

# DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 12 Number 10

APRIL 2007

## FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Well, the Twilight Zone marathon did not quite last as long as I had hoped. About a dozen hearty souls began watching the season one episodes around 6:30 PM. There were plenty of snacks to go around and Connie was kind enough to make some of her famous Trek-related munchies. They were quite popular and went very fast. The evening progressed slowly as each episode of Season one was shown. Trying to recognize Trek actors and what role they played was a lot of fun. It is surprising just how many we did find. The hours slowly went by and the question on everyone's mind was "who would leave first?" That question was answered at 11:30 (too early!) when Russell, the Executive Officer of the DaVinci, my "Number One" got up from his seat and announced to the ensemble that he "had" to leave. Of course, once the first person left, it was like falling dominoes. By 1:30 AM all had left. A little disappointing for we watched only 16 episodes; not even half way through season one. Well maybe the next time we have a marathon it will last longer.

Our 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary party is just a few days away! Mark your calendars for the 31<sup>st</sup> of March at 2:00 PM. Pizza will be the main dish and hopefully other goodies will also be available as well. There is no official sign-up sheet but what I am asking is for volunteers to bring in side dishes such as coleslaw, macaroni salad, garden salad, deviled eggs, and some sort of dessert (cakes, pies, ice cream, or something else). For those of you who cannot eat pizza for whatever reason we will get something to appease your appetite. Drinks will not be supplied so you must bring your own to the festivities.

VADM Freddy Heller

## EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue; in 1493, Columbus sailed the deep blue sea; in 1494, Columbus sailed the sea once more; in 2007, the Region 2 Summit in Columbus was like heaven. The weekend of 9-11 March became the second occasion for our home to host Starfleet's Region 2 Summit, which was located at the Airport Holiday Inn on Manchester Expressway. The DaVinci was very well represented with me, Diane, Connie, Ariana, Joe, Randy, Sandy, Lesh, Jeff, Martha, Mike, Kelly, Frazier and Vanessa in attendance.

The hotel staff was friendly and quickly saw to the needs of the Region when required. I particularly was overwhelmed by the quality and variety of foods available within the hotel restaurant, and the pasta buffet that was put together for the Region at lunch on Saturday was outstanding. The dinner buffet was of high quality as well and I heard many great comments from those who attended the Summit. A personal thank you to Randy and Sandy for the outstanding table decor they put together for the banquet.

The DaVinci was recognized during the awards ceremony for Mothership of the Year and to our surprise Freddy received promotion to Vice Admiral and yours truly to Fleet Captain. Ariana also received recognition for scholastic achievement.

Panels were available to anyone desiring to attend and included such subjects as Klingon Self-Defense, Alien Foods, Costuming, Publicity, Inspector General, Chaplain/Counselors, and more. I understand that a total of about 85 members of Region 2 attended, which was lower than the average but still made for a wonderful weekend. The charity, PAWS, received a check for \$500 on

Sunday at closing ceremonies and their representative was quite happy for the efforts of the Region.

What about the Trek wedding on Saturday afternoon, you ask? Our Region 2 Coordinator, Jack Eaton, presided over the ceremony since Freddy was unavailable due to work commitments. Vows were exchanged in grand Trek-related style and the happy couple (Diane and I) are thankful for all who attended. Connie provided a very tasty double-chocolate wedding cake (take that, Deanna Troi!) and ice cream punch was also provided. All in all, a weekend to remember.

Next year I am told that the Summit is scheduled for a location in Alabama but we do not know exactly what city yet. Until next time, live long and prosper!

(Am I gaining weight around the neck or is that Thrall collar Diane placed on me at the wedding just getting tighter?)

FCPT Russell Ruhland

## SUMMIT SUMMARY

Let me just say that, along with everyone else at the summit, I missed Freddy! Yes, without my long-suffering pack mule, I had to haul the luggage and panel paraphernalia into the hotel by myself. At least Ariana and I had a room fairly near an outside door and not too far from the front. You would not believe how long the hike is from the rooms at the back of the hotel to the meeting rooms. Danny Potts mentioned how happy he was that he was in a room next to the exercise room so he could burn off some calories, and then realized that walking back and forth a few times took care of the exercise!

From a mom's perspective, no one could have improved on the Cadet Activities. Ariana loved being with Jan Sleigh and the other cadets, even if they were all boys. (Jan, in return, said that having Ariana there saved her sanity.) Ariana came home with lots of craft and prize loot, and she was literally sobbing when she realized that the weekend was over. She is looking forward to both the Gratitude Festival this fall and next year's summit.

My panels went off well. Although few people attended the Alien Food panel, they enjoyed the samples and the "make-and-take" activity I had planned. We got a good discussion going during the

Costuming panel, with one of the members brainstorming how he could make me a light-up number necklace from "I, Mudd" for a future costume. He later showed me a Klingon headpiece that he is constructing from scratch. He is outfitting a number of Klingons in the region, including Sunny Planthold and James Brunton. We have so many talented folk. Bethany Thielman's son stole the show, however, with his costume from the "Alien" movies. Bethany made the costume herself, using about \$200 worth of supplies.

The Star Trek wedding was the highlight of the weekend. I would like to thank Randy and Sandy for setting up the refreshments, as I had to go straight from my last panel to the wedding. They did a marvelous job, and I think I have a new (and easy) punch recipe. Now all I need to do is think of an alien name for it to use in future panels!

The banquet was fun, with the DaVinci and several crew members honored and/or promoted. Not as many as I thought we deserved, but there's always next year. And then the whole group sang "Happy Birthday" to Ariana at closing ceremonies! Don't let her pretend to be shy—she went straight to the front of the room when Sandy called her.

The best part—by far—was seeing friends from far away. Danny, Pete, "Mama", Sandy, Sunny—all of them make you realize what Starfleet is about, and that is friendship, fraternity, and fun. Those of us in attendance know what I'm talking about. And if you weren't there, you missed out.

FCPT Connie Heller

## CADET VIEWPOINT

I had a great time at the summit. First, we got to our room. Then, we went to dinner. Mommy took me to the kids room. Guess what?! Miss Jan's room was next to ours! Once we got to the kids room Mommy left and I was stuck with 4 boys because Katrina wasn't there. In the kids room we first played a Star Wars video game. Then, we played Attacktix. Next, mommy picked me up.

The next day, we went to Ihop for breakfast. Mommy had pancakes, and I had a cinna-stack-celebration. Then, we went to the hotel. Then, we went to the opening ceremonies. After that, I went to the kids room.

First, the four boys and I played "Shipwreck". It's where you have to obey the captain's rules. Everybody wins something. After that, we made sea monsters. It was a contest. Then me and mommy went for lunch at 1:00. At 2:00 I went back to the kids room. Me and 3 boys made ships, and had a race. Then, we went to Boffer Battles. I beat Dominic. Then, we did our treasure hunt. I found the piñata treasure chest. Katrina came! Everybody got a chance to hit the piñata. Then we went to the kids room, and mommy picked me up.

We went to the room, and got dressed for the banquet. I won an award! Daddy won 2! Everybody was sad that Daddy wasn't here. The DaVinci won the mothership award. After the banquet and the award ceremony we went to our room, and watched the end of Men in Black.

Then the next day we went to breakfast. Then, we went to our room and brushed our teeth. Then, we went to Russell's church service. After that we packed up. Next, we went to the ending ceremonies. That is what we did at the Summit.

Cadet Ariana Heller

**P.S.**

Those who plan to attend the Anniversary Party, take note. I will be making some of my Alien Food dishes, so if you have any favorites, let me know!

We have received both email and snail mail from Holiday Inn, thanking us for having the summit at their hotel and hoping that we will use them the next time we host it. They mention that it is a lot more boring now that Starfleet has vacated the premises!

Also, Ariana received some tab contributions from Jan Sleight and Lucy Ferron at the Summit. Being a loyal and intelligent daughter, those will be added to my account. The "Vice" will not be in the lead for long!

FCPT Connie Heller

**TABULATIONS**

The new contest is off and running! This one will be much tougher because we are starting the year with only 10 tabs whereas last year we started with 11,463 tabs and still did not reach our intended goal of 100,000 tabs. Will we reach that goal this year?

That depends a lot on y'all. Since Russell and I wish to share the joy of being pied with the rest of the Senior Staff the following are the goals for this year: if we reach 80,000 tabs, the Operations Officer (currently Joe), the Science Officer (currently Lech), the Engineering Officer (currently acting in that capacity is Roger), and the Starfleet Marine OIC (currently Frazier) will get pied. If we reach 90,000 tabs Russell and I will be the pie recipients. But, if we reach the magic number of 100,000 tabs we all get pied! As usual, the top "tabbers" get to do the pieing. So start saving those tabs now! As of press time the total tabs collected so far is:

<b>Starting Balance</b>	10
Freddy Heller	6259
Russell Ruhland	4411
Connie Heller	484
Rebecca Dunn	113
<b>Total</b>	11277

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL  
BE ON THURSDAY 05 APRIL  
AT 7:00 PM AT THE  
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
PLEASE JOIN US FOR FUN AND GAMES!**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

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

Grace Lee Whitney (Yeoman Janice Rand on TOS)	1 <sup>st</sup>
First Weather Satellite, TRIOS-One, is Launched (1960)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Maiden Voyage of Shuttle Challenger (1983)	4 <sup>th</sup>
Frank Gorshin (Bele on TOS)	5 <sup>th</sup>
NASA Announces its First Seven Astronauts (1959)	9 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo 13 Begins Fated Mission to the Moon (1970)	11 <sup>th</sup>
First Man in Space (Yuri Gagarin 1961)	12 <sup>th</sup>
Charles Napier (Adam on TOS)	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>ENS Leiko Koone</b>	13 <sup>th</sup>
First Test Flight of Shuttle Columbia Ends (1981)	14 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Ansara (Kang on TOS)	15 <sup>th</sup>
First Woman to Solo Around the World (Jerrie Mock 1964)	17 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo 13 Returns Safely to Earth (1970)	17 <sup>th</sup>
<b>CADET Mariaelena Fleming</b>	18 <sup>th</sup>
Herman Zimmerman (Set Designer)	19 <sup>th</sup>

Elinor Donahue (Asst Commissioner Nancy Hedford on TOS)	19 <sup>th</sup>
Ashley Judd (ENS Robin Lefler on TNG)	19 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo 16 Lands on the Moon (1972)	20 <sup>th</sup>
Clint Howard (Balok on TOS; Grady on DS9)	20 <sup>th</sup>
George Takei (CPT Hikaru Sulu)	20 <sup>th</sup>
China Launches Its First Satellite (1970)	24 <sup>th</sup>
First Satellite Relay of a Television Signal (1962)	24 <sup>th</sup>
Pioneer Ten Crosses Pluto's Orbit (1983)	25 <sup>th</sup>
Hubble Space Telescope is Deployed (1990)	25 <sup>th</sup>
Spice Williams (Vixis from Search for Spock)	26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>ENS Rod Jennings</b>	28 <sup>th</sup>
Kate Mulgrew (CPT Kathryn Janeway on VOY)	29 <sup>th</sup>

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Edward Ceely (D)\*  
 Madonna Ceely (D)\*  
 Benlee Huguley (D)

## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	276.41
Night Out	14.50
Star Trek wedding	41.71
Deposit	47.00
Closing Balance	169.78

FCPT Connie Heller

## MEMBERSHIPS

Many of you do not know when your membership in the DaVinci or Starfleet is due for renewal. So to help you remember, the following lists your expiration dates. Pay special attention to those marked in **red** they mean expired or nearing expiration in your (or your family's) membership.

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
James Carey	Oct 07	
Edward Ceely	Mar 08	
Dutch Cummings	Jul 07	
Randy Dunn	Jan 08	May 07
Bubba Dutton	Sep 08	Sep 07
Tony Fleming	Jul 07	Jun 07
Diane Franklin	Dec 07	Dec 07
Freddy Heller	Jul 07	Sep 07

Mike Henigan	LTM	Nov 07
Benlee Huguley	Feb 08	
Roderick Jennings	Nov 07	Oct 07
Todd Kes	Oct 07	
Jeff Kirkland	Oct 08	Jul 07
Leiko Koone	Oct 07	Oct 07
Lech Mazur	Jul 07	Jul 07
Margaret McGillicuddy	Mar 07	Sep 07
Lisa Neal	Jul 07	
Joe Perry	Jul 07	Nov 07
George Pimentel	Jul 07	Jun 07
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 07	May 07
Russell Ruhland	Sep 07	Aug 07
Park Scully	Jul 08	Jul 07
Dennis Shaw	Jul 07	Jul 07
Frazier Smith	Sep 07	Oct 07
Tonya Spanks	Nov 07	Oct 07
Gisela Stephens	Jan 07	Oct 07
Michael Walker	Nov 07	Mar 07
Patty Williams	Nov 07	
Vanessa Winfield	Sep 07	Oct 07
Roger Wright	Jul 07	Sep 07

## ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:  
 PO3 James Carey for his donation of cans  
 LTJG Karen Pynenburg for her donation of coupons  
 LTJG George Pimental for receiving another Bronze Boothby award  
 CPT Russell Ruhland for his promotion to Fleet Captain  
 RADM Freddy Heller for his promotion to Vice Admiral  
 Cadet Ariana Heller for Region 2 Award in Scholastic Achievement  
 VADM Freddy Heller for all his work locally to make this year's summit happen  
 The USS DaVinci for Region 2 Award as Mothership of the Year

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT  
 WILL BE AT **HOOTER'S**!!!!  
 ON MONDAY 16 APRIL AT 7:00 PM  
 COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP  
 AND OTHER DELECTABLE ITEMS!**

## DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLO'S

The t-shirts and polo shirts have arrived!! If you placed an order you can pick them up at my house or at any of the DaVinci events. Extra shirts were ordered so if you did not place an order this time we will have extra in case you change your mind.

## NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

At the Christmas party in December, the 2007 Night Out locations were selected. The list of the 2007 locations is below. I hope your favorite spot made the list.

Since the Night Out is so late in the month, we will have to announce the March winner of the free meal in the next Pilot.

May	O'Charley's
June	Country's On Broad
July	Hooter's
August	Johnny Carino's
September	Speakeasy Pub
October	Mi Casa
November	Panera Bread Company
December	McAllisters

## RM HOUSE NEEDED ITEMS

The Ronald McDonald House is always in need for a variety of items. Try to bring something each time we have our meeting. Bringing something with you is a nice way to say "thank-you" for letting us use their meeting room free of charge.

Although The Ronald McDonald House needs quite a variety of items, the items needed most are trash bags (35 gal), laundry detergent, dryer sheets, air freshener spray, AA batteries, copier paper, labels, Styrofoam cups, and food items such as hard candy, cake icing, lemonade, salad dressing, soup, box dinners, vegetable oil, and perishable items such as bread, meats, cheese slices, fresh fruits, and snack foods. Thanks!

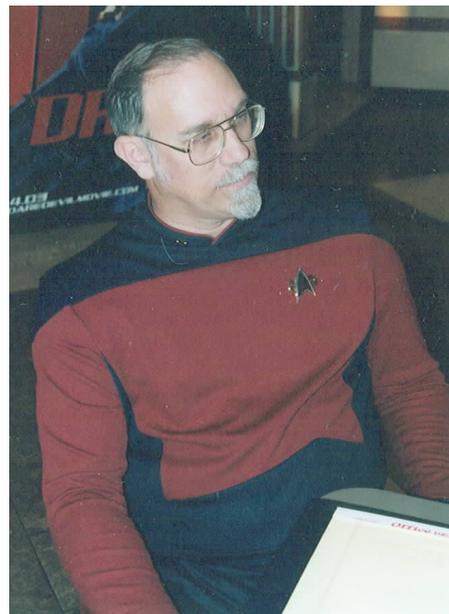
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## THE USS DAVINCI IN PHOTOS

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! Reminiscence.



Russell and Joe waiting patiently for the throngs of people at the premiere of Star Trek Nemesis (14 December 2002)



Russell listening intently to Joe.



And, Joe listening intently to Russell.



Joe, Gisela, and Rose chatting about – what else? – Star Trek!



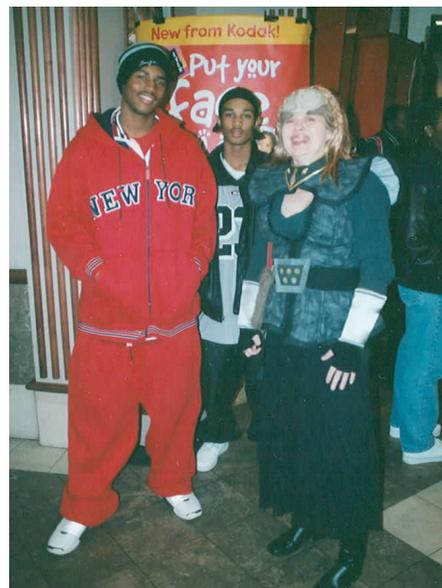
Russell and Joe chatting with the theater manager.



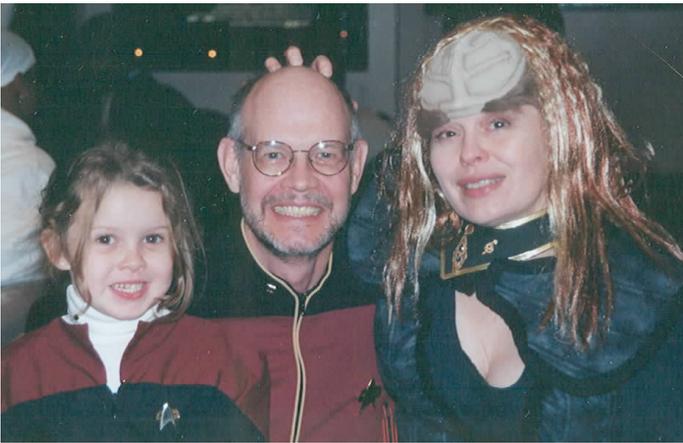
The fierce Klingon warrior, Connie, takes on the near impossible task of braiding Ariana's hair!



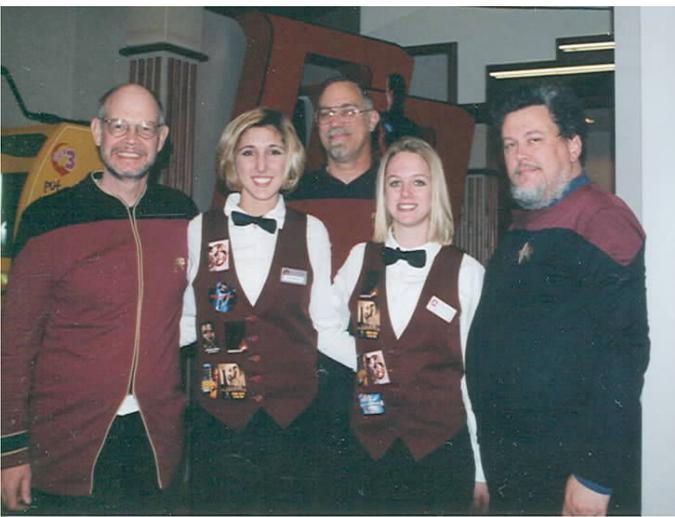
Freddy and Russell posing for the camera. Say, do you think Russell knew would really have that seat in 3 short years?



Even through the costume, Connie was recognized by some Central High School students.



Ariana, Freddy, and Connie (giving her honey the famous Picard head scratch) pose for the camera.



Freddy, Russell, and Joe with the ladies. Yes, they really did want to pose with us!



Joe talks with some interested folks attending the premiere while Russell's and Gisela's attention is focused elsewhere.



The DaVinci crew at the Nemesis premiere. (L-R) Travis, Ariana, Connie, Joe, Rose, Gisela, and Russell

## DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

### Commanding Officer

Freddy Heller (706) 562-8735

### Executive Officer

Russell Ruhland (334) 298-3998

### Operations

Joe Perry – Operations Officer (706) 327-5888

Finance - Connie Heller (706) 562-8735

Community Service - Tony Fleming (706) 568-6529

Publications - Freddy Heller (706) 562-8735

### Science

Lech Mazur - Science Officer (706) 596-9542

Computer Science - Leiko Koone (706) 663-2763

Counselor – Diane Franklin (334) 298-1475

Medical - Jeff Kirkland (770) 253-6474

Morale **VACANT**

### Engineering

Engineering Officer **VACANT**

Communications Chief **VACANT**

Quartermaster - Randy Dunn (334) 291-0150

Security - Roger Wright (706) 221-6072

### Starfleet Marines

Frazier Smith – Marine OIC (334) 298-5047

Cadet Corps Commander **VACANT**

Master Chief Petty Officer **VACANT**

Interested in a position within the ship? See Joe or Freddy at any of the DaVinci events or give them a call. All numbers are in the 706 area code unless otherwise noted.

## FINALLY...

Next month is when we nominate folks for Captain! Yes, it is that time again! In May we nominate and in June is the election. The CO takes the helm at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July party. More details in the next newsletter.

## CARGO BAY

**For Sale:** Hundreds of Star Trek, Star Wars, and other miscellaneous female action figures. Low prices! The more you buy the more you save. Call or email Freddy for a complete list!

**For Sale:** Miscellaneous Star Trek items. Comics, magazines, commercial items, toys, you name it I probably have it! Low prices. Call or email Freddy for a complete list!

**For Sale:** If you have been to Freddy and Connie's house you probably noticed the large collection of Liberty Falls houses. Well, they are for sale! Check with Connie for your needs.

**Autographs:** Looking for that certain autographed photograph of your favorite Star Trek or other sci-fi personality? Check with Freddy. He just may have what you need.

**Plates:** I have several Hamilton Collector Plates for sale: Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan, Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home, Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country, Yesterday's Enterprise, Worf, and Captain's Tribute. Call Tony at (706) 568-6529 and leave a message.

**DaVinci Slideshow:** We still have plenty of the new DaVinci slideshow. It has been burned onto DVD+R discs, which play in nearly all DVD players. The price is \$5.00 apiece. Remember the tribute to Roger is also included on the DVD and it is something not to be missed! There are also historical discs (old leftovers) available for only \$1.00 apiece. See or call Connie for more info!

Want to put an ad in the Pilot? Just send it to me and it will go in. Does not matter what it says – wanted, for sale, or something more personal! Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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## SUMMIT PHOTOS



Diane, Sandy and Randy relax before opening ceremonies.



Evan Thielman in his "Alien" attire.



Jack Eaton “marries” Russell and Diane.



Ariana flashes her smile upon accepting the Scholastic Achievement certificate from Lucy Ferron.



Russell receives his promotion certificate from Jack, while Joe waits to pin on the extra pip.



At the end of closing ceremonies, everyone gets together for the group shot.



Russell accepts the Brenda Bullock Mothership Award in Freddy's absence.



DaVinci crew members that remained after closing ceremonies pose for the traditional photo.