

# DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 13 Number 1

JULY 2007

## FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Whew! I have so much to talk about this month that I do not know if I will have enough room. I will try to keep things short.

Well, the first thing I should mention is the result of the election for Captain. I was a bit disappointed at the turn out for the June membership meeting. Only four other crew personnel beside myself were there to hear that I had won reelection. The total votes cast were 22, which is not too bad since 30 ballots were mailed out. Still, I was hoping for better participation. Anyway, the result was 14 votes for me and 8 votes for Russell. Dang! It gets closer and closer every year. It did not take me long to decide who I wanted as my "Number One" for the next 2 years – Russell of course. Thanks to all who voted and I will try to make your membership in the DaVinci fun, new, and exciting.

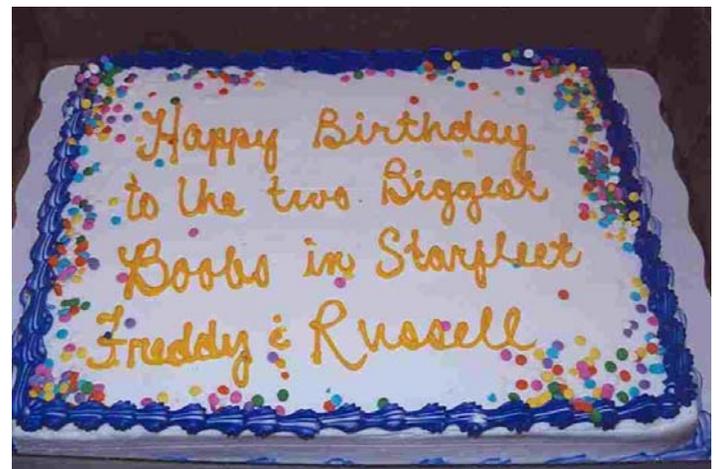
Our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Fourth of July cookout is just around the corner! It will take place on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2:00 PM. As usual the DaVinci will supply the hamburgers and hotdogs. The rest of the goodies will come from the DaVinci crew. A sign up sheet is making the rounds at various DaVinci events. If you did not get a chance to sign up, please give me a call or email me and I will let you know what we still need. This year's event may be one of the best because we are expecting folks from several other chapters to attend! So for we have Danny and Denby "Mama" Potts from the USS Hephaestus (Birmingham, AL), Jan Sleigh and her family from the USS New Hope (Montgomery, AL), and Bill and Barbara Paul from the USS Robins (Warner Robins, GA)! This should be an exciting affair with games (SPACE: The Game, The Great Dalmuti) and contests being planned and the annual awards being passed out. I will keep

everyone who plans on attending posted as to how many folks are coming so that you can adjust your covered dish accordingly. Figure on at least 20 attending.

**ATTENTION:** There will be no July membership meeting at the Ronald McDonald House due to it being only 2 days from the cookout. All club business will take place at the cookout.

If you were not at the first Security meeting in quite a while, you missed some fun. Six DaVinci personnel attended the festivities at Hooter's where we dined on wings, wings, and more wings! Of course, those of us who do not like wings enjoyed fried cheese.

Since the "meeting" took place a day before Russell's birthday and 2 days before mine, there was a huge cake sitting on the table. It was appropriately inscribed thusly: "Happy Birthday To the Two Biggest Boobs in Starfleet!" Check it out!



How appropriate since we were at Hooter's!

Fortunately for Russell, he was preoccupied and could not experience the joy of what the girls at Hooter's do to those celebrating birthdays. Now before you run over to Hooter's and let them know

it is your birthday, take a gander at the following photograph of your Captain standing on a chair in the middle of Hooter's!



Freddy "hooting" up the place!

Our last cleanup of our Adopt-A-Highway was a resounding success! One of the biggest turnouts in quite a while spent about 1 ½ hours picking up cans, bottles, paper, and assorted other trash. A BIG Bajoran thanks to all who helped out!

RADM Freddy Heller

## EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

Well then, after a month off it's back to the keyboard for this member of the DaVinci and I'm prepped and ready for another round of great reading to all my fans out there (ha, ha). Not really, but I thought that would grab your attention for the rest of this month's article. Diane and I had a wonderful honeymoon last month in Florida, visiting both Sea World and Busch Gardens. Of course you already know we spent the first day at the Vulkan in Orlando with Freddy as he mentioned last month. I do wish to thank Connie for the article she wrote last month to help take up the slack in my absence; oh, wait a minute, I don't always remember to write one every month, do I? I enjoyed her article very much. You don't suppose there's more where that came from do you? The more articles the merrier I say!

One thing I don't recall anyone mentioning in last month's Pilot was that a few of us gathered together at Carrabba's Restaurant to celebrate a surprise birthday party for Lisa. About a dozen or so members of the DaVinci attended and Lisa was indeed surprised. In fact, Randy managed to get a photo of Lisa in rare form as she *smiled* for the camera. It's nice to be 29 again isn't it?



"The fist of death will soon strike!"

The recent night out at Country's Bar-B-Que was well attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal including Todd, who shared a bit of Diane's dinner when the plates got mixed up. Not to worry Diane, he only stuck his little finger in for extra flavor once. It worked out all right in the end though, because Diane was chosen as the winner of the free meal that night.

One final thought. I believe we all know that our regular monthly membership meeting is always held at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month at the Ronald McDonald house in Columbus, GA. I understand that everyone has other commitments from time to time but I would like to take this opportunity to highly encourage all our members to attend one of these meetings whenever possible. This is where the "nitty-gritty" of DaVinci happenings are discussed and where we can take some time to participate in smaller activities such as a game of "SPACE" or any other such activity that you could suggest to help make the meetings interesting and exciting for all. We even hold a special auction of a special trek or sci-fi associated item once in a while that assists in defraying expenses for our special activities such as the upcoming 4th of July party. Your ideas and suggestions will be highly appreciated.

Until next time, live long & prosper!

FCPT Russell Ruhland

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Dominic Keating (LT Malcolm Reed)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Alan Ruck (CPT Harriman)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Brock Peters (Joseph Sisko on DS9)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
First Solo Around the World Balloon Flight (2002)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
First Balloon to Cross the Atlantic (1987)	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Pathfinder Spacecraft Lands on Mars (1997)	4 <sup>th</sup>
Rick Sternbach (Senior Illustrator)	6 <sup>th</sup>
William Schallert (Nilz Baris on TOS)	6 <sup>th</sup>
Kim Darby (Miri on TOS)	7 <sup>th</sup>
<b>CADET Gracie Walker</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>
Linda Park (ENS Hoshi Sato on ENT)	9 <sup>th</sup>
Telstar Communications Satellite Launched (1962)	10 <sup>th</sup>
Skylab Burns Up on Return to Earth (1977)	11 <sup>th</sup>
Patrick Stewart (CPT Jean Luc Picard on TNG)	13 <sup>th</sup>
Robert Justman (Producer)	13 <sup>th</sup>
<b>FCPT Tonya Spanks</b>	16 <sup>th</sup>
First Atomic Bomb Explosion (1945)	16 <sup>th</sup>
First Link-Up of Apollo-Soyuz (1975)	17 <sup>th</sup>
<b>ENS Martha Kirkland</b>	18 <sup>th</sup>
First Man on the Moon (Neil Armstrong 1969)	20 <sup>th</sup>
Second American in Space (Gus Grissom 1961)	21 <sup>st</sup>
Louise Fletcher (Kai Winn on DS9)	22 <sup>nd</sup>
First Solo Flight Around Word (Wiley Post 1933)	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Ronnie Cox (CPT Jellico on TNG)	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>FCPT Joe Perry</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>
First Woman to Walk in Space (Svetlana Savitskaya 1984)	25 <sup>th</sup>
Nana Visitor (COL Kira Nerys on DS9)	26 <sup>th</sup>
NASA Created (1958)	29 <sup>th</sup>
Wil Wheaton (Wesley Crusher on TNG)	29 <sup>th</sup>
David Warner (Chancellor Gorkon from Undiscovered Country)	29 <sup>th</sup>
Carel Struycken (Mr. Homm on TNG)	30 <sup>th</sup>

## TABULATIONS

Well, the year is half over and we have barely reached 37,000 tabs! It looks as if the Captain and First Officer may be off the hook this year (do I hear sighs of relief?!). However, it appears that the Senior Staff may have a thing or two to worry about. You know how sneaky Roger and Connie are at keeping that large stash of tabs hidden until the very end. Speaking of Roger, notice that he has not donated any tabs this year. What is the matter Roger? Tired of getting beat by Connie? LOL!

As a reminder, 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 recipient of the pies. 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
Russell Ruhland	12841
Connie Heller	9919
Freddy Heller	7870
Karen Pynenburg	5500
Rebecca Dunn	1476
Leiko Koone	735
Benlee Huguley	235
Rebecca Dunn	113
<b>Total</b>	38695

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Randy Dunn (S)  
Sandy Holt (S)  
Rebecca Dunn (S)  
Christopher Dunn (S)  
Karen Pynenburg (S)  
Tony Fleming (S)  
Freddy Heller (D)  
Connie Heller (D)  
Travis Heller (D)  
Ariana Heller (D)  
Joe Perry (D)  
Lech Mazur (D)

## ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

Roger, for his donation of coupons and stamps.

James and James' mom, for their large donation of cans.

Lauren, a friend from CA, for her large donation of coupons!

My neighbors for their weekly donation of cans!

## 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 Randy, a double winner of the free dinner at the April Night Out at Hooter's and the May Night Out at O'Charley's and to Diane the Newlywed, the winner of the free dinner at Country's on Broad during the June Night Out!

August	Johnny Carino's
September	Speakeasy Pub
October	Mi Casa
November	Panera Bread Company
December	McAllisters

## TV SHOWS ON DVD

There is some exciting news for you fans of the Alien Nation series. Kenneth Johnson, the genius behind Alien Nation has announced that the five made for TV movies will soon be released on DVD in a single packaged set! More info will be learned when I go to Bionicon in late June. No exact date has been announced, but look for a late summer release. Here are the scheduled June/July releases:

"Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea, Season 3.1" (19 June)

"Eureka, Season 1" (03 July).

"Voyagers, The Complete Series" and "The Incredible Hulk, Season 2" (17 July).

"Stargate SG-1, Season 10" and "Land of the Giants, The Complete Series" (24 July).

"Space 1999, Mega Set" (31 July)

## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	157.48
Nights Out & Parties	58.10
Deposits	264.00
Closing Balance	363.38

FCPT Connie Heller

**THERE WILL BE NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE IN JULY. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARTY! PLEASE JOIN US FOR FUN AND GAMES!**

## 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	
Dutch Cummings	<b>Jul 07</b>	
Randy Dunn	Jan 08	May 08
Bubba Dutton	Sep 08	Sep 07
Tony Fleming	<b>Jul 07</b>	Jun 08
Diane Franklin	Dec 07	Dec 07
Freddy Heller	<b>Jul 07</b>	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	<b>Jul 07</b>
Leiko Koone	Oct 07	Oct 07
Lech Mazur	Jul 08	<b>Jul 07</b>
Margaret McGillicuddy	Mar 08	Sep 07
Lisa Neal	<b>Jul 07</b>	
Joe Perry	Jul 08	Nov 07
George Pimentel	<b>Jul 07</b>	<b>Jun 07</b>
Karen Pynenburg	<b>Jul 07</b>	May 08
Russell Ruhland	Sep 07	Aug 07
Park Scully	Jul 08	<b>Jul 07</b>
Dennis Shaw	<b>Jul 07</b>	<b>Jul 07</b>
Frazier Smith	Sep 07	Oct 07
Tonya Spanks	Nov 07	Oct 07
Gisela Stephens	<b>Jan 07</b>	Oct 07
Michael Walker	Apr 08	Mar 08
Patty Williams	Nov 07	
Vanessa Winfield	Sep 07	Oct 07
Roger Wright	<b>Jul 07</b>	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,

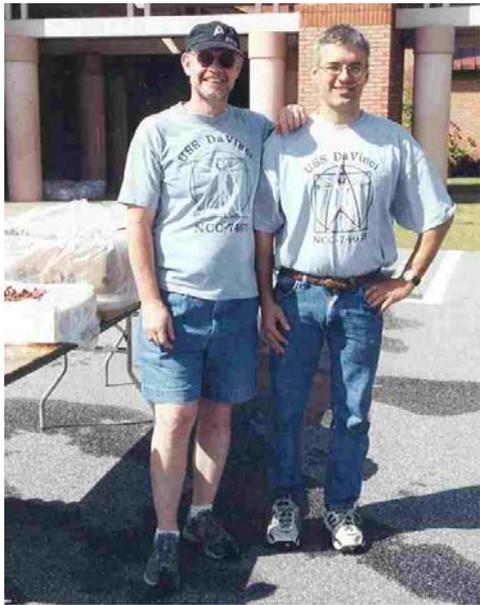
labels, Styrofoam cups, and food items such as hard candy, cake icing, lemonade, salad dressing, soup, box dinners, vegetable oil, and perishable items such as bread, meats, cheese slices, fresh fruits, and snack foods. Thanks!

## DaVINCI T-SHIRTS & POLO'S

The t-shirts and polo shirts are in stock. There are plenty of shirts in various sizes from small to 2X. They will be available at the various DaVinci events at the Captain's house.

## 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.



Tony and Freddy take a break to pose for a picture.



Tony helping out at the refreshment table during the March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon (23 April 2007).



A couple of familiar walkers, Connie and Ariana, stop for some needed refreshments.



Tony waiting for more thirsty walkers.



Making sure there is plenty of water and fruit available for the walkers.



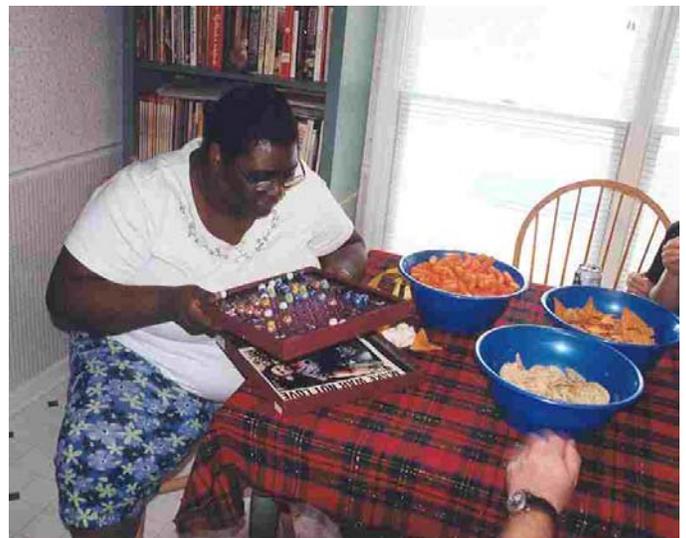
Connie flipping the burgers and dogs at our fifth annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July cookout (05 July 2003)



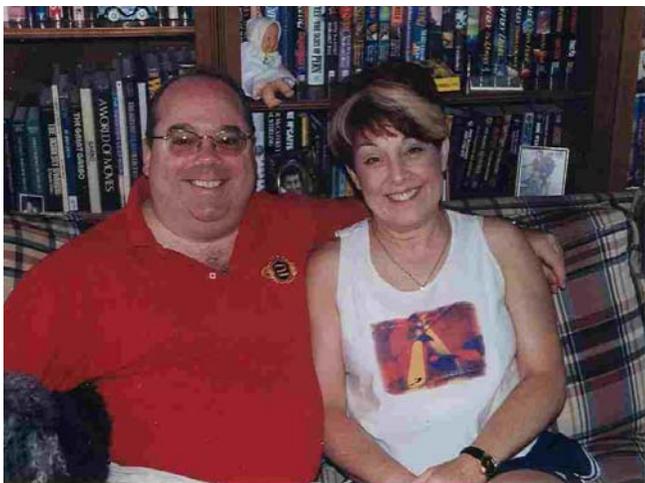
Sunni and her future husband Ralph Planthold share a kiss (or is Ralph just “wiping” chocolate off Sunni’s lips?)



A hungry crew lines up for the food.



Patty getting ready to wipe out the competition in Chinese Checkers.



Kelly Hilliard and Sunni Planthold, two of our guests from other chapters, pose for a picture.



The DaVinci crew chows down! (L-R: Chantel, Karen, Patty, Gisela, Deborah, Rose, and Frazier)



More folks from around the Region enjoying the wonderfully prepared food.



Lindsey (L) and her parents, George and Cricket, look at photos from past DaVinci events while Sunni looks on.



Chantel, Karen, Patty, and Johnny relaxing by discussing Chinese Checkers, X-Files, or Star Trek!



“Mmmmmmm, chocolate!”



Lech, Kelly, Margaret, and Mike discussing Trek!



Some of the crew watching Connie’s DaVinci slide show.



Russell shows off his Commander promotion certificate as Freddy and Joe look on.



Freddy congratulates Russell for winning Officer of the year!



Freddy congratulates Joe for receiving the DaVinci Legion of Merit while Russell looks on.

Next month: Fifth Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July party, Part II!

## 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!

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.

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

## **FINALLY!**

Go back and check when your membership on the DaVinci and or Starfleet expires. Many of the memberships expire in July. Please renew as soon as possible. Thanks!

Coming next month and each month thereafter, "The Sci-Fi Top Ten List" from our very own James Carey! He has already sent me three months worth and they are quite funny. Stay tuned!