



DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 14 Number 09

MARCH 2009

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

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Okay folks, the next big event coming up is our 13th anniversary party! Wow it is hard to believe that way back in March of 1996 at the first Region 2 Sunny Summit, the USS DaVinci was born! I remember quite vividly driving with Joe down to sunny Pensacola, FL. I also remember the rather large body of water we had to cross and Joe keeping his eyes shut. It was a very successful and fun-filled start to the Region 2 conferences. Also receiving their commissioning was the USS Okatoma. Take a look at some photos from our commissioning!



A very youthful looking Joe getting his promotion certificate from then Regional Coordinator, Kelly Hilliard!

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND
MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE AT
EL VAQUERO-PHENIX CITY
ON MONDAY 16 MARCH AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!**



Look ma, hair! Freddy getting promoted to Captain



Freddy raising the traditional bottle of non-alcoholic bubbly after receiving the certificate of commissioning from Kelly!

The celebration will be on March 21st beginning at 2:00 PM. The club will spring for the pizza but please **bring your own drink of choice**. If you plan on attending, please email me or give me a call. I need to know how much snacks to buy.

We had a great turnout for the February Night Out at Stevie B's Pizza. Sixteen pizza-loving folks attended and had a feast consuming the variety of pizza offered by Stevie B's. Guess who showed up with her father? Tony brought his daughter Mariaelena! We have not seen her in quite a while. Watch it Tony, the boys will soon be at your doorstep! The folks erupted in laughter when Roger came back from the ice cream machine. Take a look!



Believe it or not, the Tower of Babel was several inches taller before this picture was taken!

I hope you are planning on attending the Region 2 Summit in Jackson, MS on 6-8 March. It should be a blast as most of the Summits are and it will be a great opportunity to meet with friends (family) you only get a chance to meet once a year. Go to the Region 2 website (region2.org) for all the information. So far, there are nine DaVinci personnel attending. If you do plan on attending and need a ride, give me a call. I am leaving on Thursday because of my responsibility as Region 2 Auctioneer but most of the folks are leaving on Friday. Hope to see you there.

Finally, The Coca Cola Space Science Center held their first Columbus Comic Book Convention and Toy Show. The DaVinci had a membership drive table set up. It attracted much attention and may generate some new members. Thanks to Joe for helping out. Here we are at the table:



VADM Freddy Heller

EXECUTIVELY SPEAKING

Greetings from your friendly neighborhood Executive Officer. I really do hope to provide y'all with more regular articles in the future and I sincerely apologize for the lack thereof, but in the meantime, let me provide you this month with a bit of interesting information I found on the web which pertains to the "Top 10 Real-Life Star Trek Inventions" as of the source date, Nov 2007. It's neat to see just how exactly technology is attempting to advance since the original series was on prime time TV. By the way, I myself do not fully agree with the order that these inventions were placed but remember this list is about 1-1/2 years old and it is only one author's opinion.

10. **Telepresence:** Perhaps this technology has existed in some form in the past but telepresence really does offer live shots of people pretty much from anywhere. We know that in TOS as well as all the other series and movies, individuals are able to conjure up a live image of a person on a huge screen and talk to that person in real-time. Though unconceivable in 1966, that kind of technology is widely used today. Personal note: I can see why this is #10 as it probably has been around the longest. I can remember as a child when the first dual visual communication telephones were being introduced. As long as both parties have the same device they could see each other and talk normally without time delays. We all pretty much know also that web technology today allows us to do this whenever we please with only the proper software installed.

9. **The Hypospray:** The promise of painless needle injections lies with a manufacturer named SonoPrep. According to the company's website, the SonoPrep device is the brainchild of Robert Langer, an MIT-trained chemical engineer who hit upon a novel way to penetrate the skin's outermost layer. Patients who get sonicated hear a soda-pop fizz and feel a slight tingling, but that's it. In 15 seconds, the skin is properly perforated and ready to soak up meds. Wait a minute!!! I seem to remember getting my vaccinations during boot camp in the Army with a rather large air-driven device that went "poof" and the vaccine was in there. That was in 1972!

8 **Hyperdrive:** OK, this one is still far, far, away but the theories on it are getting closer and closer to being experimented with. At the heart of some of the current thinking is the so-called hyperdrive

concept that won 2006's American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics award for the best nuclear and future flight paper. It describes a concept that is baffling even to scientists but in the end it would build an engine that would let us go from here to Mars in about three hours. OK, I think that maybe our wives invented hyperdrive already when they tell us husbands we better get the garbage taken out in about 2 seconds or else!!!

7. **The Communicator:** OK, these have been around awhile but still warrant mentioning, especially in an article such as this. We know that members of Starfleet in the TV series only had to tap the small device on their chest and could instantly communicate with their colleagues. Vocera's Communications System is uncannily like those sci-fi gadgets in that it uses hands-free, voice-activated devices that users can carry around their necks to talk with co-workers anytime, anywhere within range of the company's Wi-Fi network. Of course we have seen the progression of cell phones over the years and they too have devices now that are virtually hands-free once the other party has been connected.

6. **Purdue's Cloaking Device:** So, you thought only the Romulans had this device? Hardly! Purdue University engineers have taken a step toward creating an optical cloaking device that would make objects invisible. Following mathematical guidelines devised in 2006 by physicists in the United Kingdom, they have created a theoretical design that uses an array of tiny needles radiating outward from a central spoke. Resembling a round hairbrush, the device would bend light around the object being cloaked. Background objects would be visible but not the object surrounded by the array of nano-needles. The UK has also demonstrated that it has a so-called cloaking system that beams images of the surrounding landscape onto a tank that could make the tank completely disappear and predicted that an invisible tank would be ready for service around the year 2012. I tried this technology in my teens when I would attempt to get home late at night without Mom seeing me but somehow her radar always saw through me!

That's all for now. I'll bring you the top 5 next month (for sure!) Until then, may the Force be with you (Oops, wrong series!!). Live long & prosper!

SCIENCE STATION

The schedules for the March astronomy night are as follows.

21 March, Space Science Center, 7:00 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

WHAT IS SUBLUXATIONS?

A subluxation is a distortion in your body structure that causes damage to your spine, muscles, joints, nerves, discs and other tissues and organs. But what's worse is that subluxations interfere with your overall body function – our balance, energy level, healing ability and physical and mental well-being.

Subluxations can occur at any age. Many even occur at birth due to the stress of delivery. Subluxations can result from falls, accidents, poor sleeping positions, overwork – even emotional stress and environmental toxins can shock your body into developing subluxations.

Chiropractors provide a wonderful service. We locate and correct (adjust) subluxations, removing stress from your body and mind, unleashing energy, restoring balance and permitting you to live your life closer to your physical and mental potential.

When you have subluxations it's as if you are living life with the parking brake on. Do you have a subluxation in your body? Unless you are seeing a chiropractor for periodic checkups, the answer is probably "yes."

If you or anyone you know is sick and tired, living with all kinds of drugs and low energy, do them a favor – tell them to come in for a chiropractic checkup. They'll be very grateful to you.

From Tedd Koren's Newsletter.

CRMN Harold "Doc" Stewart

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Barbara Luna (LT Marlene Moreau on TOS) 2nd
James Doohan (LTCMDR Montgomery Scott on TOS) 3rd
Apollo 9 Blasts off to Test Lunar Module (1969) 3rd

Jolene Blalock (T ^h Pol on ENT)	5 th
CADET Ariana Heller	12 th
Astronaut Wally Schirra	12 th
Uranus Discovered by Sir William Herschel (1781)	13 th
First American (Norman Thagard) on Russian Space Craft (1995)	14 th
Astronaut Frank Borman	14 th
Astronaut Eugene Cernan	14 th
Penny Johnson-Jerald (CPT Cassidy Yates on DS9)	14 th
Astronaut Alan L. Bean	15 th
J.G. Hertzler (Martok on DS9)	18 th
First Human to Walk in Space (Alexi Leonov 1965)	18 th
Conner Trineer (CMDR Charles Tucker on ENT)	19 th
John DeLancie ("Q" on TNG)	20 th
CRMN Hollie Bundy	21 st
ENS Travis Heller	22 nd
William Shatner (CPT James T. Kirk on TOS)	22 nd
Michael Westmore (Makeup Designer)	22 nd
First US 2 Person Ship (Gemini III) Launched (1965)	23 rd
Russia's Mir Space Station Falls to Earth (2001)	23 rd
D. C. Fontana (Story Editor)	25 th
Leonard Nimoy (Spock on TOS)	26 th
CADET Derick Turner	26 th
Yuri A. Gagarin Dies (1968)	27 th
Marina Sirtis (CMDR Deanna Troi on TNG)	29 th
ENS Lech Mazur	30 th

WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Harold Stewart (D)
Randy Dunn (D)
Sandy Holt (D)
Mathew Dunn (D)
Rebecca Dunn (D)
Christopher Dunn (D)
Roger Wright (S)
Alexander Wright (S)
Dutch Cummings (D) (S*)
Melanie Cummings (D) (S*)
Benlee Huguley (D)

TABULATIONS

Well, another year brings another tab challenge. Our goal for 2009 is to reach 110,000 tabs! If this amount is reached, the top "tabber" gets to pie both the Captain and First Officer! Yes, you get to pie both of us! Anyone else who reaches 10,000 tab donations gets his or her choice as to which one of us gets pied. What could be better than that? So

start saving those tabs today. Here are the tab counts as of press time. Note that there is no starting balance as in previous years. Jeff was the last person to donate before the 31 December deadline. His amount put us over the 100,000 goal and so what ever was left over was credited to his 2009 amount.

Starting Balance	Zero
Connie Heller	10296
Russell Ruhland	2061
Tony Fleming	1980
Jeff Kirkland	1689
Freddy Heller	1042
Joe Perry	30
Shane Russell	22
Total	17270

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	78.06
Nights Out	16.00
Membership joinings and renewals	37.50
Cans	8.00
Closing Balance	107.56

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!

April	CiCi's 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 Tony Fleming the winner of the free dinner at Stevie B's during the February Night Out.

TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD releases for March:

- "Stargate SG-1, Ark of Truth (Blu-ray) (3rd)
- "Stargate SG-1, Continuum (Blu-ray) (3rd)
- "Clone Wars, A Galaxy Divided" (24th)
- "Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea, Season 4, Vol 1" (31st)

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 09	
Hollie Bundy	Sep 09	
James Carey	Nov 09	Jan 09
Adam Chryst	Jul 09	May 09
Dutch Cummings	Jul 10	
Randy Dunn	Feb 10	Jun 09
Tony Fleming	Jul 09	Jun 09
Freddy Heller	Jul 09	Sep 09
Mike Henigan	LTM	Nov 09
Benlee Huguley	Feb 10	
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 10	
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	Oct 07
Gisela Stephens	LTM	Nov 08
Harold Stewart	Feb 10	
Michael Walker	Jul 08	Mar 08
Patty Williams	Apr 09	
Vanessa Winfield	Jan 09	Jan 09
Roger Wright	Jul 09	Feb 10

ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:
Harold for his weekly donation of cans.

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.

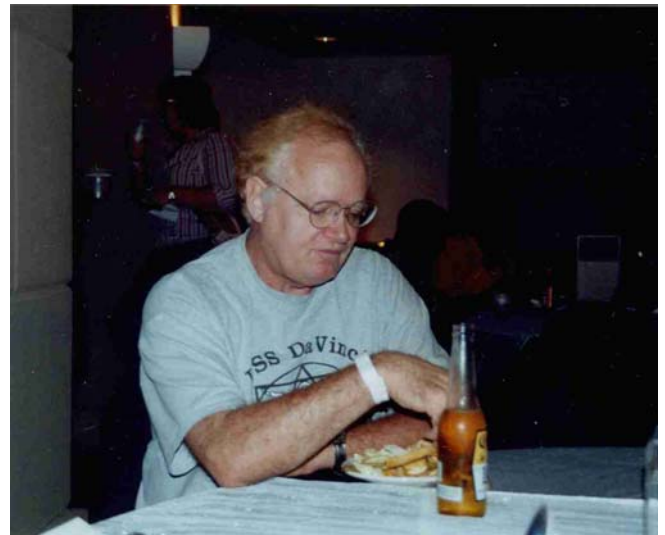
Although The Ronald McDonald House needs quite a variety of items, the items needed most are trash bags (35 gal), laundry detergent, dryer sheets, air freshener spray, AA batteries, copier paper, labels, Styrofoam cups, and food items such as hard candy, cake icing, lemonade, salad dressing, soup, box dinners, vegetable oil, and perishable items such as bread, meats, cheese slices, fresh fruits, and snack foods. Thanks!

**DO NOT FORGET OUR 13TH
ANNIVERSARY PARTY IS ON
MARCH 21ST AT 2:00 PM!
THERE WILL BE PIZZA, SNACKS,
AND LOADS OF FUN
COME ONE, COME ALL!**

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 explanation as to who is in the photo and when and where it was taken.



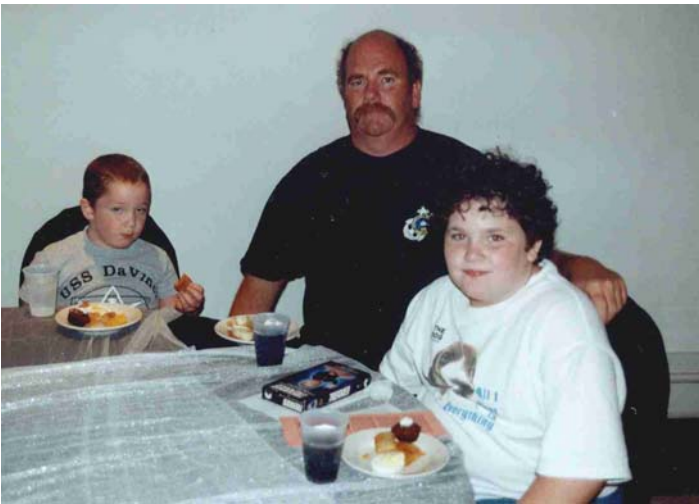
Lech enjoying the free snacks at the "Trekkies 2" premier party at the Columbus Museum (11 Sep 2004)



Future DaVinci members Jeff Kirkland and his mom Martha and Joe enjoying the snacks



No Margaret, you need to spread the fingers!
Russell and Lech enjoying the festivities



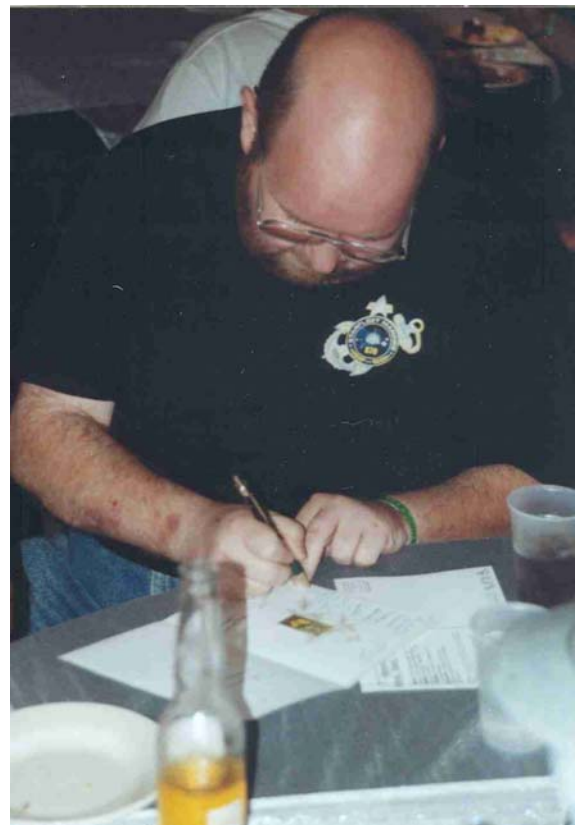
The Dunns, Christopher, Randy, and Rebecca enjoying the party



Yes, that is Sandra Okamoto with Roger Nygard



Nermina Grgas (a member of a Star Trek fan club in her home of Croatia) with Trekkies 2 producer Roger Nygard



Frazier signing some sort of card but for what reason I cannot recall

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The free Star Trek spread put out by the Museum.
The chef even asked Connie for advice!



The DaVinci crew posing with Sandra and Roger

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!

There was a wonderful turn out (for such a short notice) for the Ronald McDonald House night at Chili's! Ten DaVinci personnel spent a total of \$121.00, 10% of which will be donated to the House! As we were getting ready to leave we bumped into Susan Yaksh, the manger of the Ronald McDonald House. She informed us that the RMH night at Chili's was to be a monthly affair! Looks as if we may have two Night Outs each

month! Check out a couple of photographs below from the festivities. A BIG Bajoran thanks to all who attended thereby helping in this worthy cause!



Russell and Diane enjoying Chili's luscious
"Chocolate Volcano"



"Mmmmmmm, chocolate!"

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 20th of each month.

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Any Questions??