



DaVinci Pilot

Newsletter of the U.S.S. DaVinci
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FROM THE CENTER SEAT

SPLAT! The turn-in of the tabs to the Ronald-McDonald House and the subsequent pie party were both resounding successes! The morning started out with 9 crew personnel enjoying breakfast at Ryan's. Following breakfast we moved to the Ronald McDonald House for the official turn-in of the 100,000 tabs. A couple more crew personnel who could not join us for breakfast arrived for the presentation. Susan Yaksh, the Ronald McDonald House manager was on hand to accept the 70 pounds of tabs. After several group photographs were taken and some pleasant conversation passed, the presentation was over and the crew would next meet in just a few short hours for the pie party. Unfortunately for Russell and myself, that time arrived much too quickly. Fifteen crew personnel showed up for the most anticipated event since the commissioning of the DaVinci! Prior to the "splat fest", the crew munched on chips, potato salad, crazy bread, and three different kinds of Little Caesar's pizza. Then came the event everyone was looking so forward to. We all moved outside where a sheet was on the patio, three pies occupied a spot on the patio table, and a cold ominous wind blew in from the North. Once it was discovered from where the pie would be launched and where the receiver would stand, folks scurried about to obtain the best viewing position. More still and video cameras were present than at any past DaVinci event. The cameras were prepped and ready as Russell took his place in the center of the sheet. A second sheet with a cutout for the head had been draped over his head. It was very reminiscent of a shroud being placed over the condemned's head prior to hanging. Russell's stance could not be mistaken for anything but courage! It was the look that said, "Bring it on!"

The "executioner" for the first pie was Roger Wright. Roger was disappointed that he had not won the contest, thus losing the opportunity to pie me, but was satisfied that he had won second place and the privilege of pieing the First Officer. Roger stepped up to within a couple feet of the stoic Russell, paused slightly, and then let loose the pie tin from his hand! It was over in just a few seconds. Once the pie tin worked its way loose and fell harmlessly to the feet of its victim and a chocolate Cool Whip covered face appeared, laughter and camera flashes filled the patio.



Russell following Roger's pieing!

I naturally was laughing just as hard as anyone, but it was a laughter brought about not by the humorous sight before me, but a nervous laugh born out of the fact that I was next and the deliverer was none other Connie Heller, the love of my life, the woman I have been married to for nearly 12 years, and the woman who had been looking more forward to the next few moments than any other since I said "I do" those many years ago. The shroud was placed over my head and I began to mumble something about my regret that I have only one pie

to give to my country or ship or something like that. I leaned over and kissed my executioner reminding her about how much I loved her. I had hoped that this would ease the manner in which the pie was delivered. I was mistaken. Roger should have taken lessons from Connie. Once the pie reached its intended target she held it in place, twisting it back and forth, as if opening a safe, in an obvious attempt to get every last molecule of Cool Whip out of the tin and onto my face. She nearly succeeded. Whereas you could still recognize Russell following his meeting the Cool Whip, my face was scarcely distinguishable from a creature out of a Hollywood horror film. You would think that I would have had enough, right? Well, dumb old me earlier that morning promised my I-can-get-anything-I-want-out-of-daddy-by-just-giving-him-the-look daughter a pie of her very own. "No", you gasp! Oh yes. So, with Connie's Cool Whip still dripping off my face, I kneeled down and called Ariana to the firing line. Giggling like a young girl getting her first kiss, she took pie in hand and delivered it like a pro right on target. I am sure her mother was quite proud of her.



Ariana Heller pies her daddy while Christopher Dunn looks on

Now you would think that I would have known better, right? I mean even rats learn after a shock or two. But nooooooo, I did something even dumber. Perhaps I was still in shock or perhaps it was the taste of chocolate Cool Whip on my lips that made me do what I did next. As my son, Travis was walking back into the house, I turned to him and said, "Well, Travis, come on, it is your turn." "No", you gasp again. Oh yes, I really did say that. What happened next was not only unexpected it was quite

justified for my stupidity in telling my son he could pie his father. Without thinking about the infinite possibilities of having my son pick up not one but both pie tins, I closed my eyes to prepare for another barrage of Cool Whip. It was not my eyes I should have closed. He stood in front of me and without a thought simultaneously pied each side of my head. A hilarious uproar filled the air that even Cool Whip filled ear canals could not mask. I looked like Princess Leia from "A New Hope" much to the delight of the crew and their ever-flashing cameras.



Travis Heller having way too much fun at the expense of his father!

After cleaning off as much of the Cool Whip as we could Russell and I posed side-by-side for a last moment photo opportunity. We then adjourned to the bathroom to "freshen up." If you were not there you missed something really special!

So what about this year? Well, I have planned something very similar. Right now, we have amassed about 11,000 tabs. If we can collect 100,000 tabs by 31 December of this year, the entire Senior Staff (consisting of the Captain, First Officer, Operations Officer, Science Officer, and Engineering Officer) will be pied. The finer points of the contest like who gets to pie whom or what if a position is vacant has not yet been decided. This will not be an easy task because it took us nearly 2 years to reach 100,000 tabs. Then again, once the contest was announced, over 30,500 tabs were collected in only 3 months! So start saving those tabs and you too may get to SPLAT your favorite officer.

RADM Freddy Heller

EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

Now with my deadline coming up drastically I better get this article down on paper; er, ahh, I mean computer screen before its too late. First and foremost of all, let me congratulate Randy & Sandy on their official engagement! This all occurred 2 or 3 weeks ago at the romantic settings of the Mediterranean Cafe in Columbus, GA with Vanessa and Frazier and many others witnesses to this glorious event. I was not present but did get to see the "bending of the knee" by Randy as the proposal was videotaped. Congratulations once again!

OK, here's a quick top 10 for this month's reading wonder...

Top 10 episode titles if Star Trek were written by Country Music Singers:

10. Data Went down to Georgia.
 9. You Don't Have to Call Me Darlin', Darmok.
 8. Turn About and Do-Si-Do, Intruder.
 7. 11001001-BR549.
 6. City on the Edge of Fort Worth.
 5. If Wishes Were Horses, I Reckon I'd Have Me a Whole Herd.
 4. May the Great Bird of the Galaxy Fly Up Your Nose.
 3. I Just Wanna Be Your Klingon Targ!
 2. Looking for Par'Mach in All the Wrong Places.
- And the Number One Episode title of Star Trek If Written By Country Singers...

1. Mama, Don't Let your Babies Grow Up to be Androids!
- See ya next month.

Captain Russell Ruhland

PASSAGES

Vincent Schiavelli, the droopy-eyed character actor who appeared in scores of movies, including "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Ghost," died of lung cancer at his home in Sicily. He was 57. Star Trek fans best knew Schiavelli as the holographic weapons salesman on the Next Generation episode "Arsenal of Freedom."

Schiavelli, whose gloomy look made him perfect to play creepy or eccentric characters, made appearances in some 150 film and television productions. Among his movies are "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," "Amadeus," "Batman Returns," and "The People vs. Larry Flynt." In 1977 he was

selected by Vanity Fair as one of America's best character actors. Schiavelli, who was born and raised in New York, studied acting at New York University's School of the Arts.



Vincent Schiavelli as the Holographic Salesman from "Arsenal of Freedom"

Schiavelli's other passions included food. He was the author of three cookbooks and, in 2001, received the James Beard Journalism Award.

He was also the honorary co-chair of the National Marfan Foundation, which serves people afflicted with Marfan Syndrome—a genetic disorder that Schiavelli had which results in unusually long limbs.

In 1985 he married "Moonlighting" actress Allyce Beasley. They had one child and divorced in 1988. He married again in 1992 to Carol Mukhalian, who survives him.

TABULATIONS

Okay, here are the final tab contest statistics:

Starting Balance	80942
Connie Heller	13473
Roger Wright	5300
Vanessa Winfield	3654
Russell Ruhland	3000
Tony Fleming	2084
Randy Dunn	1345
Karen Pynenburg	1174
Skye Cameron	431
Joe Perry	60
Total Tabs	111463

New Beginning Amount 11463

So that means you only have to collect 88537 tabs to have a chance at pieing one of the Senior Staff!

NEWS FROM FLEET

The USS New Hope is taking on the challenge. At 2:00 PM on Saturday, 4 February, in Prattville, AL, the New Hope's reigning Great Dalmuti is offering our chapter and everyone in Region 2 a chance to dethrone HRH! Entry fee is just \$5.00. All money collected will go to the summit charity, Kid One Transport. There will be drinks and snacks available but feel free to add to the assortment. I would love to see a good representation from the DaVinci attend this worthwhile event. They attend our events so it is time we reciprocated. Let me know if you wish to attend and I will contact Jan.

The second annual Fleet Day at Kennedy Space Center is being held 28-29 January. This weekend takes on special significance, as it is the 20th Anniversary of the Challenger Disaster. There will be a Fleet wreath-laying ceremony at the Astronaut Memorial Wall and visits to the Kennedy Space Center and Astronaut Hall of Fame and dinner on the town. You are encouraged to wear uniforms, chapter t-shirts, Starfleet t-shirts and there may even be Fleet Day shirts. A special rate of \$50.00 per night has been arranged with the Days Inn, Satellite Beach.

The Region 2 Summit in Birmingham, AL is swiftly approaching! The Summit will take place 3-5 March at the Airport Holiday Inn. If you wish to attend register on-line at region2.org. It is a great way to visit with old friends and meet new ones. The Summit will feature more than 30 panels some of which are newsletters, leadership, costumes, and beginning a shuttle. There will also be a gaming room, auction, tournaments, and much more!

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 Pilot of Shuttle (LTC Eileen Collins 1995)	3 rd
First Russian Aboard US Spacecraft (Sergei Krikalev 1994)	3 rd
First Untethered Space Walk (McCandless & 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

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

Roger Wright for his donation of stamps and coupons.

Randy Dunn and Sandy Holt for their future marriage!

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	407.32
December & January Nights Out	22.00
Deposit	77.00
Pieing party	40.92
Postage	4.90
Closing Balance	426.50

FCPT 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).

Bill Paul (D)
Barbara Paul (D)
Randy Dunn (D)
Mathew Dunn (D)
Rebecca Dunn (D)
Christopher Dunn (D)
Sandy Holt (D)
Robert Crosby (D)*
Gisela Stephens (D)
Diane Franklin (D)

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

At the December Christmas party, the 2006 Night Out locations were selected. We had some familiar locations and some new spots as well. So without further ado, here are the remaining 2006 locations. Bon appetite!

February	Steak N' Shake
March	Cracker Barrel
April	Longhorn Steak House
May	La Nacional (Mexican buffet)
June	El Zapata
July	Chili's
August	Panera Bread Company
September	Jumbo China
October	New China Buffet
November	Moe's
December	Zaxby's

In addition, two alternates were selected in case of a closure. These are Carrabba's Italian Grill and Country's at Main Street.

Congratulations to Russell Ruhland, the winner of the free dinner at Carrabba's during the January Night Out!

DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLOS

We are swiftly running out of shirts! If you want one you better act quickly before your size is gone. We have no extra large or XX left, only small, medium, and large. Several of you have approached me about obtaining a DaVinci polo shirt. I will be happy to place another order but again I need more than just one or two. So, if you want a new DaVinci polo shirt, let me know the size you want and whether you want a red (operations), blue (science), or yellow (engineering) trim on the DaVinci logo. Remember, they do run slightly large. The cost should be around \$22-\$27 depending on the size (XX and up are slightly higher). If you want extra printing on the shirt, such as your name or position, that too will run you a few extra credits.

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT STEAK N' SHAKE
ON MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE GREAT FOOD!
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**

FINALLY...

Many of you do not know when your membership in the DaVinci or Starfleet is due for renewal. So to help you remember, here are your expiration dates:

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
Skye Cameron	Jul 06	
James Carey	Oct 06	
Faye Cole	Mar 06	
Robert Crosby	Jan 07	
Dutch Cummings	Apr 06	
Randy Dunn	Jan 07	May 06
Karen Ferris	Sep 06	
Tony Fleming	Jul 06	Jun 06
Diane Franklin	Dec 06	
Eldred Hightower	Dec 06	
Benlee Huguley	Dec 06	
Todd Kes	Oct 06	
Leiko Koone	Oct 06	Oct 06
Lech Mazur	Jul 06	May 06
Margaret McGillicuddy	Mar 07	Sep 06
Lisa Neal	Jul 06	
Barbara Paul	Jan 07	Aug 06
Joe Perry	Jul 06	Nov 06
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 06	May 06
Russell Ruhland	Aug 06	Aug 06
Park Scully	Apr 06	
Dennis Shaw	Jun 06	
Frazier Smith	Jun 06	Jun 06
Gisela Stephens	Jan 07	Sep 06
Michael Walker	Mar 06	Mar 06
Vanessa Winfield	Jun 06	Jun 06
Susan Wood	Apr 06	
Roger Wright	Jul 06	Sep 06

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 everyone would enjoy a look down memory lane. Each month I will show a series of photographs from our very beginning, as the Shuttle DaVinci, 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.



Travis Heller fixes himself a plate of food at the DaVinci’s 5th Anniversary party. That is Dana Ainsworth with son Hunter on the left and Connie Heller on the right (17 March 2001)



Joe Perry, Patty Williams, Ariana Heller, Courtney Ainsworth, and Josh Ainsworth enjoying the good food. That is Gisela Stephens in the background.



“Gooooood”, beams Josh Ainsworth!



Patty Williams contemplating on what to take next.



A very young looking Roger Wright checking out the goodies on the “Captain’s Table.”



Todd Kes watches something Trek on television.



Josh Ainsworth, James Thornton, and Steve Gordon waiting for the big moment at the USS Shadow Hawk’s commissioning party! (21 April 2001)



Steve “DJ” Gordon doing his thing!



Connie Heller and daughter Ariana pose for the camera.



Connie Heller, Patty Williams, Gisela Stephens, and Joe Perry also watching some Trek on television.



Freddy Heller, Mike Henigan, Kelly Hillard, and Steve Gordon sit at the head table during the commissioning ceremony.



James Thornton and his wife Sara beam with excitement!



Steve Gordon congratulates James Thornton on his promotion as Freddy Heller, Mike Henigan, Josh Ainsworth, and Kelly Hillard look on.



Connie Heller obviously telling stories about hubby Freddy to Kelly Hillard and Mike Henigan



Steve Gordon congratulates Frazier Smith on his promotion as Krelly Hillard look on!

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WILL BE AT STEAK N' SHAKE
ON MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE GREAT FOOD!
COME FOR THE FRIENDSHIP!**

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL
BE ON 02 FEBRUARY AT 7:00 PM
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE JOIN IN ON THE FUN!**

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 Freddy Heller 562-8735

Science Officer Lech Mazur 596-9542

Computer Science Vanessa Winfield 732-0125

Counselor Russell Ruhland...298-3998

Medical Barbara Paul (478) 929-3210

Morale **VACANT**

Engineering Officer **VACANT**

Communications **VACANT**

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 Joe at any of the DaVinci events or give them a call.