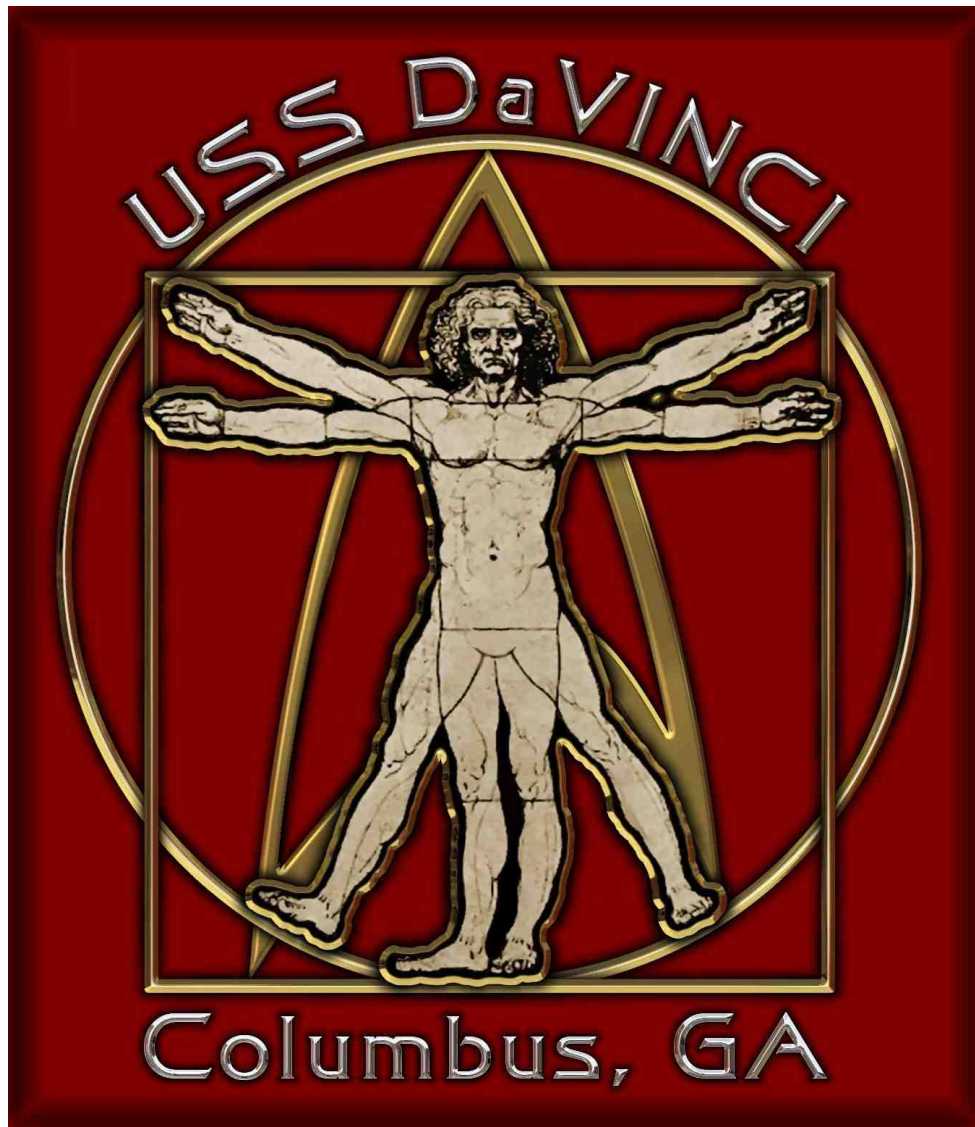


DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 20 Number 04 December 2014



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



THE INTERNATIONAL
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

USS DAVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer	VADM Russell Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Executive Officer	CMDR Jessie Sutton	(706) 442-0371
Operations Officer	RADM Joe Perry	(706) 457-9725
Community Service Officer	VACANT	
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	LTJG Leiko Koone	(706) 663-2763
Counselor	LT Diane Ruhland	(334) 298-3998
Medical Officer	RADM Jeff Kirkland	(770) 253-6474
Morale Officer	ENS Dutch Cummings	(706) 407-9945
Engineering Officer	VACANT	
Communications Officer	ENS Todd Kes	(706) 593-3598
Quartermaster	LT Randy Dunn	(334) 291-0150
Security Chief	ENS JR Furgerson	(706) 957-0337
Cadet Corps Commander	VACANT	
Starfleet Marines Commander	VACANT	

UPCOMING DAVINCI EVENTS

****07 December, 2nd Annual Phenix City Toy and Comic Book Show, Central Activity Center, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM**

****15 December, Night Out/Membership Meeting at IHOP, 7:00 PM**

****20 December, Christmas Party, Sherwood Presbyterian Church, 3100 15th Ave, 2:00 PM**

****24 December, Christmas Eve Dinner at Carrabba's, 7:00 PM**



THE INTERNATIONAL
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.



IT'S THE CAPTAIN CALLING

November started out with NerdaCon v9 at the Davidson Center of Columbus State University on Friday-Saturday 14-15 November. Friday night was rather slow since the con was only for a few hours. I sat patiently in my DaVinci shirt during the evening talking with Dutch and Melanie who had their vendor table available and I had a few items for sale as well. The con was open until 11:00 PM but I decided to go home around 8:30 as we were going to meet up with Jeff and Martha Saturday morning for breakfast.

Oh my, does Golden Corral do a good breakfast or what? Yummy yum! I definitely got my share of the goodies offered along with my usual half gallon of coffee. Jessie joined us too and we all departed for NerdaCon around 9:15 AM. Upon arrival I received the good news that the vendor right across from Dutch's table didn't make it and the staff member in charge allowed me to place my items on that table for free. After setting up I donned my Vulcan persona and spent the rest of the morning and part of the afternoon with Diane at the table. Martha sat with us and Jeff did some PR work for the DaVinci around the vendor room. Round bout' 3:30 PM I decided to attempt a new persona and became Marrok, first Klingon Vice Admiral in Starfleet. Diane had to do a double-take as she had never seen me as a Klingon but I told her that's OK no one else had either! I did the walk-about at both buildings and got several pictures taken. I don't think the NerdaCon attendees had ever seen a Klingon because everyone was very positive in their comments about the costume and so I decided to enter the costume contest later that evening (sorry, didn't win).



Diane, Jeff, Jessie, Martha, and Russell at Golden Corral and Dian and Martha watch as Jessie gives a interesting pose for the camera!



Jeff chats with Melanie at her table and Martha and Diane chat with Jeff and Gregory.



Qapla! Marrok makes an appearance at NerdaCon!

Our Starfleet panel was held at 6:00 PM. Joe and Jessie took care of things as I had to be at the auditorium for the costume contest. I understand that there were only eight attendees at the panel and two signed the email inquiry sheet for more information but we didn't get any new members this time. After the contest Diane and I went back to the vendor room to gather our stuff and head home. When we got back to Phenix City I realized I had left my uniform and a bag behind and I frantically called Dutch to hopefully grab the items. Jessie was kind enough to bring my stuff back to me at the Night Out. A special thanks goes out to Dutch, Melanie, Jeff, Martha, Jessie, and Joe for a great time at NerdaCon. Gregory was also there as an attendee and won a case of energy drinks at the raffle but graciously gave the case away.

Next on tap was our Night Out/Membership Meeting. We had 9 DaVinci members present at Red Robin and Thelma and Jessie made a guest appearance as well. I think they changed their burgers and they are larger now than before because my burger was primo tasty. We talked a bit about NerdaCon and Freddy mentioned about our Region 2 Summit for 2015 being held in Daytona Beach, FL. I gave away several Captain's perks, which included 2 cheesy sci-fi DVD's

and 2 Star Trek action figures. Surprisingly enough, all the winners but one picked their own name out of the hat and to Freddy's surprise I even picked my own name to win the free meal for the second month in a row! Everyone had a really good time at Red Robin as you can see by the pictures below. Next month we will meet at the IHOP (Gateway Road location) in Columbus.



Checking out the menu are Hal and Connie and dang(!) almost got the Vulcan Joe to smile!



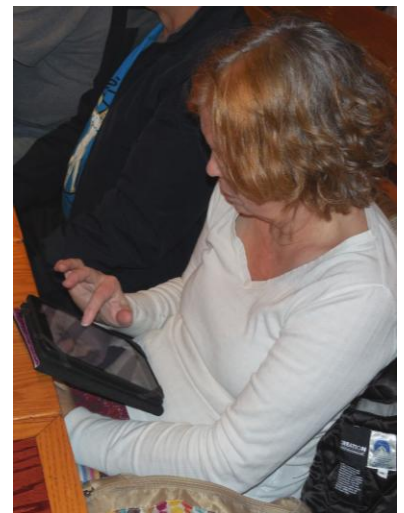
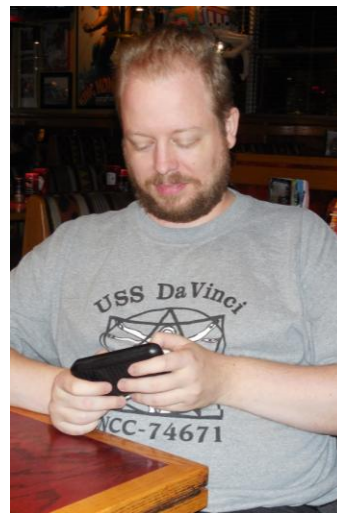
The ever stoic Gregory and Scott, Diane, and Russell checking out the menu.



Freddy and Lech ("Guinness Boys") and their favorite drink and Joe and Hal pose for the camera.



Todd and Gregory and Scott and Diane at Red Robin.



So what do you do while waiting for your meal? Talk to folks? Nope! Listen to stimulating conversation? Nope! Play with your toys? Yep!



Look what we won! Gregory (sci-fi movie), Hal (sci-fi movie), and Connie (First Contact figure)



So did we! Lech (First Contact figure) and Russell (free meal)



“Honey, please get off the iPad and kiss me,” cries Freddy, and the DaVinci crew at Red Robin!

Thirteen members of the DaVinci attended our Thanksgiving dinner celebration at Golden Corral. Upon arriving, there was a little confusion about the room that was reserved for us but the restaurant manager got things straightened out quickly and everyone settled in to begin the feast. The variety of food was amazing and I did not hear anyone complaining as several individuals, to include myself, went back for seconds, thirds, and some for even a fourth plate of the goodies from the buffet. Dessert, I believe, has also improved because the carrot cake I ate tasted really good!

After everyone pretty much got their fill, we proceeded to have the “Captain Perks” drawings for our free door prizes. There were two autographed photos (Suzie Plakson, K’Elhyer from Next Generation and Walter Koenig, Chekov from the Original Series), three Star Trek movie action figures, and one Barbie/Ken series Kirk action figure (no Diane, I won’t call that one a doll either) were given away. Connie, our resident chef, won the grand prize of a 20-pound frozen Butterball turkey! I asked all the prizewinners to get their photo together and placed the bird in Connie’s lap for the picture. I think her legs went to sleep from the weight of that large bird and we managed to get Freddy (oops, I meant the frozen bird) back upon the table.



Lech and Russell at the buffet.



And so are Martha and Jeff and Diane.



Digging in! Joe, Jeff, and Diane, and Lech



And so too are Martha, Maria and Todd and Russell.



Not to forget Margaret and Gregory! Meanwhile Connie says “Open your mouth and close your eyes and you will get a big surprise!”



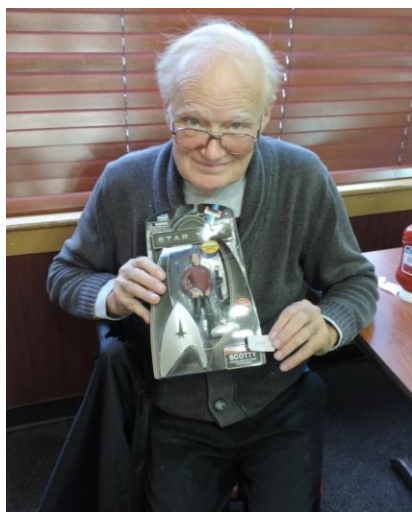
“NO! Not a mushroom!!” cries Freddy. Meanwhile our server wonders what the fuss is about while giving Todd a refill.



Russell discusses ship's business and the table of "Captain Perks" goodies!



Look what we won! Connie (Kirk Figure), Maria (Koenig Autograph), Todd (Plakson autograph)



We won too! Lech, Joe, and Freddy all won Star Trek action figures!



Connie won the big prize – a 20-pound turkey and here are all the Thanksgiving winners!



The DaVinci crew with our wonderful server!

The entire group then posed for a photo together and we even got our server to join in. During the event we also drew for the 2015 Night Out locations and there were several new places that made the list. This extremely successful event ended with our usual farewells to one another as we departed on our separate ways from Golden Corral a bit after 4:00 PM.

Our next major event will be the Christmas party, which is currently scheduled for 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 20th at the Sherwood Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall on 15th Ave. in Columbus. This will be our third year in a row at this location and has always been well attended. Ferengi Let's Make a Deal again, anyone? How 'bout musical trek chairs? Maybe even another round of "Pin the pips on the Captain" or "Trek Family Feud!" Make your plans now! The DaVinci will provide the meats for the Christmas party and we only ask that our attendees bring some type of holiday meal side dish. This is the event I really look forward to each year and hope to see many of you there. Oh, and if you want to participate bring that one item you are even

embarrassed to throw out in the trash because you do not wish to have the trash collectors laughing at you! The gag gift exchange is a fun event each year. And finally, do not forget that we will be drawing a name out of all the tickets that have been collected throughout the year for the yearly grand prize.

Dutch is sponsoring the 2nd annual Phenix City Toy and Comic book Show at the Central Activities Center on 14th Street in Phenix City on Sunday, 7 December from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

2nd Annual Phenix City Toy & Comic Book Show

**December 7th, 2014 at the
Central Activity Center**

Admission \$4

For more information:
dutchsw@gmail.com

11AM-4PM

Vendor Space
Available

**1500 14th Street Phenix City, AL 36867 (Next to AutoZone)
(Toys for Tots will be taking donations all day)**

The USS DaVinci will have a membership drive table set up during this event. Please make an effort if possible to stop by and check things out. The US Marines will be there with a “Toys for Tots” donation drive and food/snacks will be available at reasonable costs.

That's all for this month. Warp speed ahead in 2014!

VADM Russell Ruhland



RECORDS ROOM REPORTING

I hope you had a wonderful and joyous Thanksgiving and that you did not stuff yourself with too much turkey and ham!

Not much to talk about this month. The only thing not yet mentioned is our annual Christmas Eve dinner at Carrabba's! This is a fun-filled event and is usually well attended and so if you wish to attend this year PLEASE let me know. I need to get a fairly accurate count to let the fine folks at Carrabba's know how many to expect. They do not take reservations, however, they do take call ahead seating.

ADM Freddy Heller



NEWS YOU CAN USE!

The new rates for membership in Starfleet are in place and are a pretty good deal, especially if you take the electronic membership option. If you were thinking of joining Fleet but the expense was too high now you can get your membership for up to half off (A \$10 Savings!) by taking the electronic option. Not only that but your membership in the DaVinci is half off as well (up to a \$7.50 savings!).

For Electronic Memberships:

Individual - \$10
Family of 2 - \$15
Family of 3 - \$17
Family of 4 - \$19
Family of 5 - \$21
Family of 6 - \$23

For Paper Memberships:

Individual - \$20
Family of 2 - \$25
Family of 3 - \$27
Family of 4 - \$29
Family of 5 - \$31
Family of 6 - \$33



TABULATIONS

Thanks to another donation from our church, I have padded my lead. But, Russell with a 5,000+-tab donation at the November Night Out has jumped several spots into second place! Connie is now in third place and Gregory, with a large donation at the October Night Out has jumped ahead of Randy and is closing in on Connie. Five folks have qualified to toss a pie: Freddy, Russell, Jeff, Connie, and Gregory. Come on folks! Looks as if we not make our goal of 100,000 tabs but do not let that stop you from donation! So please start saving those tabs and who knows, you might be one of the lucky few that get to toss a pie at our January Pie Party (the top tabber gets to pie the Captain, second place, the First Officer, third place the Operations Officer, fourth place, the Science Office, and fifth place, the Engineering Officer)!

Starting Balance	0000
Freddy Heller	21178
Russell Ruhland	11145
Jeff Kirkland	6000
Connie Heller	5813
Gregory Newer	5396
Randy Dunn	3682

Hal Stewart	1392
Maria Morgan	160
John Clark	47
Thelma Shumpert	42
Joe Perry	22

TOTAL 55677



DAVINCI NIGHT OUT

The Night Out/Membership Meeting locations for 2015 were selected at our Thanksgiving get together at Golden Corral. We have some great locations in store with four new locations and so I hope you mark your calendars. Here are the 2015 locations:

January	Mark's City Grill **NEW**
February	Blue Iguana **NEW**
March	Mongo's **NEW**
April	Cook's Place (Moon Road Location)
May	Olive Garden
June	Stevi B's
July	Hibachi Buffet **NEW**
August	El Vaquero (North Columbus Location)
September	New China
October	PhillyOsophy
November	Bonefish Grill **NEW**
December	Red Lobster (Columbus Park Crossing Location)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Nuclear-Powered USS Enterprise Retired from Active Service (2012)	1 st
First Artificially Created, Self-Sustaining Nuclear Chain Reaction (1942)	2 nd
First Telephone Text Message ("Merry Christmas") Sent (1992)	3 rd
Brian Bonsall (Alexander Rozhenko on TNG)	3 rd

CMDR Tammy Campanaro	3 rd
Gemini VII Launched (Borman & Lovall 1965)	4 th
Hubble Repaired by Crew of Endeavor (1993)	4 th
Building of International Space Station Begins (1998)	4 th
USA's First Attempt to Orbit a Satellite I(Vanguard) in Orbit Failed (1957)	6 th
Star Trek VI Premiers (1991)	6 th
First US Attempt to Orbit Satellite Fails (1957)	7 th
Star Trek: The Motion Picture Premiers (1979)	7 th
Michael Dorn (LTCMDR Worf on TNG)	9 th
John Colicos (Kor on TOS)	11 th
Terry Garr (Roberta Lincoln on TOS)	11 th
Apollo 17 Lands on Moon (Eugene Cernan & Harrison Schmitt, 1972)	11 th
Mariner II Transmits Pictures of Venus (1962)	14 th
Garrett Wang (ENS Harry Kim on VOY)	15 th
Gemini 6 and 7 Fly Within 10 Feet of Each Other (1965)	15 th
First Heavier-than-Air Flight (Wright Brothers 1903)	17 th
First Test Firing of the Atlas Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (1957)	17 th
Nuclear Fission Discovered (Otto Hahn & Fritz Strassmann, 1938)	17 th
First Communications Satellite (SCORE) Launched by US (1958)	18 th
Majel Barrett Roddenberry Dies	18 th
First Communications Satellite, SCORE, is launched (1958)	18 th
CRMN Charlene Harbour	20 th
ENS Ashley Grantham	20 th
Nicole deBoer (Ezri Dax on DS9)	20 th
Apollo 8 Lifts off for the Moon (1968)	21 st
First Non-Stop, Non-Refueled Flight Around the World (1986)	23 rd
First Transmission of Voice/Music Over Radio (Reginald Fessenden 1906)	24 th
Rick Berman (Executive Producer)	25 th
Hubble Repaired by Crew of Discovery (1999)	25 th
Apollo 8 Returns to Earth in a Nighttime Splashdown (1968)	27 th
Nichelle Nichols (LT Uhura on TOS)	28 th
ENS John Thane	29 th
ENS Todd Kes	29 th
ENS Jamal Shumpert	30 th
LT Randy Dunn	31 st
First Publicly Demonstration of Electric Incandescent Light (1879)	31 st

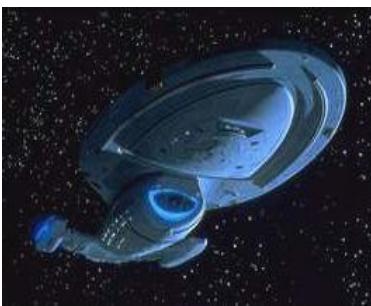
**NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND MEMBERSHIP
MEETING WILL BE AT**

**IHOP (GATEWAY ROAD)
ON MONDAY 15 DECEMBER AT 7:00 PM
COME FOR THE FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP!!**

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 soon. Thanks!

Name	DaVinci Starfleet		Name	DaVinci Starfleet	
Steve Brown	Dec 14		Maria Morgan	May 18	May 15
Phil "Rat" Campanaro	Aug 15	Aug 15	Cameron Mull	Mar 15	Mar 15
James Carey	Feb 16	Feb 15	Gregory Newer	Nov 15	Nov 15
Dutch Cummings	Jul 15	Mar 15	Sandra Okamoto	LTM	
Randy Dunn	Jul 15	Jul 15	Joe Perry	Jul 15	Nov 15
Whitney Gaines	Aug 15	Feb 15	Kris Reeves	Jul 15	
Freddy Heller	Jul 15	Sep 15	Scott Roop	May 15	May 15
John Hood	Aug 15	Aug 15	Russell Ruhland	Aug 15	Aug 15
Rick Howe	Mar 15		Dennis Shaw	Jul 15	Jul 15
Todd Kes	Oct 15	Oct 15	Thelma Shumpert	Oct 15	Nov 15
Jeff Kirkland	Nov 15	Aug 15	Gisela Stephens	LTM	Apr-15
Leiko Koone	Nov 15	Dec 14	Harold Stewart	Feb 15	Apr 15
Everett Leonard	Aug 15		Jessie Sutton	Oct 14	Dec 14
Lech Mazur	Jul 15	Nov 15	Becky Thane	Jul 15	Dec 15
Margaret McGillicuddy	Jul 15	Nov 15	Mike Walker	Jul 16	



WELCOME ABOARD!

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

Thelma Shumpert (S)	Jamal Shumpert (D*) (S*)	Latisha Brown (D*) (S*)
Todd Kes (D) (S)	Joe Perry (S)	Lech Mazur (S)
Margaret McGillicuddy (S)	Jeff Kirkland (D)	Martha Kirkland (D)
	Gregory Newer (S)	

DAVINCI T-SHIRTS

The new DaVinci t-shirts are in!! They are quite nice and I am sure they will go fast so make sure you reserve yours today. The cost is very reasonable: YM to L (\$10); XL (\$11), 2X (\$12), 3X (\$13), and 4X (\$14). I did order (I hope) enough of each size and this time around some youth medium in each color. Oh, we still have a few of the older ones left and they can be purchased at a slight discount. Here is what the new ones look like:



Operations



Science



Engineering



Our motto is on the back



ACCOLADES

A BIG Bajoran thanks or congratulations go to:

Hal Stewart for his weekly donation of cans;

Jeff Kirkland for his donation of cans;

Maria for her donation of coupons and Box Tops/Labels for Education.



LATINUM VAULT

Still plenty of reserve latinum in our bank account:

Opening Balance	\$103.45
November Night Out	\$14.00
Deposit (cans & renewals)	\$46.30
Supplies	... \$4.83
Postage (Pilot and coupons)	\$53.35
Closing Balance	\$77.57

COMM Connie Heller



TV SHOWS ON DVD

Here are some scheduled DVD releases for December that may interest you:

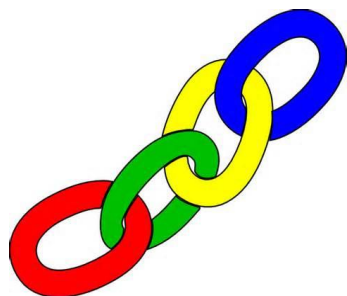
“Sliders, Complete Series” (2nd)

“Star Trek: The Next Generation, Season 7” (2nd)

“Doctor Who, Season 8” (9th)

“Under the Dome, Season 2” (9th)

“Continuum, Season 3” (23rd)



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.uszdavinci.org

Craig's List:

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



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. 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! Okay, here is Part V from our 8th annual 2006 4th of July cookout.



Vader getting kissed and James chatting with members of the USS New Hope.



Christopher, Lisa, Connie, and Margaret watching TV and later Rebecca, Randy, Sandye, Lisa, and Park having a fun-filled conversation.



Park and Lisa at our 8th annual 4th of July cookout!



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A LITTLE HUMOR AND DISMISSED!



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