



# DaVinci Pilot

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

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JANUARY 2009



**Majel Barrett Roddenberry**  
23 FEB 1932 – 18 DEC 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

LTJG Diane Ruhland (334) 298-3998

Computer Science Officer

ENS Leiko Koone (706) 616-5885

Morale Officer

**VACANT**

Medical Officer

COMM Jeff Kirkland (770) 253-6474

## Engineering Officer

LT Roger Wright (Acting) (706) 464-3000

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**

# PASSAGES

Majel Barrett Roddenberry, "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry's widow who nurtured the legacy of the seminal science fiction TV series after his death, has died. She was 76. Roddenberry died of leukemia Thursday morning at her home in Bel-Air. At Roddenberry's side were family friends and her son, Eugene Roddenberry Jr. Roddenberry was involved in the "Star Trek" universe for more than four decades. She played the dark-haired Number One in the original pilot but metamorphosed into the blond, miniskirted Nurse Christine Chapel in the original 1966-69 show. She had smaller roles in all five of its television successors and many of the "Star Trek" movie incarnations, although she had little involvement in the productions.



Majel as Number One from "The Cage"

She frequently was the voice of the ship's computer, and about two weeks ago she completed the same role for the upcoming J.J. Abrams movie "Star Trek." Roddenberry also helped keep the franchise alive by inspiring fans and attended a major "Star Trek" convention each year. "I think 'Star Trek' will always be her legacy," Sean Rossall, a family spokesman said.

"Star Trek" and its successors often focused on political and philosophical issues of the day. Roddenberry and her husband, who died in 1991, believed in creating "thoughtful entertainment" and were proud of the show and the passionate devotion of its fans, Rossall said. "My mother truly

acknowledged and appreciated the fact that 'Star Trek' fans played a vital role in keeping the Roddenberry dream alive for the past 42 years. It was her love for the fans, and their love in return, that kept her going for so long after my father passed away," her son said in a statement on the official Roddenberry Web site.



Majel as Nurse Chapel in the Original Series.

Born Majel Lee Hudec on Feb. 23, 1932, in Cleveland, she began taking acting classes as a child. She had some stage roles, then in the late 1950s and 1960s had bit parts in a few movies and small roles in TV series, including "Leave It to Beaver" and "Bonanza." She met her husband in 1964 during a guest role for a Marine Corps drama he produced called "The Lieutenant." That same year, she was cast in the pilot for the "Star Trek" series as the no-nonsense "Number One", second-in-command of the Enterprise. The pilot did not appeal to NBC executives and a second pilot was made, although parts of the original later showed up in a two-part episode called "The Menagerie."

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COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**



Majel as Lwaxana Troi from the Next Generation and Deep Space Nine.

The couple married in Japan in 1969 after "Star Trek" was canceled. After her husband's death, Roddenberry continued her involvement with the "Star Trek" franchise.

She also was the executive producer for two other TV science fiction series, "Andromeda" and "Earth: Final Conflict."

## FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Happy New Year!! It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. The year 2009 is going to be quite a busy year in the Star Trek world. The new movie "Star Trek" premieres on 08 May and a plethora of new toys based on the film and Star Trek in general will fill the shelves of retail stores. (Toys R Us will have an exclusive Kirk figure.) As you might have heard, Playmates reacquired the toy license and is planning a variety of different size action figures as well as play sets and other goodies. I hope to have a membership drive table set up at the theater. More on the specifics as the movie draws closer.



On the DaVinci front, 2009 brings forth our bi-annual June election for Captain and our 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Starfleet Chapter. The Region Two Summit will take place in Jackson, MS in March.

The DaVinci fun will start off quickly in 2009! On Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a Stargate: Atlantis mourning party at my house. That is right, Stargate: Atlantis comes to an end after five seasons with its 100<sup>th</sup> episode, "Enemy at the Gate!" I am not sure of the time but for now drop by the house at 8:30 PM. The show should start at 9:00 PM. Snacks will be provided but you must bring your own drink. The very next day on Saturday, 10 January, we will have our annual Pie Party. The day will begin at 8:00 AM with breakfast at Ryan's. Then at 9:00 AM we will travel to the Ronald McDonald House for the official turn-in of the tabs to Susan Yaksh, the House Manager. The Pie Party will begin that afternoon, beginning at 2:00 PM. Pizza and snacks will be provided. Again, you must bring your own drinks. As a reminder on how much fun the Pie Party can be, here is a photo from the 2006 Pie Party. Enjoy!



Ariana lays one on her daddy while Christopher look on with glee.

The last Night Out of 2008 at Carrabba's was not as well attended as usual but still Connie, Ariana and I along with Lech, Margaret, Joshua, and Joe had a good meal and a good time! Remember, the Night Out is also our monthly meeting so you do not have to eat. Come for the news; come for the friendship! Even if you do not wish to eat dinner, you can always order dessert!



The crew relaxing at Carrabba's during the December Night Out

Our annual Christmas party was a blast! Twenty-two DaVinci personnel feasted on the usual yummy foods: turkey, ham, stuffing, bread, potato logs, macaroni and cheese, green bean casserole, baked beans, vegetable salad, chips and dip, and, of course, for dessert we had ice cream, brownies, chocolate cake, cookies, and red and green angel food cake!

Check out the photographs below!



Joe, Russell, Jeff, Martha, Margaret, and Ariana help themselves.

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Russell, Joe, and Jeff in line



Martha, Jeff, and Joe helping themselves!



Lech, Shane, and Russell (not again!)



Lisa, Sandy, Todd, and James hit the buffet line!

After everyone had helped themselves, it was time to select the 2009 Night Out locations. The selection this year is a great one. Naturally, with May being the Captain's choice month, the Olive Garden made the list. Sorry, no Hooter's this year but pizza is back after a year's absence! Check out the list later in the newsletter.

Following the Night Out selection we had the door prize drawings. Thanks to a nice donation of goodies from Randy, everyone who attended got something to take home! Okay, here are the lucky winners: Todd (Star Trek audio book); Lisa (Santa basket); Alexander (Star Trek audio book); Randy (Klingon Bird of Prey Christmas ornament); James (Star Trek audio book); Lech (cookies); Roger (Star Trek Audio book); Joshua (Connie's famous cookie mix); Shane (Star Trek audio book); Russell (Star Wars poster); Elaine (Star Trek audio book); Leiko (candy); Jeff (Star Trek audio book); Joe (audio book); and Margaret (Star Wars poster). Everyone's name was put back into the hat for the grand prize drawing of a neat Star Wars light saber. Congratulations to Shane, the lucky winner!

After everyone had rested a while it was time to open the gag gifts for those who participated. Check out some of these "gifts": Jeff, Martha, and Freddy took home various DVDs; Lisa has a couple bird thingies for the wall; Randy had fun playing with his balancing bird; Todd has two S'mores cups; Russell is the proud owner of a wooden mini sled; and the grand prize for gifts has to be the coconut figures Sandy took home.

A BIG Bajoran thanks to all who attended the final DaVinci party of the year. You guys are great!

VADM Freddy Heller



## SCIENCE STATION

The schedules for the January astronomy night are as follows.

24 January, Providence Canyon, 7:00 PM

31 January, Space Science Center, 6:00 PM

If you are interested in attending any of these nights, please give me a call and perhaps we can schedule an away mission.

ENS Lech Mazur

## BI-CITY 2008 XMAS PARADE

Cold and clear was the weather early Saturday morning, December 13 as the intrepid DaVinci personnel gathered for a morning repast at Shoney's in preparation for their exciting mission: The 2008 Bi-City Christmas Parade. Russell and Diane, Randy and Christopher, Frazier, and Ariana and I hit the breakfast buffet as the sun slowly rose and shed light upon the magnificent creation wrought by Randy, Sandy, Russell, Diane, Frazier, Shane, and Roger earlier in the week.

For those who were not involved in the design and planning phase of the project, the float was divided into two distinct sections by a replica of the monolith from 2001: A Space Odyssey. The greeting on both sides of the float stated "2008: A



Ariana as Princess Leia, Russell, and Diane enjoying breakfast at Shoney's

Christmas Odyssey". The front of the float was the "Then" section and had a stationary robot and astronaut decorating a white Christmas tree with silver ornaments. The only colors there were black, white, silver, and shades of gray to mimic the old films and television shows. Behind the monolith was the "Now" section, with a green Christmas tree decorated with colorful ornaments. The "live" crew had seating there, and science fiction theme music was playing through speakers.

After waiting in the staging area for 2 hours, we were just about to get the go-ahead, when Roger and Alexander broke through the roadblocks at the last minute and joined Diane, Christopher and Ariana on the float. Frazier drove, and Russell, Randy and I walked the route. The weather had



Frazier, Randy, and Christopher at Shoney's before the Christmas parade.

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The DaVinci float!

warmed up by then, especially for the walkers, and the crowds of people shouted “Merry Christmas” and waved joyously at us. Candy was distributed, and although there were reports that the “walkers” were hit by candy thrown by the “riders”, no serious injuries resulted.



Connie, the Klingon reindeer?

Once the parade was over and the electronics disassembled, the crew, minus Roger and Alexander plus newly arrived Lech and Margaret, met at Buffet City in Phenix City for a celebratory lunch, with our minds already focused on next year’s float!

Thanks to all who helped work on the float and to those who attended the parade!

COMM Connie Heller

## 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 <sup>st</sup>
First Rocket Fired Past Moon (Russia; 1959)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Deep Space Nine Premiers (1992)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Mars Probe Spirit Lands on Mars (2004)	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Aron Eisenber (Nog on DS9)	6 <sup>th</sup>
First Around-the-World Trip by Commercial Airplane (Pacific Clipper 1942)	6 <sup>th</sup>
Mark Allen Shepard (Morn on DS9)	7 <sup>th</sup>
Four of Jupiter’s Moons Discovered (Galileo 1610)	7 <sup>th</sup>
Michelle Forbes (Ro Laren on TNG)	8 <sup>th</sup>
Last US Probe Lands on Moon (Surveyor VII 1968)	9 <sup>th</sup>
First Hispanic in Space (Franklin Chang-Diaz 1986)	12 <sup>th</sup>
Kirstie Alley (LT Saavik from Wrath of Khan)	12 <sup>th</sup>

Voyager Premiers (1995)	16 <sup>th</sup>
DeForest Kelley (Dr. Leonard McCoy on TOS)	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>ENS Vanessa Winfield</b>	20 <sup>th</sup>
David Gerrold (Author & Script Writer)	21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>LTJG Michael Walker</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>
Mars Probe Opportunity Lands on Mars (2004)	25 <sup>th</sup>
James Cromwell (Zephram Cochrane from First Contact)	27 <sup>th</sup>
Apollo I is Lost (1967)	27 <sup>th</sup>
Shuttle Challenger is Lost (1986)	28 <sup>th</sup>
Moon Probe Ranger VI is Launched (1964)	30 <sup>th</sup>
US Launches First Satellite (Explorer I 1958)	31 <sup>st</sup>
Apollo XIV is Launched (1971)	31 <sup>st</sup>

## ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

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

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

Jeff and Martha for their donation of cans.

Roger for his usual donation of coupons and stamps.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Leiko Koone (S)  
 Jeff Kirkland (D)  
 Martha Kirkland (D)

## TABULATIONS

At the end of December the 2008 tab collection ended! Thanks to Connie and the folks at her school, we not only reached our goal of 70,000 tabs but we reached 100,000 tabs, something we have not accomplished in 3 years! Jeff made a donation of 2500 tabs, which not only put us over the top, but he reached the magic goal of 9,000 tabs, therefore making him eligible to pie the captain! Congratulations (I think) Jeff! Here are the final totals as of press time:

<b>Starting Balance</b>	21
Connie Heller	61963
Freddy Heller	12629
Jeff Kirkland	9270
Russell Ruhland	5480

Karen Pynenburg	5306
Tony Fleming	2717
Roger Wright	1600
Joe Perry	1145
Randy Dunn	960
Lech Mazur	413
Todd Kes	124
Shane Russell	61

**Total** 101689

## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	167.13
Camp Laurel (Russell's donation; replaces Caring for Babies with AIDS)	50.00
Night Out	13.50
Christmas	29.21
Closing Balance	74.42

COMM Connie Heller

## NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

Attention! The Night Out locations for 2009 were selected at the Christmas party. The list is below. There are some new places this year. I hope your favorite restaurant made the list!

January	Golden Corral
February	Stevie B's
March	El Vaquero (Phenix City)
April	CiCi Pizza (Bradley Park)
May	Olive Garden
June	New China
July	Buffalo Wild Wings
August	Chili's
September	Ruby Tuesday (Veteran's)
October	Ryan's
November	Texas Roadhouse
December	Hong Kong Buffet

Congratulations to Connie the winner of the free dinner at Carrabba's during the December Night Out.

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## TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD releases for January:

- "Battlestar Galactica, Season Four" (6<sup>th</sup>)
- "Tripping the Rift, Season Three" (6<sup>th</sup>)
- "Stargate SG-1: Ark of Truth (Blu-ray)" (13<sup>th</sup>)
- "Moonlight, Complete Series" (20<sup>th</sup>)
- "Invaders, Season Two" (27<sup>th</sup>)
- "MANTIS, Complete Series" (27<sup>th</sup>)

## 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
Steve Brown	Dec 08	
Hollie Bundy	Sep 09	
James Carey	<b>Nov 08</b>	Jan 09
Adam Chryst	Jul 09	May 09
Dutch Cummings	<b>Oct 08</b>	
Randy Dunn	Feb 09	Jun 09
Tony Fleming	Jul 09	Jun 09
Freddy Heller	Jul 09	Sep 09
Mike Henigan	LTM	<b>Nov 08</b>
Benlee Huguley	Feb 09	
Todd Kes	Oct 09	
Jeff Kirkland	Oct 10	Jul 09
Leiko Koone	Nov 09	Nov 09
Lech Mazur	Jul 09	Jan 09
Margaret McGillicuddy	Jul 09	Oct 09
Joshua Nazario	Jan 09	
Lisa Neal	Jul 09	
Joe Perry	Jul 09	Nov 08
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 09	May 09
Russell Ruhland	Aug 09	Aug 09
Shane Russell	Mar 09	
Park Scully	Jul 09	Sep 09
Frazier Smith	Jan 09	<b>Oct 07</b>
Gisela Stephens	LTM	Nov 08
Michael Walker	<b>Jul 08</b>	<b>Mar 08</b>
Patty Williams	Apr 09	
Vanessa Winfield	Jan 09	Jan 09
Roger Wright	Jul 09	Jan 09



## MEMORY ALPHA

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

## 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 The DaVinci 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!

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## 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.

If you have any photographs that you would like to see published in the Pilot, feel free to send them to me with a brief explanations as to who is in the photo and when and where it was taken.



Some of the DaVinci crew and guests at the Stargate SG-1 8<sup>th</sup> Season premier party (09 July 2004)



Skye and Mandy seem interested in the show while Rebecca would rather read.



Frazier and Randy watch the show.



Frazier and his towel at the party!



Rusty. We miss you brother!

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From the rear, Stacy, Stephanie, Russell, Margaret, and Lech enjoy the show.



The whole DaVinci kit and caboodle!

## **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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DaVinci Members Receive a 20 % Discount!

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.

## 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!

If you won a Star Wars poster at the Christmas part and cannot for the life of you remember what you did with it, it is probably the one that is sitting on my desk!

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