

DaVinci Pilot

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

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JULY 2007

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

The DaVinci's annual Fourth of July cookout was the most attended event in DaVinci history! Thirty-one folks from around Region 2 feasted on hamburgers, hotdogs, potato chips, macaroni salad, baked beans, deviled eggs, coleslaw, vegetable salad, macaroni and cheese, and potato salad. For dessert there were several varieties of cookies, peach pie, strawberry pie, coconut pie, orange cake, and of course the obligatory ice cream with fudge sauce! Connie, the DaVinci resident chef, cooked the burgers and dogs with her usual speed and expertise. The event was attended by 18 crew personnel from the DaVinci and 13 folks from other ships around the Region.



The crew of the USS New Hope, Montgomery, AL.

There were Danny and Denby Potts and their son Matthew from the USS Hephhaestus; Bill and Barbara Paul from the USS Robins; Mike Henigan, Kelly Hilliard, and Tonya Spanks from the USS Atlanta; and from the USS New Hope there were

Nancy O'Shields, Shirley Burton, and Jan Sleigh and her kids Dominic and Daniel! Wow! There were nearly as many folks from other chapters than there were folks from the DaVinci!



The crew of the USS Hephhaestus, Birmingham, AL.



The crew from the USS Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

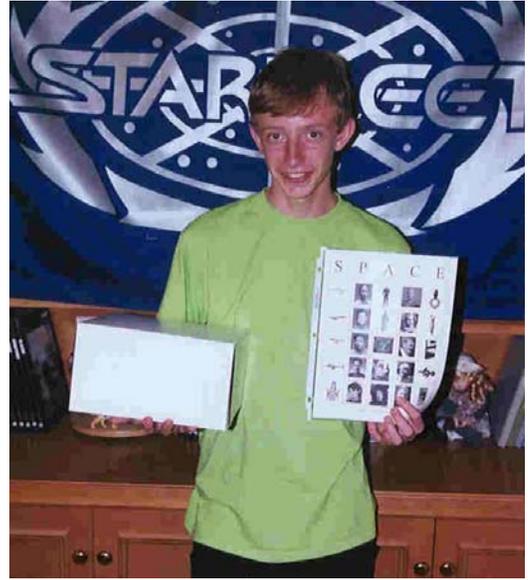


The crew from the USS Robins, Warner-Robins/Macon, GA

Once everyone had their fill of the food it was time for handing out the yearly DaVinci awards. The Enlisted Crewman of the year went to Todd; Officer of the Year to Margaret; and the DaVinci Legion of Merit went to a well-deserved Russell! We also had a promotion that was a long time in coming. Randy (with the help of your Captain) finally took and passed Officer Training School (OTS)! Not only was Randy presented with an OTS completion certificate but he was promoted to LTJG as well! Also passed out were Commendations for their participation in DaVinci events outside meetings or parties. These went to Randy and his kids Rebecca and Christopher, Russell, and Lech. Congratulations to all the award recipients.

After the excitement of the awards had settled down it was time for picking the winners of the door prizes and gift of the year. Ariana was eager as ever to pick the winners and being her father I whispered in her ear to make sure she picked my name, which, by the way, she never has. The winners selected were Nancy from the USS New Hope (Insurrection poster); Leiko (First Contact poster); Matthew Potts from the USS Hephaestus (First Contact poster); Todd (autographed book, "To the Stars" by George Takei); Karen (CD/DVD shelf); Park (actual First Contact and Insurrection movie posters); Russell (Jolene Blalock autographed photo); James (plant); and the drawing for the gift of the year, a beautiful framed drawing of Kirk and Spock, went to Randy!

Since I could not find my deck of the Great Dalmuti, we ended up playing SPACE: The game. The first person to win three games would be the champion and would win a cake made by the fine folks at Mom's Bakery (Frazier and Vanessa) and donated by Park. The winner was Daniel Sleight from the USS New Hope!



The winner!

A couple of bottles of Chateau Picard were opened and a toast was made to the two newest chapters in Region 2, the Atlanta and Robins.



"To the Atlanta! To the Robins! To the Fleet!"

Folks started leaving once all the excitement had died down. Who was the last one to leave? For a change it was not Joe. That honor goes to Leiko who was up chatting with Connie until near midnight and long after I was dreaming.

RADM Freddy Heller

OPERATIONS

In honor of the summer months (if I wanted heat, I would have stayed in Arizona), the U.S.S. DaVinci is hereby invited to a pool party at my house on 4 Aug. It will start at about 12 noon and finish whenever (there is nobody left or I get too tired of looking at your faces). As usual drinks will be provided, and the Ship will buy pizza. You might want to bring bathing attire and towels.

DIRECTIONS: Coming North on Veterans Parkway (South Phenix City): turn left at Walgreens (on your left, Chevron Station across the street from it). Travel 1.9 miles, turn right at Lokey Drive, turn left at next street (Daisy Street), we are the third house on the right (cream colored, remember to count house on corner).

Coming South on Veterans Parkway : turn right at Walgreens, then follow directions for Veterans North

Coming North (South) on I-185 - exit at Airport Thruway turn left (right) at off ramp travel 0.5 miles to Whitesville Road (4-way intersection with barrier on south side) travel up Whitesville 0.4 miles to intersection with Veterans Parkway. Follow directions for Veterans Parkway.

Coming West on Hwy 80 (Freddy) Take Hwy 80 West to Exit 4 (Veterans Parkway) travel straight thru the intersection at the off ramp (Double Churches Road). Travel about 1 mile, right after you see a liquor/ice store on the right; take a left onto Daisy Street. Travel south on Daisy Street 3 houses before a 4-way stop sign intersection. My house is on the left.

Coming East on Hwy 80 (North Phenix City) take I-80 East to Exit 4, turn right and travel to the intersection with Double Churches Road follow directions for Hwy 80 West.

Please note, those of you using Hwy 80, when you return use the reverse of the directions opposite from how you came.

Example Hwy 80 West travels thru intersection coming to my house, when leaving they turn right and travel to the other set of ramps, Hwy 80 East turns right to get to Double Churches Road, when returning they travel through the intersection.

Anybody needs further directions; contact me or we can talk at the meeting

RADM Joe Perry

2007 GRATITUDE FESTIVAL

The Gratitude Festival will be held September 21-23 at the Alabama Special Camp for Children and Adults on Lake Martin in Alabama. This is a lovely location and the facilities are well worth the price. The lodge has three levels, two kitchens and several large areas for meetings. The bedrooms each have 4 bunks and a private bathroom. Ariana and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves last year.

Not as structured as a summit, the Gratitude Festival is another way for Starfleet's "family" to get together. Scheduled are workshops, Texas Hold 'Em, and Klingon boffer tourney. The banquet will be prepared by members and served by the youngest members of each ship. Each ship will have a table to decorate (prizes to be awarded—I have an idea!) and there is an Alien Dessert contest as well.

To keep costs down, each ship has been asked to help out with meals. The New Hope is providing the Friday night hospitality table, and the DaVinci will prepare Sunday morning breakfast (I'm an early riser, plus my body will still be on Eastern time).

The pricing is as follows for those staying overnight: each person pays a setup fee of \$20 (\$10 for children 6-12) plus \$25 per night stayed. Day trippers pay \$10. They do have lower rates for what they call "slumber party" accommodations, but this does not include a bunk and private bath. Call me for details if you are interested in this option.

Payment should be made out to "USS Jubilee NCC 57299" and sent to John Clayton, P.O. Box 850124, Mobile, AL 36685-0124 as soon as possible.

I will provide driving directions for anyone interested; however, you are welcome to carpool in our van. There are several turns that you might miss in the dark, so I'd advise an early start. This would be about 1 ½ - 2 hour trip from Columbus.

FCPT Connie Heller

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE ON THURSDAY 02 AUGUST
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 August.

Neil Armstrong (Astronaut)	5 th
Michael Okuda (Art Supervisor)	6 th
Cathrine Hicks (Dr. Gillian Taylor)	6 th
Cirroc Lofton (Jake Sisko on DS9)	7 th
Matt Jeffries (Set Designer)	12 th
Jane Wyatt (Amanda on TOS)	12 th
First Balloon Satellite (Echo One) Launched (1960)	12 th
ENS Joey Pimentel	13 th
Brannon Braga (Executive Producer Enterprise)	14 th
Julie Newmar (Eleen on TOS)	16 th
First Trans-Atlantic Balloon Flight (1978)	17 th
Harve Bennett (Producer)	17 th
Gene Roddenberry (Star Trek Creator)	19 th
Jonathan Frakes (CMDR William Riker on TNG)	19 th
Diana Muldaur (Dr. Kathrine Pulaski on TNG)	19 th
Voyager II is Launched (1977)	20 th
ENS Hannah Walker	21 st
Kim Catrall (Valeris from The Undiscovered Country)	21 st
Jennifer Lien (Kes on VOY)	24 th
Pluto Demoted from Planet Status (2006)	24 th
Mariner II is Launched to Venus (1962)	27 th
LT Frazier Smith	27 th
Gates McFadden (Dr Beverly Crusher on TNG)	28 th
Last Crew Leaves Mir Space Station (1999)	28 th
First Black American in Space (Guion Bluford 1983)	30 th

TABULATIONS

Well, the year is nearly 8 months gone and only a little less than 44,000 tabs collected! 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 only donated less than 350 tabs!

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:

Starting Balance	10
Russell Ruhland	14741
Connie Heller	10306
Freddy Heller	9861
Karen Pynenburg	5500
Rebecca Dunn	1831
Leiko Koone	735
Roger Wright	344
Benlee Huguley	235
Lech Mazur	230
Total	43793

MEMORY ALPHA

The 2006-2007 version of the DaVinci slideshow is now available! The cost is \$5.00 and is available on DVD. Please contact me to place your order.

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).

Karen Pynenburg (D)
Park Scully (D) (S)
Lisa Neal (D)

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

Nancy O'Shields and Jan Sleigh from the USS New Hope for their donation of tabs.

Roger Wright and Karen Pynenburg for their donation of coupons

My neighbors for their weekly large donation of cans!

Todd Kes for being selected Enlisted Crewman of the Year; Margaret McGillicuddy for Officer of the Year, and Russell Ruhland for being awarded the DaVinci Legion of Merit during the Fourth of July cookout.

And last but not east Randy Dunn for not only taking and passing Officers Training School but getting promoted to LTJG!

JAMES' TOP TEN LIST

Top ten signs you have been watching too much science fiction:

10. You mutter to yourself "There Can Be Only One" with each pea you eat from your plate.
9. You legally changed your middle name to "Darth Vader".
8. People start telling you that you should have your Wookiee costume dry-cleaned because you wear it all the time.
7. You spend \$400.00 on a Starfleet uniform for your dog.
6. Your girlfriend refuses to wear the Xena costume you bought her to her sister's wedding.
5. You say "Speak To The Hand" to the IRS agent auditing you.
4. You get in a fight with the mailman because he did not deliver this month's Starlog magazine.
3. Whenever you have to speak to a customer service representative you ask for a Klingon translator.
2. The final argument you had with your ex-girlfriend was because you said Star Wars was better than Star Trek.

And the number one reason you have been watching too much science fiction is....

1. You try using your Jedi mind powers to "persuade" your boss not to fire you.

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 Freddy, the winner of the free dinner at Hooter's during the July Night Out!

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 in September on DVD in a single packaged set! Here are the scheduled August releases:

"Dresden Files, Season 1" (07 August)

"Heroes, Season 1" (28 August)

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	363.38
Postage	10.20
Nights Out	26.96
Parties	40.58
Cans	16.50
Membership renewals	37.50
Purchases & donation	55.00
Closing Balance	394.64

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	
Dutch Cummings	Jul 07	
Randy Dunn	Jan 08	May 08
Bubba Dutton	Sep 08	Sep 07
Tony Fleming	Jul 07	Jun 08
Diane Franklin	Dec 07	Dec 07
Freddy Heller	Jul 08	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 08	Jul 07
Margaret McGillicuddy	Mar 08	Sep 07
Lisa Neal	Jul 08	
Joe Perry	Jul 08	Nov 07
George Pimentel	Jul 07	Jun 07
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 08	May 08
Russell Ruhland	Sep 07	Aug 07
Park Scully	Jul 08	Jul 08
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	Apr 08	Mar 08

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 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.



Frazier and his daughters trying to figure out the answers to some trek trivia during our fifth annual Fourth of July cookout (05 July 2003)



Kelly Hilliard (L) and Mike Henigan working on the trek trivia challenge.



Kelly with Magic trying to figure out the answers.



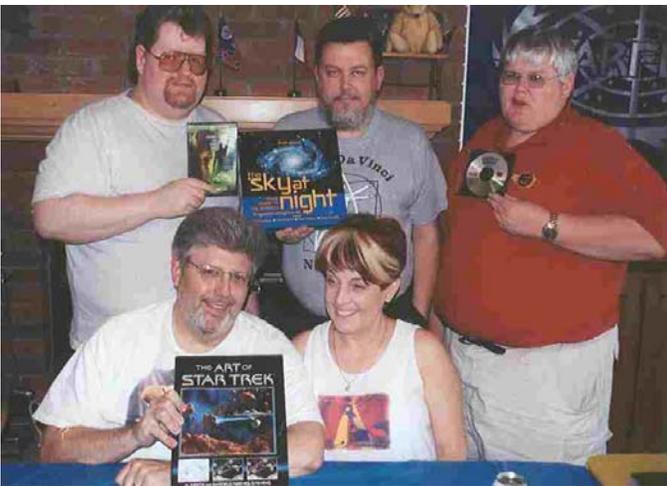
The Pimentel's (L-R) Lindsey, Crickett, and George trying to figure out those tough trivia answers.



“What do you mean chocolate is not one of the answers!” Sunnie Planthold helping out husband Ralph with the trivia answers.



Connie showing the anxious players another “equipment” card.



The winners! Rusty, Joe and Mike are in the rear while Ralph and Sunnie are seated in the front. Rusty and Mike won the door prizes while Joe and the Plantholds won the TOS and Voyage Home trivia contests respectively.



Connie discussing important matters with Joe (on couch), and Randy, Russell, Karen, and Rusty seated at the table.



It was not all trivia contest but SPACE: The Game was played as well!



Todd showing his infamous “scantly clothed females” slideshow from DragonCon.



“Ahhhhh.” Ralph and Sunnie sharing a moment.



The beautiful Chantel Billingsly knows how to pose for the camera!



Kelly, Mike, Ralph, and Sunnie playing some sort of game.



Ariana and Sunnie do too!



Kelly, Margaret, and Lech talking – what else - Trek!



Joe, Ariana, and Chantel discussing the intricacies of Unix and other computer systems.



“Is it over yet?” Connie takes a well-deserved break.

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: The new DaVinci slideshow is now available. It has been burned onto DVD+R discs, which play in nearly all DVD players. The price is \$5.00 apiece. There are also historical discs (old leftovers) available for only \$1.00 apiece, in varying formats. 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 20th of each month.

FINALLY!

The new USS DaVinci web site is up and running! Leiko, our computer science officer, worked long and hard putting it together. Check out the site at <http://www.usdavinci.org> and let her know what you think. Comments are always welcomed.

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!

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ON MONDAY 20 AUGUST AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**