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

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
WILL BE ON JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
PLEASE COME.**

### 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! Reminiscence.



Josh Ainsworth, dressed as a Klingon, with his son Hunter (as a clown) at the DaVinci's First Annual Halloween Party (30 October 1998)

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT  
WILL BE AT CI CI'S PIZZA  
(WHITTLESEY ROAD LOCATION)  
ON MONDAY JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
COME FOR THE GREAT FOOD!  
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**



A whole bunch of Cadets pose for the camera.



Connie Heller dresses as Agent K from the movie Men in Black



Ariana Heller dressed as a very tired infant!



Promotion time! As Joe Perry reads the certificate Josh Ainsworth receives his Ensign pips from Freddy Heller.



Joe Perry and Rob Anthony discuss the finer points of table etiquette with an unidentified crew member during the DaVinci's 3rd Annual Thanksgiving dinner. (21 November 1998)



L-R: Randy Dunn (back), Josh Ainsworth, Rusty Touchton, Mike Walker (standing), Karen Baker, and Deniece Dunn talk Trek after a filling meal.

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
WILL BE ON JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
PLEASE COME.**



Hey! I am hungry too! Connie Heller feeds little Ariana Heller.



Malik Coles and Travis Heller thrill the crowd with their jamming on the 88's!



Johnny Hudson holding little Nicolas as Gisela "Oma" Stephens and Connie Heller look on.



Josh Ainsworth jams on the piano as Ariana Heller and mom Connie boogie on down!

# 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) 929-3210

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.