



DaVinci Pilot

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

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JANUARY 2008

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

We had a good turnout for our annual Christmas party! The food was plentiful and the company was wonderful. In addition to the expertly prepared turkey and ham, the crew feasted on stuffing, gravy, rice (due to an unfortunate accident with the mashed potatoes), green bean casserole, macaroni and cheese, plain green beans, vegetable salad, cranberry sauce, and for dessert there was Oreo cream pie, lemon meringue pie, and chocolate marshmallow ice cream. Snacks throughout the day included Connie's famous Chex mix, Hershey's Kisses, M&Ms, and cashews.



The crew digs in! Yes, Patty is in the front followed by Steve, Lech, Joe, Russell, Diane, and Roger.

Following the wonderful meal we had our annual selection of the 2008 monthly Night Out restaurant locations! Everyone had a change to select the restaurant of his or her choice to go into the hat.

Only one restaurant could go into the hat unless you spent \$2.00 for an extra vote. Roger quickly bought 10 additional votes for "Hooter's hoping to cover the year with wings and breasts. Lech also



More of the crew filling their plates! That is Margaret's back followed by Russell, Lisa, and Roger. Way in the back are Joe and Lech.

chipped in one extra vote for The Beefstro. Ariana did her usual selection and as the months passed by nary a Hooter's slip was to be seen. Roger was getting a bit nervous. As the slips left the container, the odds were getting better and better for Hooter's to be one of the Night Out locations. Roger was relieved when November and December were Hooter's selections! Not to have the same restaurant 2 months in a row one was moved to May with December becoming the Captain's Choice month. The selection is pretty nice this year with four restaurants we have never been to before. So here are the final 2008 Night Out selections: January (Houlihan's); February (Olive Garden); March (Applebee's); April (Cowboy's Steak Saloon); May (Hooter's); June (Country's on Broad); July (New China); August (Chef Lee's); September (Red Lobster); October (Panera Bread Company); November (Hooter's); December (Carrabba's Italian Grill). Notice that for the third straight year (sigh) there is no pizza Night Out!

Our usual door prize drawing followed the Night Out selection. This time every family membership won a prize! Congratulations to the following: Russell and Diane (University of Michigan College of Engineering tote bag); Joe (Star Trek tote bag); Roger (pocket 2008 calendar); Randy (day-by-day desk 2008 calendar); Todd (Superman action figure); Patty (Grand Slam DVD); Lech (Star Trek tribute mini poster); Shane (Buffy the Vampire Slayer Kennedy action figure); Steve (Buffy the Vampire Slayer Willow action figure); Lisa (electronic Sudoku game); and Margaret (Buffy the Vampire Slayer Giles action figure).

All the names went back into the hat for two additional drawing. Congratulations to Lech for winning the tin of Connie's famous Chex mix and to Margaret who won the \$25.00 Bed, Bath, and Beyond gift certificate.

Next, it was time for the grand prize drawing for an autographed copy of "I Am Spock" by Leonard Nimoy! Again, everyone's name went into the hat. You could hear a pin drop as Ariana pulled out the winning name! "What!" cried the ensemble. "How could this be?" exclaimed the crowd as Ariana pulled Margaret's name for the third time! Congratulations to Margaret, the BIG winner at the 2007 DaVinci Christmas party



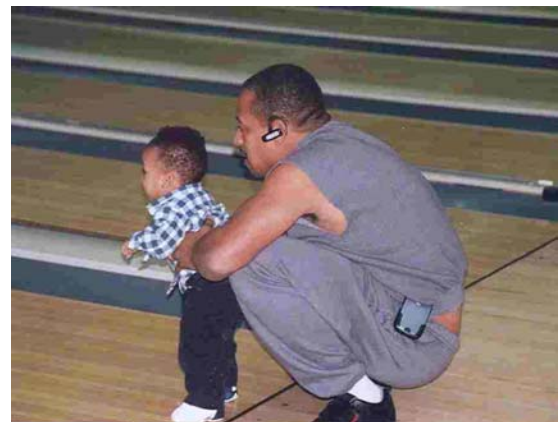
Margaret shows off her winning prizes!

Finally, we had our annual gag gift selection. Joining in on the fun is voluntary and the number who do is usually small, but the laughs well make up for the low participation. Here is a list of who

got what: Russell was overjoyed by his gift containing various DVD's (one of which he did not want because of its crude and nasty content. Naturally, the Captain jumped at the chance to have it!); Lech was extremely excited with his painted saw blade and was just wondering where in his house to hang it; Diane just loved her "disco" candle holder; Lisa was thrilled at her collection of strange and bizarre DVD's; tears nearly fell down Randy's face as he opened his gift to reveal a redneck CD holder made from an old Georgia license plate; Sandy was equally moved by her pet screw; and Ariana, who selected last, was truly puzzled but intrigued by the metal tea pot she held in her hands.

Hey! A BIG Bajoran thank-you goes out to all personnel who attended this annual fun-filled event.

The turnout for the Security bowling night was not as good as the first one. Six DaVinci personnel showed up and a couple of Roger's friends from his church were also there. We had a great time. The next free bowling night will be in January. Hope you can make it. Even if you do not bowl, come anyway and cheer on the bowlers.



Alexander watches his ball as dad Roger looks on.



The DaVinci bowlers!

Like the security bowling night, the attendance at the security “meeting” at Hooter’s was surprisingly not as well attended as I thought it would be. Roger went overboard on the wings and there were so many that everyone took plenty of them home.



Elaine, James, and Ariana enjoying the food at Hooter’s.

The wings came in a variety of “flavors to include Hooter’s infamous “911” and “Three Mile Island” variety. No one would touch the plate of those wings until I convinced Connie, a born and bred 5th generation native Texan, to try one of each. She began with the worst – “Three Mile Island.” Texans everywhere would have been proud of her as she shed nary a tear (although several glasses of diet Pepsi followed)!

After all had had their fill, about six Hooter’s girls gathered around Alexander for his first photo op! The first thing he did was to try to pull down one of the girl’s top! Ah, Roger’s son indeed!



Freddy, Roger, little Alexander, and Lisa chowing down on the wings!

A BIG Bajoran thanks to Roger for footing the bill for the wings and drinks! I am sure he will schedule another Security “meeting” in the near future.

Will there be a Pie Party this month? Only time and the collection of more tabs will tell. Right now it does not look promising, although I have something in mind that will please the folks who spent all year collecting tabs. More on that later!

VADM Freddy Heller

SICK BAY

Hi crew members!

As your chief medical officer I would like to wish you a very Happy Holidays this year.

I would also like to warn you of all the bad things that you can do for your health.

These things are things you should know and practice year round. Just a few things to look out for are : Over Eating, Over Drinking (adult drinks) , and being lazy and not exercising of any kind. If you take care of your body you will not have to visit my office but do not ignore a visit to your regular doctor. Have a Great Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

COMM Jeff Kirkland

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

| | |
|---|------------------|
| First Woman in Space (Valentina Tereshkova 1969) | 1 st |
| Deep Space Nine Premiers (1992) | 2 nd |
| Mars Probe Spirit Lands on Mars (2004) | 3 rd |
| Aron Eisenber (Nog on DS9) | 6 th |
| First Around-the-World Trip by Commercial Airplane (Pacific Clipper 1942) | 6 th |
| Mark Allen Shepard (Morn on DS9) | 7 th |
| Four of Jupiter’s Moons Discovered (Galileo 1610) | 7 th |
| Michelle Forbes (Ro Laren on TNG) | 8 th |
| Last Unmanned Probe on Moon (Surveyor VII 1968) | 9 th |
| First Hispanic in Space (Franklin Chang-Diaz 1986) | 12 th |
| Kirstie Alley (LT Saavik from Wrath of Khan) | 12 th |
| Voyager Premiers (1995) | 16 th |
| DeForest Kelley (Dr. Leonard McCoy on TOS) | 20 th |
| ENS Vanessa Winfield | 20 th |
| David Gerrold (Author & Script Writer) | 21 st |
| LTJG Michael Walker | 25 th |
| Mars Probe Opportunity Lands on Mars (2004) | 25 th |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| James Cromwell (Zephram Cochrane - First Contact) | 27 th |
| Apollo I is Lost (1967) | 27 th |
| Shuttle Challenger is Lost (1986) | 28 th |
| Moon Probe Ranger VI is Launched (1964) | 30 th |
| US Launches First Satellite (Explorer I 1958) | 31 st |
| Apollo XIV is Launched (1971) | 31 st |

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

John and Jacque Pollock our neighbors for their weekly donation of cans.

Roger for his donation of coupons and stamps.

Randy for his donation of stamps.

Jeff and Martha for their donation of cans and coupons.

TABULATIONS

Well, as of press time it appears that everyone may be safe (at least the Captain and First Officer) from getting “creamed” this year. There are just about 2 weeks left and we are a little more than 6000 tabs short of the 80,000 required for the Senior Staff to get pied!

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Starting Balance | 10 |
|-------------------------|----|

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Russell Ruhland | 19233 |
| Connie Heller | 14265 |
| Freddy Heller | 11899 |
| Tony Fleming | 8700 |
| Karen Pynenburg | 5500 |
| Jeff Kirkland | 5070 |
| Rebecca Dunn | 3465 |
| Joe Perry | 2064 |
| Roger Wright | 1247 |
| Leiko Koone | 1244 |
| Margaret McGillicuddy | 487 |
| Lech Mazur | 387 |
| Benlee Huguley | 235 |

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Total | 73806 |
|--------------|-------|

WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Gisela Stephens (S)
Dutch Cummings (D)
Steve Brown (D) – Welcome Back!

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

Well, the restaurants for the 2008 Night Outs were selected at the Christmas party. The list is below. I hope your favorite restaurant made the list! Check out the four new locations!

Congratulations to Freddy, the winner of the free dinner at McAlister’s during the December Night Out.

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| January | Houlihan’s (Inside Marriott) |
| February | Olive Garden |
| March | Applebee’s |
| April | Cowboy’s Steak Saloon |
| May | Hooter’s |
| June | Country’s on Broad |
| July | New China |
| August | Chef Lee’s |
| September | Red Lobster |
| October | Panera Bread Company |
| November | Hooter’s |
| December | Carrabba’s Italian Grill |

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

TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD January releases:
“SeaQuest DSV, Season 2” (1 January)
“ Weird Science, Complete First & Second Seasons”
(1 January)
“Thunderbirds, 40th Anniversary Mega Set”
(14 January)
“Swamp Thing, Complete First & Second Seasons”
(22 January)

Good news for you “Sliders” fans! The long awaited release of Season Four is on the horizon. It should be out sometime in March.

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Opening Balance | 207.20 |
| Deposit | 78.50 |
| Christmas turkey, ham | 24.91 |
| Nights Out | 14.00 |
| Closing Balance | 246.79 |

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 | Nov 08 | |
| Dutch Cummings | Jul 08 | |
| Randy Dunn | Jan 08 | May 08 |
| Bubba Dutton | Sep 08 | Sep 07 |
| Tony Fleming | Jul 08 | Jun 08 |
| Freddy Heller | Jul 08 | Sep 08 |
| Mike Henigan | LTM | Nov 07 |
| Benlee Huguley | Feb 08 | |
| Todd Kes | Oct 08 | |
| Jeff Kirkland | Oct 08 | Jul 09 |
| Leiko Koone | Nov 08 | Oct 08 |
| Lech Mazur | Jul 08 | Jul 07 |
| Margaret McGillicuddy | Mar 08 | Sep 08 |
| Lisa Neal | Jul 08 | |
| Joe Perry | Jul 08 | Nov 08 |
| Karen Pynenburg | Jul 08 | May 08 |
| Russell Ruhland | Sep 08 | Aug 08 |
| Park Scully | Jul 08 | Jul 08 |
| Dennis Shaw | Jul 08 | Jul 08 |
| Frazier Smith | Sep 07 | Oct 07 |
| Gisela Stephens | Jan 08 | Nov 08 |
| Michael Walker | Apr 08 | Mar 08 |
| Patty Williams | Nov 07 | |
| Vanessa Winfield | Sep 07 | Oct 07 |
| Roger Wright | Jul 08 | 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.

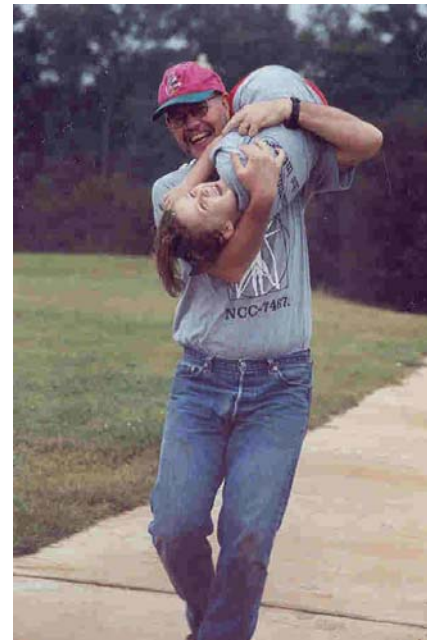
Although The Ronald McDonald House needs quite a variety of items, the items needed most are trash bags (35 gal), laundry detergent, dryer sheets, air freshener spray, AA batteries, copier paper, labels, Styrofoam cups, and food items such as hard candy, cake icing, lemonade, salad dressing, soup, box 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.



Site Captain Russell, explains to Freddy the marching orders for the day at our seventh annual Help-the-Hooch River cleanup (11 October 2003)



Freddy carries a laughing Ariana to the Riverwalk.

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



Rusty poses with Rose and Deborah for the camera.



Randy, Rusty, Lech, and Rebecca getting psyched up for a hard day's work.



Randy gathers his equipment while Rusty looks on.



"Hi-ho, Hi-ho, it's off to work we go."

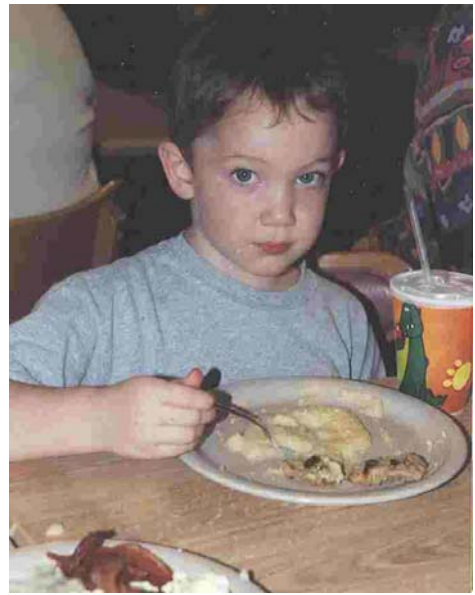


"And just why did you not pick up any trash?"

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT
WILL BE AT HOULIHAN'S
(INSIDE DOWNTOWN MARRIOTT)
ON MONDAY 21 JANUARY AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**



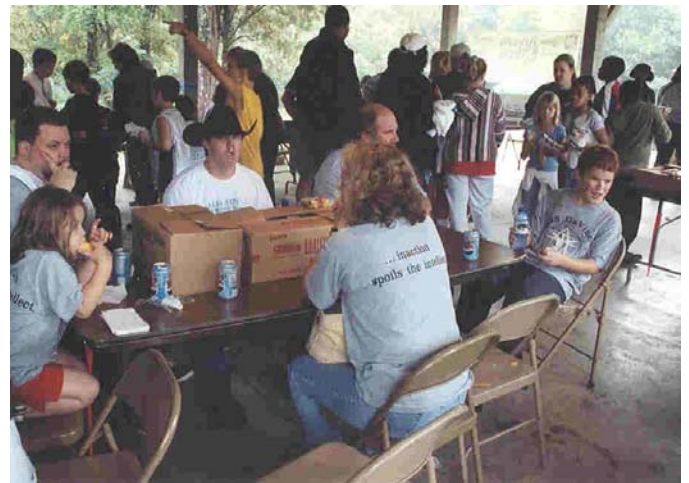
The crew of the DaVinci at the end of a hard day!
Now for the fun!



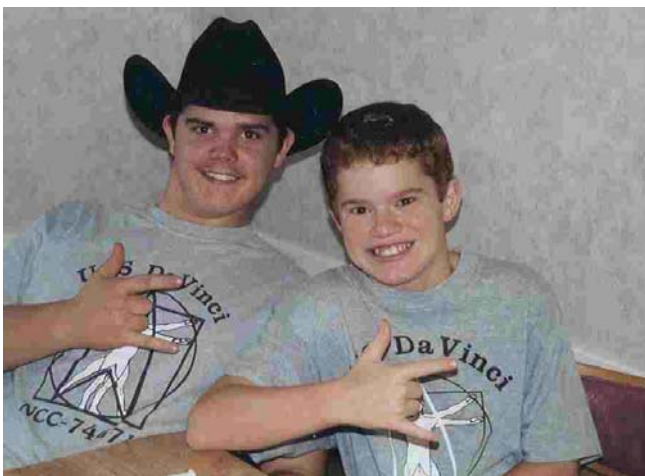
“Please. I am trying to eat!”



The crew enjoying a hot breakfast at Golden Corral following the cleanup!



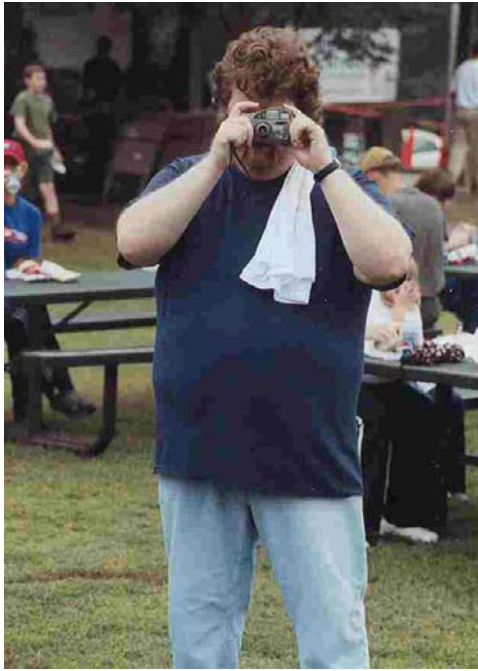
(L-R) Ariana, Joe, Matthew, Randy, Travis, and Connie enjoying the activities at the volunteer party at Columbus State University (the boxes contain Twinkies!)



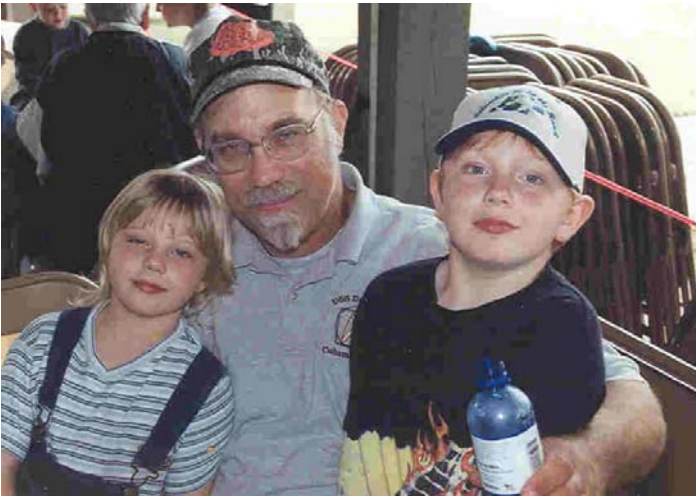
Matthew and Travis at Golden Corral. Lord, were they ever that young?



Ariana and Joe pose for the camera.



“Smile.” “No, you smile.” “No, I asked you first.”
“No, I asked you first.”



Russell with his grandchildren smile for the camera.

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!

Go back and check when your membership on the DaVinci and or Starfleet expires. **Several memberships have expired!!!** Please renew as soon as possible or you might not get a newsletter. Thanks!

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