

DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 12 Number 11

MAY 2007

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

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.

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:

VADM Freddy Heller
COMM Joe Perry
COMM Jeff Kirkland
FCPT Russell Ruhland
FCPT Connie Heller
FCPT Tonya Spanks
LTCMDR Tony Fleming
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! Also, Jeff and

Tonya will shortly join a newly formed chapter in the Atlanta area and will probably join that ship. 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 primary member (that member whose name comes first on the membership application is the primary member) of the DaVinci no later than one week following the meeting. This is a change from last year and is meant to prevent folks with large families from "stuffing" the ballot box so to speak. The ballots will have a self-addressed stamped envelope addressed to Lech Mazur, the DaVinci's Science Officer. The ballots must be mailed to Lech no later than the Monday prior to the June meeting (28 May). 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 Lech or myself so that we can mail you a duplicate ballot.

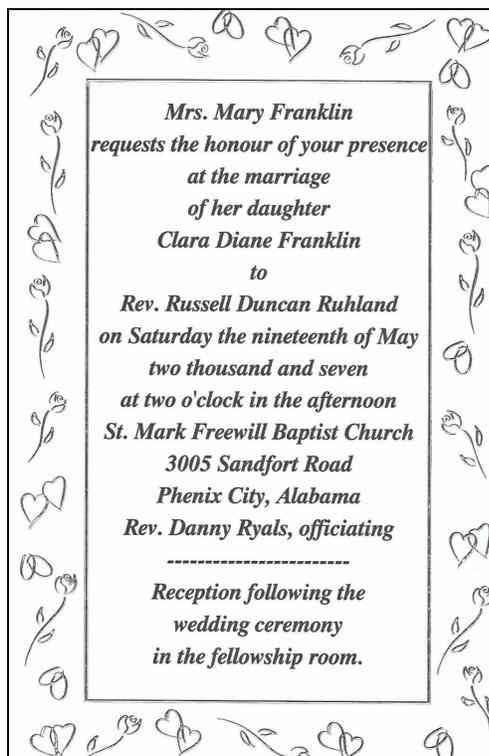
I cannot stress enough how important the process of election is to you. Remember, the DaVinci is YOUR ship and you are the ones who have a say in who sits in the "Center Seat" for the next 2 years. The process of the election begins with the nominations and if you only attend one meeting this year, this 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.

RADM Freddy Heller

EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

Well then, it seems that there are no limits to the number of surprises one will experience at a DaVinci event. Such was the case at the latest night out which was held at Hooters. Diane, Lech, Margaret, Randy, Park, Todd, Roger, and myself plus one were in attendance for the food and fellowship. What's that you say? Roger plus one? Yes indeed, we were all blessed to meet the newest addition to Roger's family, baby Alexander! The food was OK although a couple of us wondered what type of steak was in the Texas steak sandwich (it wasn't Texas steak), but we all enjoyed one another's company. Also to our surprise, Nathan, the manager, came by and sat with us awhile. He is a sci-fi fan and noted that the DaVinci was sci-fi related when Roger called ahead to set up a table for us and Nathan graciously awarded the DaVinci a free Wing Party for up to ten people with all the trimmings. I'm sure Roger will be more than willing to set up a Security meeting soon. More info will come on that later. Randy was the winner of the free meal drawing and we closed out at about 8:30.

Now, about that wedding everyone is talking about. The real deal for me and Diane will occur at 2:00 PM on Saturday, the 19th of May at St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church on Sandfort Road in Phenix City, AL.



The easiest way I can give directions to the church is to come into Phenix City from the JR Allen bypass, turning left at the end of the bypass and continue through town until you see the sign to HWY 431 South. There is a signal light just prior to the 431 South exit that you need to turn right at (Bama Motors is on the right) and proceed up the hill to a Stop sign. Turn left to the next Stop sign and then turn right which will put you on Sandfort Road. In approximately 2 miles (don't quote me on that, Joe) look to the left and you will see the church sitting off the road. There is a sign with the Church name but you sort of see it when you're right on top of it. If you have any questions about directions you can call the Church at 334-298-8015. Someone should be at the Church after 12 Noon that day or call me at 334-298-3998. Hope to see you there. Live long and prosper!

FCPT Russell Ruhland

2007 GRATITUDE FESTIVAL

The Gratitude Festival for 2007 will be held September 21, 22, and 23, once again at Camp ASSCA on beautiful Lake Martin, just north of Auburn, AL

Already scheduled are the Klingon Boffer Tourney, The Formal Banquet, Texas Hold'em, and classes and workshops sponsored by the new Region 2 Leadership Institute and Starfleet Academy. In addition, Master Bartender Wade Olsen has agreed to operate an exciting "Alien Bar" before, during, and after the banquet. And of course, the Most Attractive Table contest, in which each ship competes against every other ship for setting the most attractive table at the banquet, and the Alien Desert contest will once again be held.

As always, the Gratitude Festival provides an opportunity for us to get together for fun and fellowship about six months before and after the summit. We hope to inspire each ship attending to contribute something to the success of the festival. Got an idea for a class or workshop you'd like to see, but aren't sure how to pull it off? Can your ship sponsor lunch on Saturday or maybe a few breakfast items? Give us a call, we'll figure it out together.

For questions, comments, or just to talk, call John Clayton at (251) 214-2397

ATTENTION ON DECK!!

At ease! Greetings from your Marine OIC! Major Frazier Smith (Officer in Command). It has been quite some time since I've presented an article. The 678th attended the Region 2 Summit on the 9th and 10th of March. It was fairly well attended. The 678th made a showing, getting acquainted with old friends and enjoying the weekend with the Region in general. Due to working conditions of my company and crew, I was not able to attend some of the festivities. The dinner in particular was described to be very well done. Fleet members adorned themselves in the character of their choice ranging from Klingons, to Vulcans, and other interesting characters. Some to the friendly faces shown were: Joe, Randy and Sandy, Russell and Diane, Connie and Ariana, Lech, Vanessa, and of course yours truly Frazier from the USS DaVinci.

Beginning on Friday –Saturday, the activities that I was able to attend and participate in were: The Great Dalmudi, which took place on Friday evening at 10:00pm. Though my chariot was without wheels, I somehow manage to get there at the ending of Russell and Diane's Starfleet wedding. On Saturday the 678th participated in a flag ceremony. We presented a flag to a representative on behalf of fallen fleet members.

Vanessa attended her first summit. She explains her positive experience at the Region 2. "I enjoyed shopping!" She states that, "She enjoyed the festivities and meeting new people." The Summit could have been a lot more organized but overall, she states, "She is looking forward to the next one."

I just would like to say, "That I will endeavor to keep the channels of communication available to all concerning the 678th Marine activities." I take this time to invite everyone to participate in away mission activities in the future.

Attention! Dismissed!

MAJ Frazier Smith

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	169.78
Night Out	12.30
Closing Balance	157.48

FCPT Connie Heller

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Leonardo DaVinci Dies (1519)	2 nd
Astronaut Scott Carpenter	2 nd
Marc Alaimo (Dukat on DS9)	5 th
First American in Space (Alan B. Shepard, Jr. 1961)	5 th
ENS Matthew Dunn	6 th
Telstar Two Comm. Satellite Launched (1963)	7 th
ENS Dennis Shaw	11 th
PO2 Lisa Neal	12 th
Last Mercury Flight (Gordon L. Cooper 1963)	15 th
LT Gisela Stephens	15 th
COMM Jeff Kirkland	15 th
CADET Vincenzo Fleming	16 th
First Woman to Break Sound Barrier (Jacqueline Cochran 1953)	18 th
Apollo 10 Lifts Off (Cernan, Stafford, Young 1969)	18 th
John Billingsly (Dr. Phlox on ENT)	20 th
Apollo 10 Flies to 9 Miles of Moon's Surface (1969)	22 nd
Joan Collins (Edith Keeler on TOS)	23 rd
Second American in Space (Scott Carpenter 1962)	24 th
FCPT Russell Ruhland	25 th
VADM Freddy Heller	26 th
Harlan Ellison (Scrip Writer)	27 th
Lee Meriwether (Lorisa on TOS)	27 th
Mariner Nine Blasts Off to Mars (1971)	30 th
Discovery Docks at the International Space Station (1999)	29 th
Michael J. Pollard (Jahn on TOS)	30 th
Colm Meaney (Chief Miles O'Brien on DS9)	30 th
Michael Piller (Executive Producer)	30 th

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

ENS Dennis Shaw for taking first place in the recent Special Olympics Bowling tournament!

PO3 James Carey for his donation of cans.

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:

Starting Balance	10
Connie Heller	7222
Freddy Heller	6845
Karen Pynenburg	5500
Russell Ruhland	4411
Rebecca Dunn	789
Leiko Koone	735
Benlee Huguley	235
Total	25747

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.

Congratulations to Russell, the winner of the free dinner at Bavarian House during the March Night Out!

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

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 both your expiration dates. Pay special attention to those marked in **red** as they mean expired or nearing expiration in your (or your family’s) membership. Please renew right away!

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
James Carey	Oct 07	
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

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!

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL
BE ON THURSDAY 03 MAY AT 7:00 PM
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
PLEASE JOIN US FOR FUN AND GAMES!**

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 decided you would like one after all or want an extra there are plenty of different sizes available. Check with Freddy at any of the DaVinci events or give him a call.

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.



Joe, Lech, Rusty, and Connie enjoy dessert at our 6th annual Christmas Party (21 December 2002)



Todd consumes some ice cream while Joe, Randy, and Lech pose for the camera.



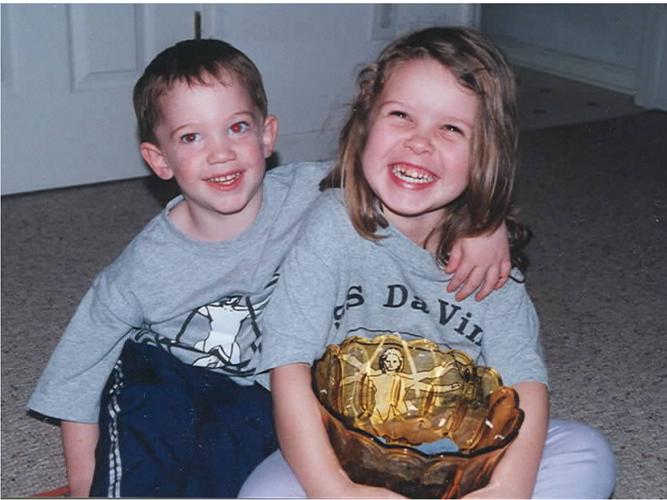
Todd show his DragonCon photos of scantily clothed females as Rusty looks on.



"Where are the photos of the men?" thinks Margaret while Russell and Joe stare intently at the television.



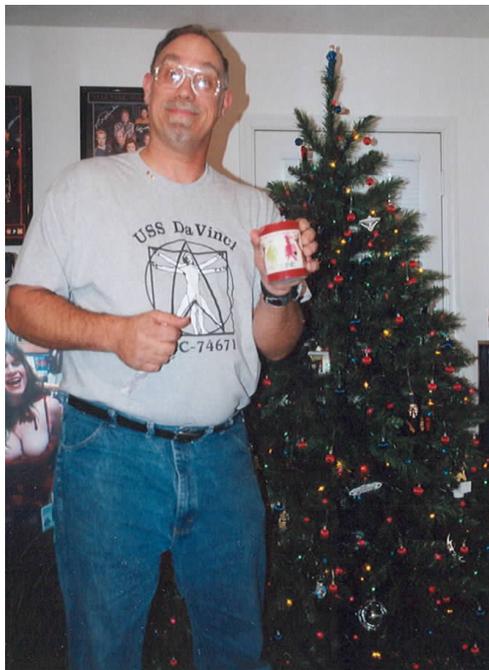
"Now that is a costume, or lack of one" thinks a relaxed Joe.



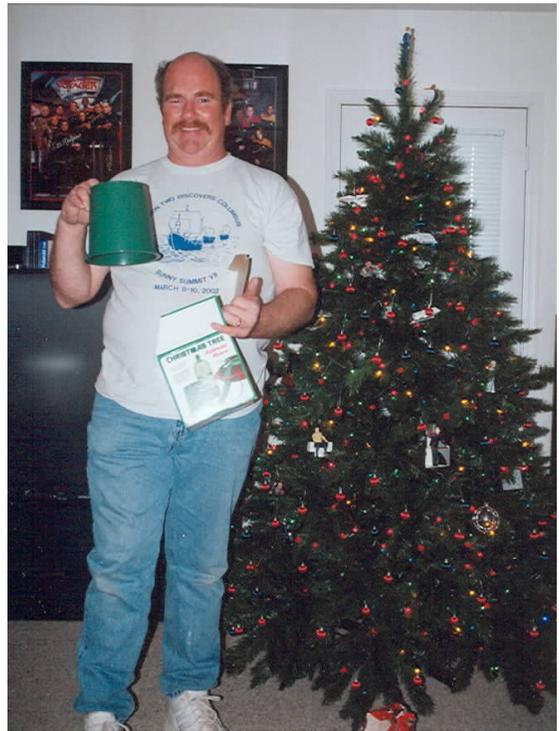
Buddies. Christopher and Ariana having a fun time during the door prize drawing.



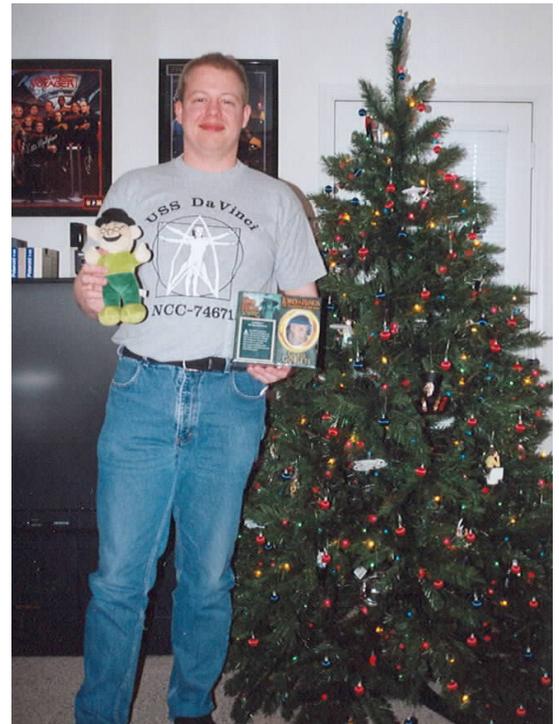
The winners! Lech (cookie mix) and Todd (First Contact) show off their door prize winnings!



Russell and his gag gift.



Randy shows off his gag gift, the infamous automatic Christmas tree watering can that Freddy received the year before!



Todd shows off his gag gift.

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT O'CHARLEY'S
ON MONDAY 21 MAY AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**



Connie proudly displays her Star Wars cans during the gag gift exchange.



Rebecca, Ariana, and Christopher enjoying playing video games

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...

Please make sure you attend Russell and Diane's wedding! Unfortunately I will be out of town attend the Women of Sci-Fi convention in Orlando that same weekend. Fortunately, Russell and Diane have decided to attend the Sunday activities so I will get a chance to "kiss the bride" after all! Buy them dinner too. Oh, Diane has a bridal registry at Wal-Mart (naturally) as well as Dillard's and Penny's in Columbus, and Fletcher's in Phenix City, so try to pick up something for the happy couple (Russell says anything Star Trek would be appreciated).

On the DVD front here is what will be coming out soon. Dead Zone, Season 5 will be out on 5 June. Eureka, Season 1 on 3 July. Star Trek Captain's Logs on 24 July. Stargate SG-1, Season 10 in July. Battlestar Galatica, Season 3 in August. Charmed, Season 8 in September. For those of you who missed this great opportunity, on 17 April Amazon was selling Buffy the Vampire Slay: The Chosen Collection for \$98.00!! Naturally, they sold out!.

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THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT WILL BE AT O'CHARLEY'S ON MONDAY 21 MAY AT 7:00 PM COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!

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!

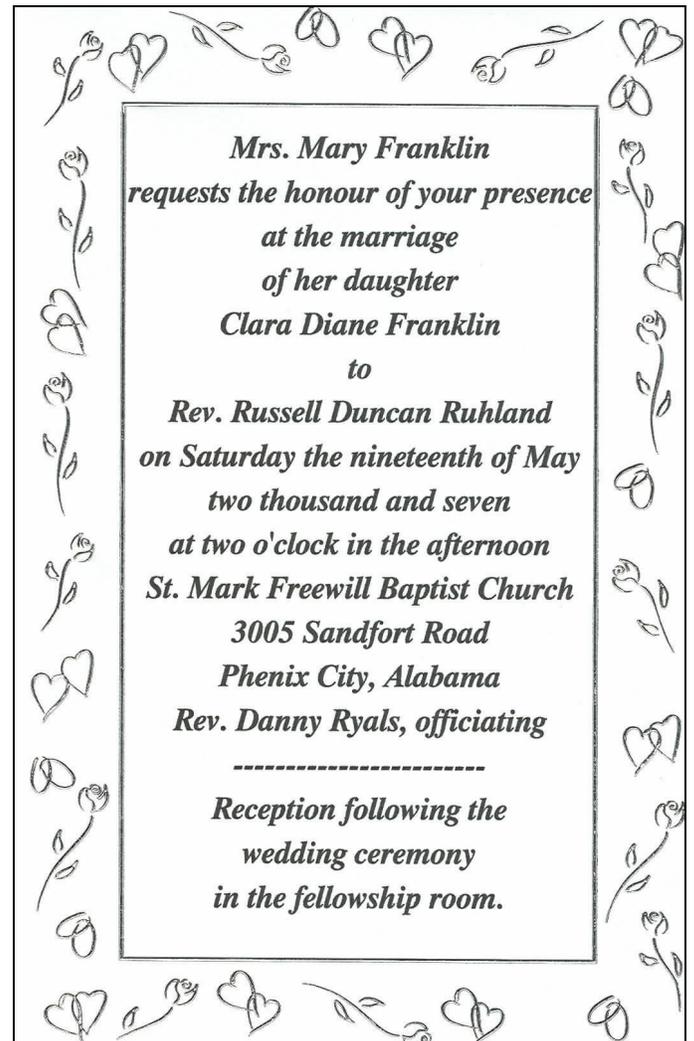
For Sale: Miscellaneous Star Trek items. Comics, magazines, commercial items, toys, you name it I probably have it! Low prices. Call or email Freddy for a complete list!

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 Kahn, 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!



Do not forget!