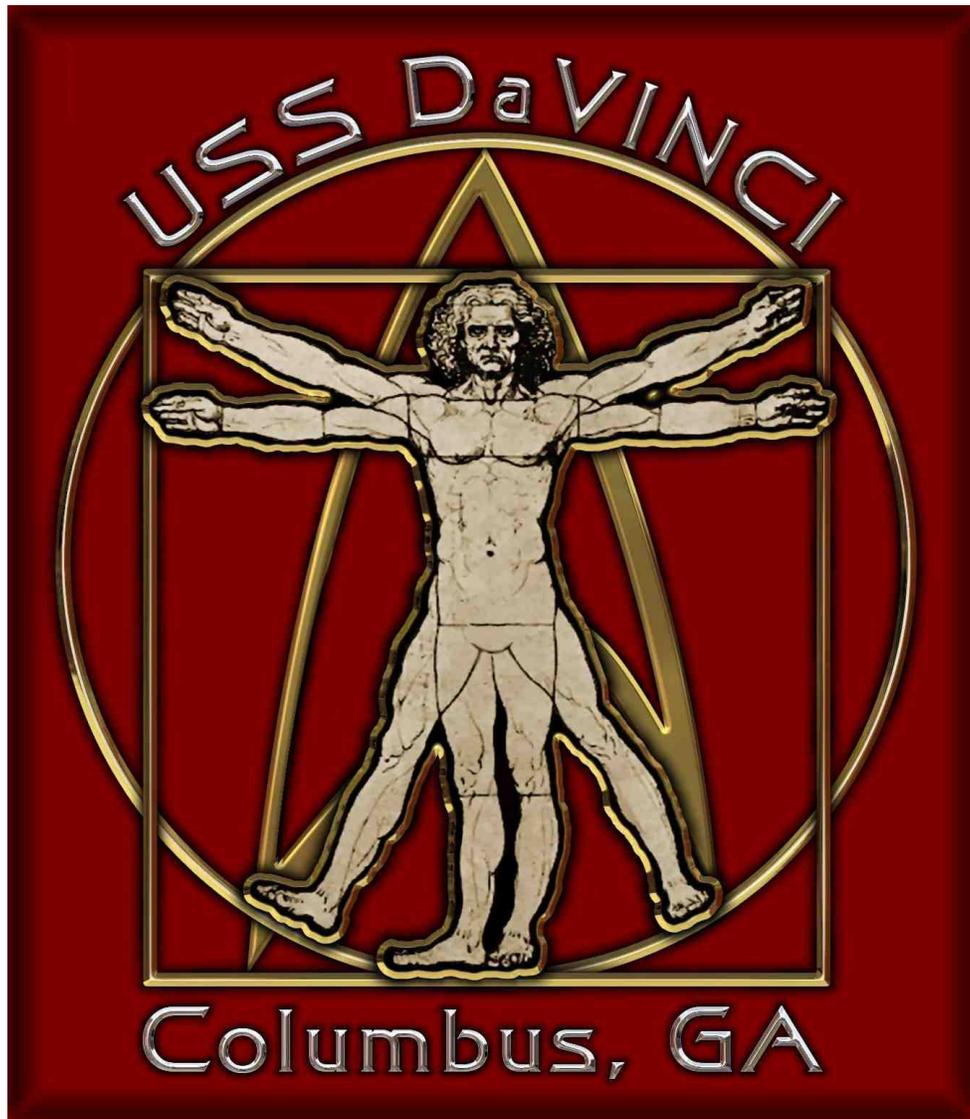


DaVinci Pilot

Newsletter of the USS DaVinci, NCC-74671, Columbus, GA

Volume 18 Number 01 September 2012



*A Local Chapter of Starfleet, the
International Star Trek Fan Association*



THE INTERNATIONAL
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

USS DAVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer	RADM Russell Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Executive Officer	FCPT Cami Houser	(808) 372-5409
Operations Officer	COMM Joe Perry	(706) 457-9725
Community Service Officer	ENS Jessie Sutton	(706) 442-0371
Finance Officer	COMM Connie Heller	(706) 392-5100
Publications Officer	ADM Freddy Heller	(706) 325-TREK
Records Officer	ADM Freddy Heller	(706) 325-TREK
Science Officer	ENS Lech Mazur	(706) 596-9542
Computer Science Officer	ENS Leiko Koone	(706) 663-2763
Counselor	LTJG Diane Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Medical Officer	COMM Jeff Kirkland	(770) 253-6474
Morale Officer	ENS Dutch Cummings	(706) 407-9945
Engineering Officer	VACANT	
Communications Officer	LT Randy Dunn	(334) 291-0150
Quartermaster	VACANT	
Security Chief	LTJG Jonathan Evans	(910) 624-3586
Cadet Corps Commander	VACANT	
Starfleet Marines Commander	VACANT	

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up, Blackmon Road, 08 September, 8:00 AM**
- **Marvel Superhero Movie Night, Freddy and Connie's House, 15 September, 4:00 PM**
- **Night Out at New China Buffet, 17 September, 7:00 PM**
- **St. Jude's Night Out at Chili's (100% of Profits Go To St Jude), 24 September, 7:00 PM**
- **Volunteer Party and "Goodbye Summer, Hello Fall" Cookout, Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 28 September,**



THE INTERNATIONAL
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.



**In Memorandum
Neil Alden Armstrong, 1930-2012**

"That's one small step for a man - one giant leap for mankind."



IT'S THE CAPTAIN CALLING

The Admiral's shuttle departed Phenix City on the morning of Friday, 3 August for the Starfleet International Conference in Memphis, TN. After several hours on the road and a few stops along the way we arrived at the hotel around 1:00 PM. Our Operations Officer, Joe Perry, arrived later that afternoon. The desk clerk was kind enough to give us our room right away; however, there were some complications in that we were placed all the way at the end of the hall on the 2nd floor and the room doors were 6 inches too thin to accommodate Diane's travel chair. Since I had already unloaded the luggage we decided to stay in the room we were given and worked around the distance and door problems. There were some restaurants conveniently right around the corner from the hotel and we decided on a Hispanic dinner for Friday night while a majority of the other attendees had dinner at the Marine Banquet.

Opening ceremonies were Friday evening around 8:00 PM and we called it a night shortly thereafter. On Saturday morning we had our courtesy breakfast, which I must say, was very delightful and then it was off to the general sessions. Once all the business was discussed the IC staff took care of the award presentations and your faithful CO did not get selected for CO of the Year nor did the DaVinci win Chapter of the Year, both Fleet level awards. Still, receiving the honors at Regional level was gratitude enough for me. Maybe next year, who knows? I did; however, receive induction into the Starfleet Academy Red Squad for the third year in a row. Joe joined us for lunch at a Chinese restaurant and then it was back to the hotel for panels. I hosted a Chaplain/Counselor panel, which had more members attending than any previous panel of this type, and the discussion was marvelous. We attended the Academy panel and I assisted during the question/answer period. We then went back to the room to prepare for the fleet banquet.

The IC staff outdid themselves with the delicious selection of entrees at the banquet. It was a buffet setup and I certainly got my fill. After the banquet, we all received quite a treat as an Elvis impersonator did his thing for the Fleet's entertainment and he was good! Being the devoted Elvis fan, Diane couldn't keep her eyes off of him and turned red as a beet when he did the hip shake right in front of her. After the show there was a charity auction and some of the items certainly went into bidding wars, which graciously brought in literally hundreds of dollars. With total auction and sales combined, nearly \$5,000 went to the two charities chosen for IC 2012. It was getting rather late so we decided to retire for the evening.

On Sunday morning I presided over the nondenominational service, which again had the largest number of attendees ever. I spoke on the subject, "Let Not Your Heart Be Tribbled" or "Why Can't We Just All Get Along." We dealt with difficulties in dealing with media bullies and the effect it has on the innocent readers of the media. All of the services that I conduct at IC and summits are always in an open forum or discussion format and the discussion was indeed blessed. Hearts were touched and I believe all of those who were in attendance left the service with a better insight of the world we live in today.



Joe, Diane, and Russell at the Awards Banquet and Diane gets “a hunk, a hunk of burning love!”

Ah yes, the closing ceremonies. This is the part that I really don't look forward to as we have to say our goodbyes to everyone and most of which we won't see again until next year. I was given some time to hand out my annual Chaplain Services awards and the IC staff did a most impressive and tearful tribute to two of our long time Fleet members that recently passed on, Admiral Helen Pulaski and Fleet Captain Joe Gallagher, both of them being acquaintances of mine over the years. Joe Gallagher was posthumously promoted to Commodore. After all was over, Diane and I went to visit Graceland to see what we didn't get to see the first time we were there and to my blessing a man came up to us and gave us some tickets so I didn't have to pay a dime, except for ALL the Elvis collectables that Diane bought. Good thing I brought my rope so I could pull her out of the souvenir shops before she could empty my wallet!

Sunday evening was superb! All three of us gathered together with the other “dead dogs” as they are called and traveled into downtown Memphis for dinner at Malone's BBQ restaurant. This is another of Guy Fieri's tour restaurants and oh boy, the food was magnificent. I had BBQ spaghetti and Diane tried a sub sandwich. I cannot remember exactly what Joe had for dinner but he was very clear that he was not going to try the BBQ spaghetti.



At Malone's BBQ restaurant on Sunday evening.

We traveled home on Monday morning and the Admiral's shuttle arrived safely in home port around 6:30 PM. Next year's IC will be held in Dallas, TX and I do hope that we can get several of our DaVinci crew to attend that event.

Wow! The attendance records just keep getting set. On Monday, 20 August, 24 members of the DaVinci crew attended the monthly Night Out at El Vaquero Mexican restaurant in Phenix City, AL. To our surprise, Dutch and Melanie were in attendance, this being their very first Night Out. We took up an entire row of tables in the middle of the main dining area, which was great since this was a uniform event and there were some other diners that inquired about the DaVinci and Starfleet. The food was wonderful and everyone certainly got their fill. The two servers for the tables were so nice that I gave them each a Spock T-shirt. Cara won this month's free meal. I also had a drawing for the Captain's perks and this month Randy won a Spock T-shirt and Dutch won a CPT Janeway action figure. I wish to thank Jessie for her donation of the action figure prize.



Randy and Sandye at the Night Out and Joe, Dutch, Melanie, Jeff, and Martha too.



Russell, Lech, and Margaret wait for their food as do Christie, Janet, and Jonathan.



Ariana and Connie and Steve, Lisa, and Randy at the Night Out.



Timmy and Cara smile for the camera and look at the DaVinci attendance!

The Coca Cola Space Science Center will be holding their annual Columbus Sci-Fi Convention on Saturday, 6 October, 2012 from 10:00 AM–5:00 PM. Dutch has graciously offered to hold a silent auction for the DaVinci fund and we need your help to donate items to the auction. The items do not have to be Trek related; any Sci-Fi item will work and the more items available the greater chance of benefiting our chapter. There will be special guests present along with a live band. DaVinci members in good standing will receive free admittance. You can come in uniform if you choose and as always our chapter will have a membership drive table at the event. Come one come all!

As a footnote, I am very proud to announce that the USS DaVinci is the largest Chapter in Region 2 having 45 Starfleet members, 8 more than the next Chapter, the USS Republic!

Until next time, warp speed ahead!

RADM Russell Ruhland

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Greetings Officers and Crewmates!

Well it looked like Mother Nature had other plans for our Adopt-A-Highway clean up day. She opened up the heavens and let rain come. Care to try this again and make the date 8 September. We will meet at 8:00 AM. Yes, it is early but the earlier we meet the less chance of hitting a hot wave. After we get done we can head to a place to chow down. I'll let ya'll decide where you want to go. We will meet at the intersection of Blackmon Road and E 80 entrance to the JR Allen Parkway.

Okay, on to other business. I am still waiting on word on an address for the Soldier care packages. Is everyone still collecting the pop tabs, cancelled stamps, manufacturer food coupons, and Box Tops for Education? If so keep up the good work! Now to keep you up to date on some fun Freddy and I had on 5 August. We had our membership drive table set up at the Coca-Cola Space Science Center during the Comic Book and Toy Show. The overall turnout was not too bad considering that just down the block the Columbus Iron Works Center had a Gun and Knife Show. We did have several folks drop by the table and one even joined the DaVinci on the spot! Near the end of the day, the costuming club had a charity drawing to help the victims of the Colorado movie shooting. They were giving away professionally framed superhero artwork. Two of our members won their choice of framed goodies – Freddy and Justin!



Windy Morris joined the DaVinci at the show while the Mack family ponders joining!

**NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND MEMBERSHIP
MEETING WILL BE AT**

NEW CHINA BUFFET

**ON MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!!**



Jessie manning the DaVinci table and Justin and Freddy – lucky winners in the charity raffle!

Congrats to the folks who won the raffle that was held! Also, a big thanks goes out to Justin who donated his prize to the DaVinci (it sold the same day to Freddy's son, Travis who offered \$40 for the print). By the end of the day we were ready to head home but before that happened one of the baddies from the League of Columbus gave a Red Shirt her last wish after a long day. Loki had it in for an Ensign. It was all in good fun and made for a good laugh!

On 24 September, Chili's is hosting a St. Jude's Children's Hospital Night with all of the proceeds going to this worthy organization. Past fundraisers such as these have always been well attended by DaVinci personnel so make plans to attend this night as well. Thanks.

Until the next time, take care!

ENS Jessie Sutton



PASSAGES

William Windom, who won an Emmy Award for his turn in the 1969 TV comedy series "My World And Welcome To It" and went on to score guest appearances on several popular shows, has died.

William Windom has passed away at the age of 88. A veteran actor Windom died at his home on Thursday, 16 August, in Woodacre, CA, succumbing to congestive heart failure.

The easy-going Windom was an in-demand television character actor for decades and scored guest appearances on several American TV staples, including episodes of Twilight Zone, the A-Team, Ally McBeal, JAG, and appeared on more than 50 segments of "Murder, She Wrote" beginning in the mid-1980s. There, Windom played a Maine country doctor opposite series star

Angela Lansbury's Jessica Fletcher. He also played the part of the prosecuting attorney who parries in court with Gregory Peck's Atticus Finch in the 1962 movie "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Of course, to Star Trek fans the world over, Windom will always be remembered for his compelling performance as the guilt-ridden Commodore Matt Decker in the TOS episode "Doomsday Machine." Windom reprised the role decades later in the Star Trek: New Voyages fan film "In Harm's Way."



William Windom as Commodore Decker in "The Doomsday Machine."

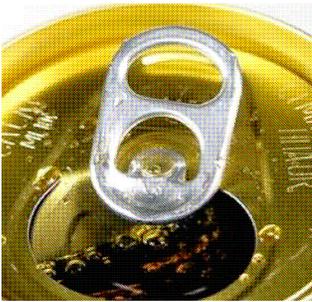
Born in New York City on Sept. 28, 1923, Windom was named after his great-grandfather, a Minnesota congressman and former U.S. Treasury secretary. He attended Williams College in Massachusetts before joining the Army as a paratrooper in World War II. He later attended the University of Kentucky, among several other higher-education institutions, and decided to pursue acting.

Married five times, Windom is survived by Patricia, his wife of 37 years, and four children, Rachel, Heather, Hope and Rebel.



It is with sadness that I pass on the loss of a dear friend, Tonya LaVette Spanks. Some of you who have been members of the DaVinci since its early days remember Tonya. For those of you who did not, you missed knowing one of the nicest persons around. She was quite the woman who was just as likely to give you a smack on the head or a kiss on the cheek.

Tonya passed away on Friday, 17 August of complications from pneumonia. She was admitted to a hospital with a persistent cough, where a CAT scan revealed blood clots in her lungs. She was expected to recover but passed away. She was 46.



TABULATIONS

After a 2000-tab donation from a couple of Freddy’s convention pals and 2000 more from his hidden stash, plus a big donation from Lech, we are a shy over 70,000 tabs. We still have a long way to go! Some of you may have lots of uncounted tabs. If you do bring them to a DaVinci event and we will have a tab counting party! There is only 4 months left to reach our goal of 155,000 tabs! The DaVinci has over 73 members. Come on, folks, we can do better than that! Please start saving tabs for the effort – as many or as little as you can! It will still make us that much closer to our goal. So, help us reach one million tabs! Thanks. Here are the latest numbers as of press time:

Starting Balance	107
Jeff Kirkland	25000
Jessie Sutton	16842
Freddy Heller	12761
Lech Mazur	3700
Karen Pynenburg	3500
Tony Fleming	2797
Russell Ruhland	2507
Connie Heller	1655
Todd Kes	800
Hal Stewart	236
Ricky Howe	200
Dutch Cummings	90
Maria Morgan	42
Joe Perry	25
Total	70262



CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

Vulcan Events has finally scheduled another convention! Here is the latest information. The convention will be held at the Hilton Orlando Resort in Lake Buena Vista, FL on 05-07

October! Room rates are \$99.00 per night. Guests include Avery Brooks (CPT Sisko on Deep Space Nine), Colin Ferguson (Jack Carter on Eureka), Dwight Schultz (Reginald Barclay on Next Generation), Dirk Benedict (Starbuck on Classic Battlestar Galactica), Robert Duncan McNeill (Tom Paris on Voyager), Robin Curtis (Saavik in Star Trek II and III), Eric Menyuk (Traveler on TNG), and Herb Jefferson Jr. (Boomer on classic Battlestar Galactica). Several authors are also scheduled to appear. Tickets prices are \$299 for Platinum Reserved; \$125 for Gold Reserved; \$65 for Bronze Reserved; and General Admission prices are \$15 for Friday, \$30 for Saturday, and \$20 for Sunday. For more information check out their web site at www.away-mission.com!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Viking 2 Lands on Mars (1976)	3 rd
ENS James Carey	4 th
Voyager I is Launched (1977)	5 th
Star Trek Premiers (1966)	8 th
Star Trek Animated Series Premiers (1973)	8 th
Viking 2 Launched to Mars (1975)	9 th
Jeffrey Combs (Weyoun, Brunt on DS9; Shran on ENT)	9 th
Roxann Dawson (Lt B'Ellana Torres On VOY)	11 th
First Married Couple in Space (Mark Lee & Jan Davis; Endeavor, 1992)	12 th
First Black Woman in Space (Mae Jemison; Endeavor, 1992)	12 th
First Japanese Citizen to Fly on US Craft (Mamoru Mohri, Endeavor, 1992)	12 th
Walter Koenig (ENS Pavel Chekov on TOS)	14 th
Bruce Hyde (LT Kevin O'Riley on TOS)	14 th
First Man-Made Object to Reach Moon (Luna II 1959)	14 th
NASA Unveils Space Shuttle Enterprise (1976)	17 th
LTJG Karen Pynenburg	19 th
Rosalind Chao (Keiko O'Brien on DS9)	23 rd
Neptune Discovered by Johann Galle (1846)	23 rd
First All-Instrument Flight (1929)	24 th
First Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (USS Enterprise) Launched (1960)	24 th
CADET Christie Singleton	25 th
ENS Rebecca Dunn	25 th
Enterprise Premiers (2001)	26 th
CRMN James Prince III	27 th
CRMN Cleveland Hooper	27 th

Star Trek: The Next Generation Premiers (1987)
First Round-the-World Flight (US Army 1924)
William Windom (Commodore Matt Decker on TOS)

28th
28th
28th

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 family expiration dates. Please note that if your name is highlighted in **RED** in the DaVinci column this will be your last newsletter. If in **BLUE** your membership is expired or nearing its expiration so please renew as soon as possible. Thanks!

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
Matt Arnold	Jul 12	
Karen Baker	Jul 12	
Gage Brazie	Jul 13	
Steve Brown	Dec 12	
Mandel Cabrera	Jul 13	
James Carey	Jul 13	
Mackey Carter	Jul 14	Jun 13
Don Cotton	Jan 13	
Dutch Cummings	Jul 13	
Randy Dunn	May 13	Jun 13
Jonathan Evans	Dec 12	Dec 12
Tony Fleming	Jul 13	Aug 13
Bart Glabman	Jul 13	
Ray Hannagan	Jan 13	Jan 13
Freddy Heller	Jul 13	Sep 13
John Hood	Mar 13	May 13
Cleveland Hooper	Aug 13	
Cami Houser	Jan 13	Jan 13
Richard Howe	Jun 13	
Benlee Huguley	Feb 13	
Todd Kes	Oct 12	
Jeff Kirkland	Oct 12	Aug 13
Leiko Koone	Nov 12	Nov 12
Lech Mazur	Jul 13	Nov 12
Margaret McGillicuddy	Jul 13	Nov 12
Maria Morgan	May 13	May 13
Lisa Neal	Jul 13	
Kay Nepote	Jul 13	Jul 13
Andrea O'Connor	Jul 14	Mar 13
Joe Perry	Jul 13	Nov 12
James Prince	Feb 13	
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 13	Jun 13

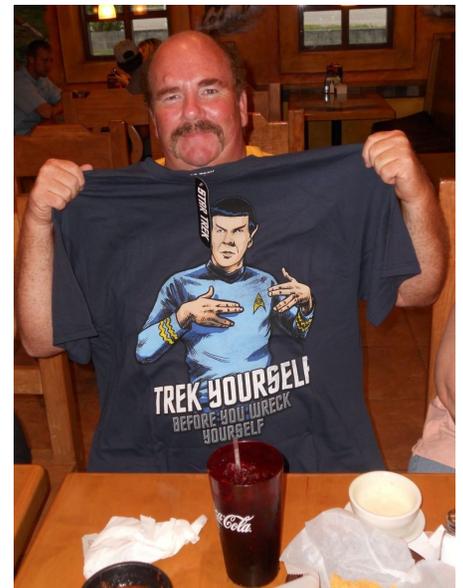
Russell Ruhland	Aug 13	Aug 13
Park Scully	Mar 13	
Dennis Shaw	Jul 13	Jul 13
Gisela Stephens	LTM	Nov 12
Harold Stewart	Feb 13	Apr 13
Jessie Sutton	Nov 13	Nov 12
Darel Troby	Jul 13	
Corey Webb	May 13	
Justin Whitaker	Apr 14	Apr 13
Janet Winkles	Jul 13	Jul 13



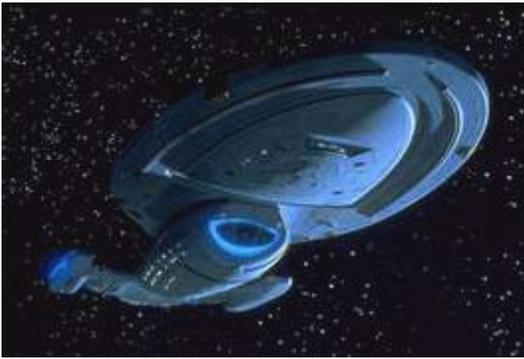
DAVINCI NIGHT OUT

The restaurants for the 2012 Night Out locations were selected at our Thanksgiving dinner celebration. What a great list indeed! Unfortunately three of the locations chosen have since closed: Mi Casa (March), River City Grill (June), and Capone's (December). In their place similar restaurants were selected.

September	New China Buffet
October	Houlihan's (Doubletree Hotel)
November	Panera Bread Company
December	Johnny Carino's



Congratulations to our August Night Out winners – Cara (free meal), Dutch (Janeway figure), and Randy (Spock t-shirt)!



WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Freddy Heller (S) Connie Heller (S) Travis Heller (S) Ariana Heller (S)

Jeff Kirkland (S) Martha Kirkland (S) Lisa Neal (D) Margaret McGillicuddy (D)

Tony Fleming (D) (S) Cleveland Hooper (D*)

DAVINCI T-SHIRTS

There are plenty in stock in varied sizes and are available for immediate sale. Prices are very reasonable (S-XL - \$10.00; 2X - \$12.00; 3X - \$14.00; 4X - \$15.00) and the shirts are now in color according to Star Trek departments, those of course being red for Operations, yellow for Engineering, and blue for Science. We do also have some shirts in the non-traditional ash gray if you desire. Please contact Freddy for size availability. Take advantage of this unique offer now if possible as the cost of the shirts may be going up by \$2 or \$3 due to economy changes. Check out the photos BELOW:



Operations



Science



Engineering



Generic Gray



FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	\$61.14
Memberships	\$81.00
Cans	\$12.00
Sales/Donations	\$171.00
Nights Out	\$25.00
Party (July 4)	\$28.00
Postage	\$19.50
Purchases	\$8.50
Closing Balance	\$244.14

COMM Connie Heller

**NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND MEMBERSHIP
MEETING WILL BE AT**

NEW CHINA BUFFET

**ON MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!!**



ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:
Hal for his weekly donation of cans and stamps
Lisa for her large donation of can
Maria for her donation of “Box Tops for Education”

TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD releases for September:

“Fringe, Season 4” (4th)

“Haven, Season 2” (4th)

“Big Bang Theory, Season 5” (11th)

“Terra Nova, Complete Series” (11th)

“Vampire Diaries, Season 3” (11th)

“Supernatural, Season 7” (18th)



USS DAVINCI IN PICTURES

The following is a trip down the USS DaVinci 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 the USS DaVinci what it 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. If I get a name wrong, please let me know!

And now Part III of the 2005 Bi-City Christmas Parade. Enjoy!



Russell shows off the DaVinci's float award and our lost brother Frazier who pulled the float.



Lining up to begin the trip through Phenix City and across the Chattahoochee into Columbus!



Princess Leia (Ariana) on the float and a well deserved breakfast at Ryan's after the parade.



More of the Star Wars And DaVinci crew at Ryan's following the parade!

LINKS

Here are a few important web sites relevant to the DaVinci:

Starfleet Home Page:

www.sfi.org

Starfleet Region 2 Home Page:

www.region2.org

USS DaVinci Home Page

www.usdavinci.org

Craig's List:

<http://columbusga.craigslist.org/grp/3136432587.html>



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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.

JUST ONE MORE THING



Dutch is standing in front of the Columbus Coca Cola Space Science Center's newest acquisition - a main engine thruster from the Shuttle Atlantis! Working within a delivery timeline of less than 2 years from the initial date of application, the Coca-Cola Space Science Center immediately began developing plans for renovation and expansion to appropriately house and highlight this incredible legacy of space exploration. The resulting \$4 million, multi-phase "Countdown to Launch" project includes \$2.5 million in interior renovation, exhibit design and fabrication, and cutting edge technology integration and \$1.5 million in exterior facility additions to accommodate a new welcome lobby, gift shop, and event hall.

A LITTLE HUMOR AND DISMISSED!

