

DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 13 Number 11

MAY 2008

USS DAVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer	
VADM Freddy Heller	(706) 562-TREK
Executive Officer	
FCPT Russell Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Operations Officer	
COMM Joe Perry	(706) 327-5888
Finance Officer	
COMM Connie Heller	(706) 562-8735
Community Service Officer	
ENS Vanessa Winfield	(706) 393-8515
Publications Officer	
VADM Freddy Heller	(706) 562-TREK
Science Officer	
ENS Lech Mazur	(706) 596-9542
Counselor	
ENS Diane Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Computer Science Officer	
ENS Leiko Koone	(706) 663-2763
Morale Officer	VACANT
Medical Officer	
COMM Jeff Kirkland	(770) 253-6474
Engineering Officer	
LT Roger Wright (Acting)	(706) 221-6072
Communications Officer	VACANT
Quartermaster	
LTJG Randy Dunn	(334) 291-0150
Security Chief	
LT Roger Wright	(706) 221-6072
Starfleet Marine Commander	
MCPT Frazier Smith	(706) 536-3463
Cadet Corps Commander	VACANT
Senior Chief Petty Officer	VACANT

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

On April 19, the USS Hephaestus had its annual Spring Cookout at Pete Mohney's home in Birmingham, AL. The Heller clan arrived around 1:00 PM. Since I had taken over the responsibility of Region 2 Auctioneer, Pete was anxious to pass the torch so to speak by making sure that all of the auction material left over from the Summit would be in my capable hands! I was not there more than a minute when Pete suggested we load up the van! So, with help from some of the other early arrivals, our van was quickly loaded with eight or so large boxes. Once the last box was out of his possession, Pete had a rather large smile on his face!

Sometime after 2:00 PM, as the Mohney house became more and more crowded, the grills were fired up. After everyone who was coming had arrived, a total of 8 chapters from around the area were represented. Seven came from Region 2 (USS Blue Sun, SS Dark Silence Station, USS DaVinci, USS Hephaestus, USS New Hope, USS Rising Moon, USS Republic) and one from Region 1 (SS Nikola Tesla)! Also in attendance was the local chapter of the Dixie Browncoats (Firefly and Serenity fan organization)!

Everyone was supposed to bring their own items to grill and we brought enough hamburgers to satisfy any appetite. Naturally, I assumed Connie would do the grilling since she had the experience. Well, crocheting took precedence and I ended up having to do it and proceeded to burn the outside more than a burger should be. Thank goodness there was plenty of extra food (chicken tenders, fudge, brownies, nuts, chips, and most importantly, buckeye balls lying around just in case the taste of charcoal-encrusted meat was not to Connie or Ariana's liking

It seemed as if the biggest excitement of the day was when Jan Sleigh from the USS New Hope and her family arrived with three baby kittens! They could not be left alone because they were very young and needed to be hand-fed. Once they were pulled out of their carrier it seemed as if everyone wanted to hold one. After seeing the reaction of Connie and Ariana (and myself as well) to the kittens, I made it clear to the other members of my family that only three made the trek to Birmingham and only three would make the trek back to Columbus! I am surprised that I was not asked, "So, how are you getting home?"



Jill Rayburn from the SS Nikola Tesla gets a kiss from a baby kitten.



Denby "Mama" Potts from the USS Hephaestus with one of the 3 kittens.

Following the cookout the Hephaestus' infamous Spring Poker Game started. In addition to the poker, there was Dalmuti, Munchkin, and DVD TV trivia. Unfortunately, the Hellers could not stay around for the gaming activities because of the long 3 ½ hour drive back to Columbus. We left around 5:00 PM Alabama time. It was a long way to go for only 4 hours of food and fun but it was well worth the trip and we plan on attending next year's event. A BIG Bajoran thanks to Pete and Sue Ellen Mohney and the crew of the Hephaestus for all the hospitality and a great time to boot!

Okay folks, make sure to mark your calendars for this next event! On Saturday, June 7th, the USS DaVinci will hold its first annual Sweet Tooth Party! Just like our numerous other parties, you need to sign up to bring something, but this time it has to be dessert! No salad, hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, turkey, ham, potato logs, wings, macaroni and cheese, etc. at this event! Only cakes, pies, pudding, cookies, ice cream, - whatever! Chocolate. Chocolate! CHOCOLATE! Come up with something really creative and join us on the 7th beginning at 2:00 PM! Please give me a call or send me an email letting me know if you plan on attending.

VADM Freddy Heller

SCIENCE STATION

The Coca Cola Science center in downtown Columbus had four DaVinci club members attend the astronomy viewing night on April 12. Randy, Sandy, Christopher and yours truly showed up for our first Astronomy away mission. We were treated to a star show in the planetarium dome which was free of charge. The resident astronomer guided us through a tour of the constellations of the zodiac and the identification of several stars and planets. When the planetarium program was over we went outside along with about 20 other attendees, to view the planets and the moon through the four reflecting telescopes that awaited us outside. While looking through the lens of the telescope I had a child like thrill observing the rings of the planet Saturn. There was an abundance of "oohs" and "ahs" and "cool" as people peered through the telescopes. Afterward, the four of us went to the Cannon Brew Pub and had some delicious fire roasted pizza and hamburgers. All in all we had an evening of thrills

and educational transformation. The astronomy group meets twice a month at differing locations including, the space science center, Providence canyon, and Callaway gardens. I have at everyone's disposal a 2008 schedule of the astronomy nights. I encourage others to attend and I will let people know when we schedule another astronomy night away mission. I will faithfully await any future attendees. There is only one astronomy night in May: Saturday 10 May at the Space Science Center beginning at 8:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

ENS Lech Mazur

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

There is a Vulkan convention at the Orlando Airport Marriott on 16-18 May. Guests include Thomas Dekker (John Connor from Terminator); Jonathan Frakes (Riker from Next Generation); John Schuck (Klingon Ambassador from Star Trek IV and VI); Kavan Smith (Maj Lorne on Stargate SG-1 and Agent Garrity on 4400); Erick Avari (Chandra Suresh on Heroes and roles on Stargate, Deep Space Nine, and Enterprise); John DeLancie (Q); Vaughn Armstrong (Adm Forrest on Enterprise); and Casey Biggs (Damar on Deep Space Nine). You can get reserved seating for as little as \$50 for the weekend! Go to vulkon.com for more information. Lisa and I are driving down on Friday so if you are planning on attending and want to catch a ride, let me know.

The next convention was reported to me by Dutch. There is an upcoming event in Marietta, GA on 31 May – 01 June. This would be the 2008 TOY-O-RAMA Expo featuring the 8th annual Joelanta GI Joe and action figure show! If you collect G.I. Joe, Star Trek, Star Wars, comics, cards, games, books, pop culture, any action figures, posters, Barbie, and more, then this will be a big collector's weekend. The show will have a giant dealer's floor plus a ton of other things to do from contests to fan films. Located in Marietta, Georgia at the Cobb County Civic Center, times are Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-5. Admission has not yet been posted. For Complete info and directions visit joelanta.com.

If you know of any upcoming conventions please let me know the details and I will put it in the newsletter. Also, if someone would like to volunteer to be the Conventional Wisdom editor, reporting monthly on future conventions, please let me know.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Nicole DeBoer, who played Ezri Dax on the final season of Deep Space Nine, will make a guest appearance on Stargate: Atlantis. She has been cast to play Dr. Alison Portor in the episode "Whispers," which is expected to air as the seventh episode of season five. She has been someone the producers have been waiting to get on the show and they are pleased that it has finally happened.

Nana Visitor, who played Col Kira Nerys, on Deep Space Nine, will make a guest appearance on Battlestar Galatica.

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 Communications Satellite Launched (1963)	7 th
CRMN Ashley Turner	10 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
CRMN Harry Turner	23 rd
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 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:

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

Dr. Stewart, our Chiropractor, for his weekly donation of cans.

TABULATIONS

Well, a new year brings forth the third tab challenge! We failed to meet our minimum goal of 80,000 tabs last year and I really hope we can do better than that this year. To make it more appealing to those who save and hunt down those little hunks of aluminum, I will make you an offer that you cannot refuse. If and only if we reach 100,000 tabs, all those crew personnel who donated at least 9,000 tabs will get to pie the Captain! Hallelujah! Can it get any better than that? Now, of course, I think it only fair that if the 100,000 total is reached and if I also donate 9,000 tabs, then I get to pie the person of my choice! So, if you wish to be one of the lucky ones who get to smack me with a pie, start saving those tabs today! Here are the current totals:

Starting Balance	21
Freddy Heller	5165
Russell Ruhland	3680
Connie Heller	2826
Randy Dunn	200
Joe	32
Todd	32
Total	11956

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

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 Sandy, the winner of the free dinner at the Cowboy's Steak Saloon during the April Night Out.

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

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	216.44
Deposit	35.50
Night Out	9.00
Pie Party Pizza	37.45
Closing Balance	205.49

COMM Connie Heller

MEMORY ALPHA

The 2007-2008 version of the DaVinci slideshow is in the works! The cost is \$5.00 and is available on DVD. Please contact Connie to place your order.

TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD releases for May:

- "4400, Season 4" (6th)
- "Bewitched, Season 6" (6th)
- "Crossing Jordan, Season 1" (6th)
- "Incredible Hulk Returns" and "The Trial of the Incredible Hulk" (13th)
- "Stargate: Infinity, the Complete Series" (13th)
- "The Invaders, Season 1" (27th)

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>
Jim Adams	Mar 09	Mar 09
James Carey	Nov 08	Jan 09
Dutch Cummings	Jul 08	
Randy Dunn	Feb 09	May 08
Bubba Dutton	Sep 08	Sep 07
Tony Fleming	Jul 08	Jun 08
Freddy Heller	Jul 08	Sep 08
Mike Henigan	LTM	Nov 08
Benlee Huguley	Feb 09	
Todd Kes	Oct 08	
Jeff Kirkland	Oct 08	Jul 09
Leiko Koone	Nov 08	Oct 08
Lech Mazur	Jul 08	Jan 09
Margaret McGillicuddy	Mar 08	Sep 08
Joshua Nazario	Jan 09	
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	Jan 09	Oct 07
Gisela Stephens	Jan 08	Nov 08
Michael Walker	Apr 08	Mar 08
Patty Williams	Nov 07	
Vanessa Winfield	Jan 08	Jan 09
Roger Wright	Jul 08	Jan 09

RM HOUSE NEEDED ITEMS

Even though we will no longer be meeting at the Ronald McDonald house they still are in need for a variety of items. If you wish to donate an item, bring it by my house and I will make sure it gets there. It is a good way to say "thank-you" for letting us use their meeting room free of charge these past few years.

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 DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND
MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE AT**

HOOTER'S!!

**ON MONDAY 19 MAY AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**

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.

This month's photos are from our seventh annual Christmas Party. Part II will be next month.



The crew digs in at our Seventh Annual Christmas Party (20 December 2008)



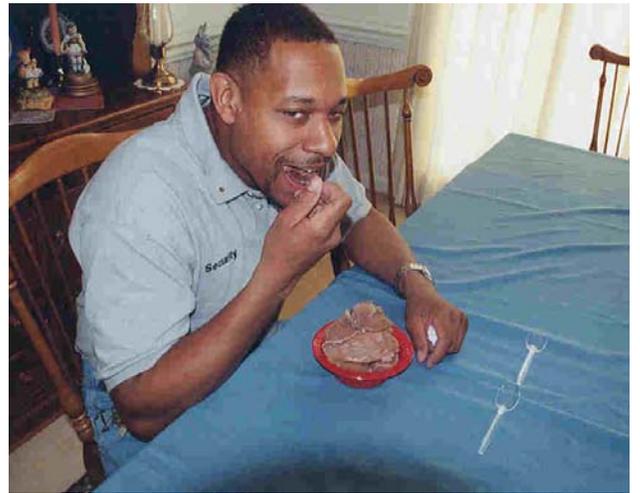
Russell, Rose, Skye, and Randy enjoying a fine conversation following dinner.



Rusty, and Gisela listen intently to Joe's conversation about – what else? – computers!



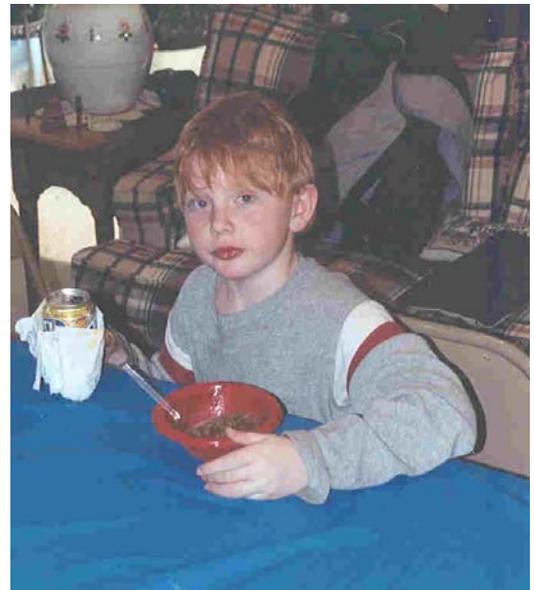
Lesh and Skye's mom, Dennette resting after a filling meal.



Roger enjoying his chocolate ice cream too (but wishes he had a larger bowl)!



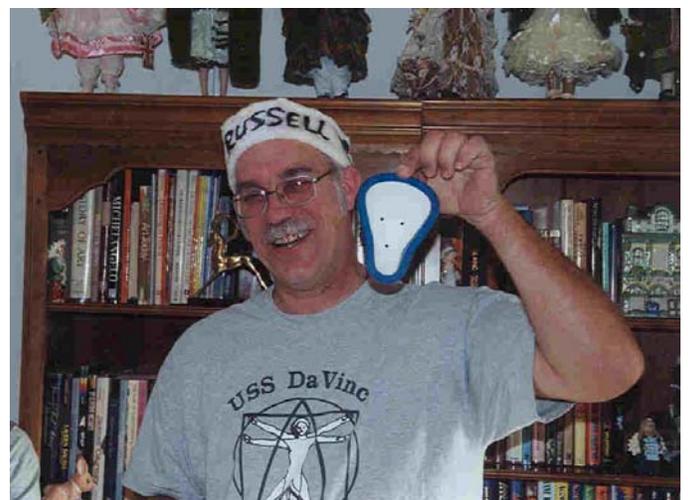
Russell's granddaughter, Anna, enjoying a bowl of chocolate ice cream!



Fonzie, Russell's other grandchild, loves chocolate ice cream as well!



Karen and Margaret in the dining room.



"Oh, I love it. I LOVE it! But why is it so big?"

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!



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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!

Also, you will note that I added the Staff Roster to the beginning of the newsletter. There you will find the telephone numbers of all the Senior Staff and department heads. It will also show you which departments are vacant and need volunteers to take over.

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