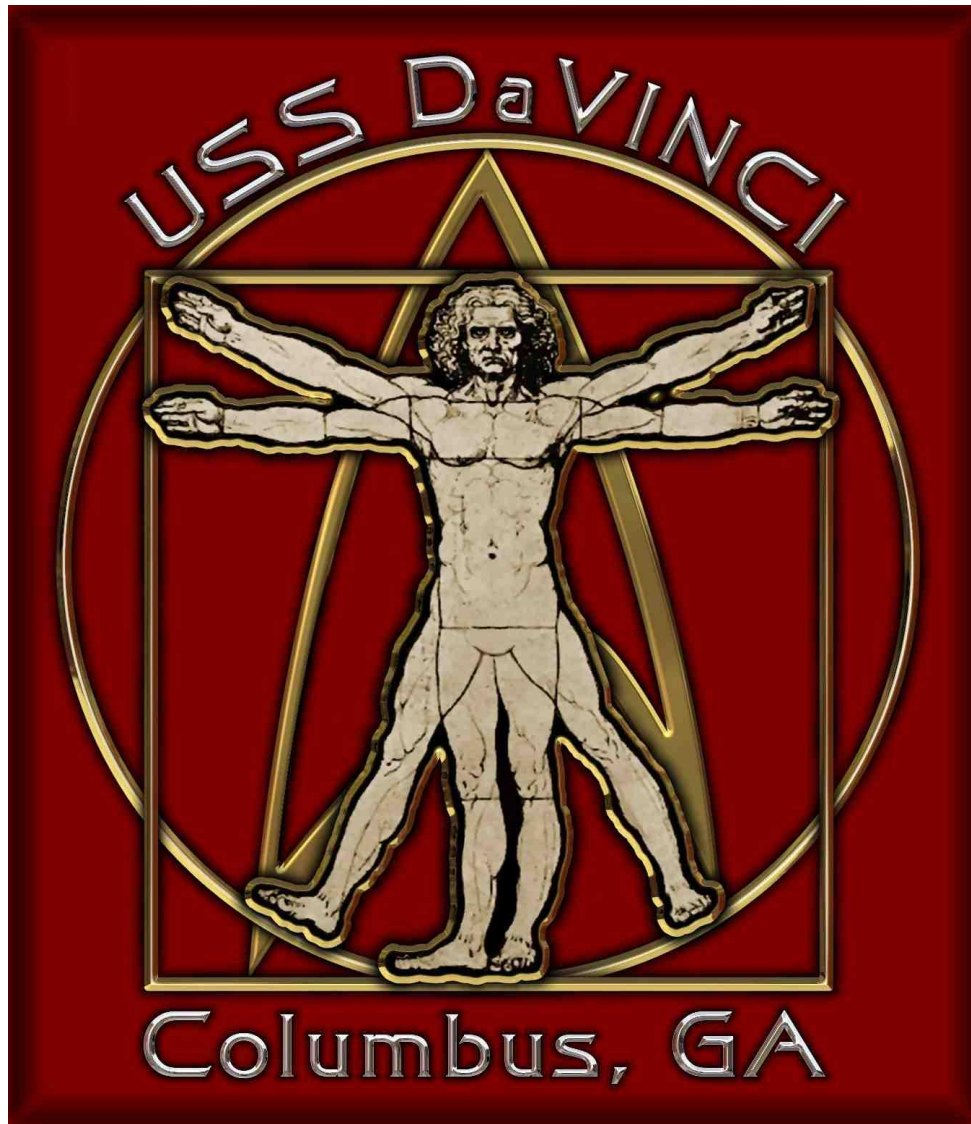


DAVINCI PILOT

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

Volume 32 Number 08 – April 2026



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

****Starfleet's 2018 Electronic Newsletter of the Year****

****Starfleet's 2019 Chapter of the Year****

****Starfleet R2 Summit Best Website 2022 ****

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Executive Officer

FCAPT Mike Watkins

Operations Officer

Community Service Officer

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Finance Officer

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Quartermaster

LTCDR Randy Dunn

Security Chief

LTG John Morrell

Cadet Corps Commander

VACANT

UPCOMING EVENTS

** 20 April, Night Out/Membership Meeting, Old Chicago, 6:30 pm



THE INTERNATIONAL
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

STARFLEET NEWS YOU CAN USE



Membership Drive

On Saturday, March 14 the DaVinci joined the Canterbury Creepers in a membership drive at the Grand Opening of America's Freedom Fuels in Phenix City, Alabama. Patrons were able to visit with members proudly wearing their Creepers and Star Trek attire. Batman, who joined with the Creepers, and Porthos (the pup), who joined with the DaVinci, drew quite a bit of attention.

Outside at the membership tables visitors were able to play games, which included a bouncy house for the small children, and enjoy cookies while listening to KISSIN' 99.3 live from their van on site.

Inside the store patrons signed up for prize drawings. One lucky person won a *Big Green Egg* kamado grill.

We look forward to our next opportunity to get together to show that the universe has many inhabitants.



LCDR Karen Pynenburg





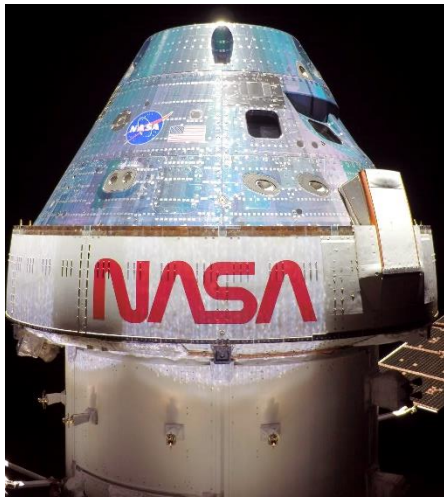
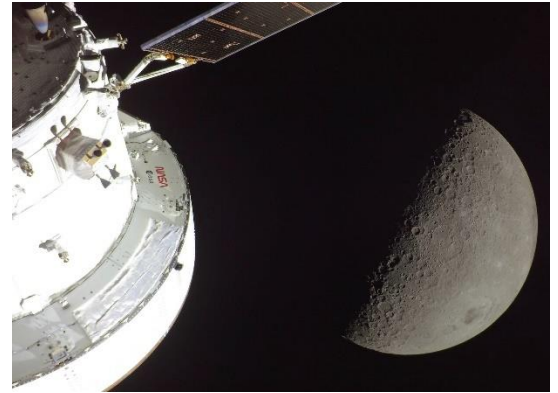
Fly Me To The Moon

On April 1, NASA successfully launched *Artemis II* from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Their mission? A flyby of the moon. This is the first manned mission to fly beyond low Earth orbit since *Apollo 17* in 1972. This is also the first crewed flight of the *Orion* spacecraft, which the *Artemis II* crew named *Integrity*. Each of the crew members set their own individual “first” achievements. Commander Reid Wiseman is the oldest person to travel beyond low Earth orbit. Victor Glover is the first PoC (Person of Color) to travel beyond low Earth orbit. Christina Koch is the first woman to travel beyond low Earth orbit. And Jeremy Hansen of the Canadian Space Agency is the first non-American to travel beyond low Earth orbit. As of April 6’s lunar flyby, these four astronauts hold the record for travelling farther from Earth than any human has been before. *Artemis II* travelled 252,756 miles from Earth. This record was previously held by the troubled *Apollo 13* at 248,655 miles.



Continuing a tradition that began with the Apollo program, the *Artemis II* crew receives daily “wake-up calls” from Mission Control. The calls include music picked by the crew, and upbeat messages recorded specifically for this mission. Perhaps the most notable messages are from Charlie Duke, who walked on the moon during *Apollo 16*, and the late Jim Lovell of *Apollo 13* fame. Lovell recorded his message to the *Artemis II* crew before his death in August of 2025. “Welcome to my old neighborhood!” A brief but moving message from a man who once did his own flyby of the moon.

Artemis II isn't just a pleasure trip. The crew have been busy working through a list of tests and experiments. Among them, AVATAR (A Virtual Astronaut Tissue Analog Response) which mimics individual human organs. Crew members are also wearing monitors for ARChER (Artemis Research for Crew Health & Readiness) to obtain real-time health and behavior information. Orion Artemis II Optical Communications System, a cutting edge optical communications system which uses lasers, is also being tested.



One piece of equipment that perhaps needed a bit more testing is the ship's toilet. Shortly after launch the crew reported a problem with the Universal Waste Management System. Specifically, the part that collects urine suffered a rather unfortunate glitch. While it could still handle solid waste, it was unable to deal with liquid. Astronauts deployed their backup plan for urine collection as NASA scrambled to figure out a solution to this 'number one' problem. It was determined that the issue was caused by ice in the vent line. A plan was formed, and the yellow ice was successfully melted, restoring full function to the space toilet. It seems *Integrity* played a late April Fool's joke on her crew.

Artemis II is scheduled to return to Earth on April 11. The *USS John P. Murtha* is in position to retrieve the crew after they splashdown in the Pacific ocean. As of the writing of this article, this has not yet occurred. We Earth-bound individuals are all hoping the final part of the *Artemis II* mission goes without issue as we prepare to welcome the astronauts home.

NASA has shared video and photos of the mission with the general public, including the much-anticipated lunar flyby. The images used in this article are from NASA's website (unless otherwise specified). To see more, visit: www.nasa.gov/artemis-ii-multimedia/



Sailor Moon At Mission Control?

Some sharp-eyed viewers noticed two rather interesting plushies adorning desks at Mission Control as *Artemis II* blasted off on their mission to the moon. One plush sitting on a desk behind the CAPCOM station is unmistakable to any *Sailor Moon* fan. The mew is Artemis, a white talking cat from the manga/anime series. A very fitting plushie given the name and goal of the *Artemis II* mission.



The second plushie is a bit more difficult to identify. It's a cute little unicorn wearing a mask, sitting on a desk under the "CAPCOM" sign. Speculation abounds, but NASA has yet to make any official statements regarding the reasons for this plush's presence. Sources in Houston indicate that the unicorn represents Helios, an alicorn (winged unicorn) from *Sailor Moon*. Allegedly the unicorn's mask is referencing Tuxedo Mask, yet another *Sailor Moon* character. If this information is accurate, it proves that NASA continues to be staffed by highly intelligent, enthusiastic geeks who aren't afraid to allow a little whimsy into the workplace.

Artemis Plush Photo (above right) & Masked Unicorn Plush Photo (above left)
obtained from internet screenshots of Launch Day footage.



MISSION CONTROL

M G M L P T E U O E E P L T I B R O P H V K L
 Y J Q H L T A T M I S S I O N C O N T R O L B
 T M Y T I R G E T N I T S L D D G R H T N L G
 N G I U A K W K L O M P I H S E C A P S A C P
 E R Y O T X Y P S H E A R T H C N U A L S B A
 M D Q C C Y C F O B I E J A V A T A R D A D L
 I U G D A X W J J J D N O O M I W P E N C Y H
 R I C L F Q F N S T L Y R O T C E J A R T H U
 E U R Q P N A M E S I W D I E R R C R E W H T
 P K E N N E D Y S P A C E C E N T E R R X F E
 X O Y S C Q U C Q Q Z I Q F H O U S T O N C K
 E P L R K O B B H O R E X P L O R A T I O N C
 Y E N F K V R E T A R C G P Z L O O R I O N O
 E S P L A S H D O W N B R R R H P H F X C N R
 Y N A A S T R O N A U T T V D S K N M E R V A
 P A R A N U L G X C H R I S T I N A K O C H N
 J P D B V T P Q K D B C P W R O G V O G S T A
 W O T N E S N A H Y M E R E J L B K Q H P K I
 C L S J G Z E X F L Y B Y A R T E M I S G Z C
 P L V I C T O R G L O V E R S M Y O W K G B M
 E O W R M P W Z I E K S K D P Z L M G J G T U
 Q G Z T Y M X R O Q K C A R R O L L E H N J E
 T S B U T T Q M P A H T R U M P N H O J S S U

Artemis II Word Search

USS DaVinci Pilot April 2026

apollo
 artemis
 astronaut
 avatar
 carroll
 christina koch

crater
 crew
 earth
 experiment
 exploration
 flyby
 houston

integrity
 jeremy hansen
 kennedy space
 center
 launch
 lunar
 mission control

moon
 nasa
 orbit
 orion
 reid wiseman
 rocket

spaceship
 splashdown
 trajectory
 uss john p
 murtha
 victor glover

COMIC CORNER NEWS

This is a partial list of Sci-Fi, etc. conventions for 2025. If you know of any upcoming convention or event of interest that's not yet listed, please feel free to submit it.

April

- Apr 5-6 SC Comicon - Greenville, South Carolina (sccomicon.com/)
Apr 25-27 **Huntsville Comic & Pop Culture Expo** - Huntsville, Alabama
(www.hsvexpo.com/)

May

- May 3-4 **Superstar Comic Con** - Savannah, Georgia (superstarcomiccon.com/)
May 4 **CCS Comic Con** - Stone Mountain, Georgia
(charliescollectibleshow.com/event/ccs-comic-con-and-free-comic-book-day-comics/)
May 22-25 **MomoCon** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.momocon.com/)
May 30-Jun 1 **Smoky Mountain Terror** - Kingsport, Tennessee (www.smokymountainterror.com/)

June

- May 30-Jun 1 **Smoky Mountain Terror** - Kingsport, Tennessee (www.smokymountainterror.com/)
Jun 13-15 **Rangerstop & Pop** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.rangerstopatlanta.com/)
Jun 20-22 **JoeFest & Comic Convention** - Augusta, Georgia (www.joefestusa.com/)
Jun 20-22 **Metrotham Con** - Dalton, Georgia (metrothamcon.com/)
Jun 26-28 **Region 2 Summit** - Jackson, Mississippi (www.facebook.com/events/866733629702076/)
Jun 26-28 **Mississippi Comic Con** - Jackson, Mississippi (www.mississippicomiccon.com/)

July

- Jul 12-13 **Savannah ComicCon** - Savannah, Georgia (www.savannahcomiccon.com/)
Jul 18-20 **Atlanta Comic Convention** - Atlanta, Georgia (atlcomicconvention.com/)
Jul 20-22 **Southern-Fried Gaming Expo** - Atlanta, Georgia (gameatl.com/)
Jul 26 **AugustaCon** - Augusta, Georgia (theaugustacon.com/)

August

- Aug 1-3 **Starfleet International Conference** - Houston, Texas (ic2025.sfi.org/)
Aug 1-3 **Georgia Pop Culture & Horror Con** - Columbus, Georgia
(gapopandhorrorcon.com/)
Aug 8-10 **Monsterama Con** - Atlanta, Georgia (monsteramacon.com/)
Aug 28-Sep 1 **DragonCon** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.dragoncon.org/)

September

- Aug 28-Sep 1 **DragonCon** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.dragoncon.org/)
Sep 12-14 **Ancient City Con** - St. Augustine, Florida (www.ancientcitycon.com/)

- Sep 13-14 **Collect-A-Con** - Atlanta, Georgia (collectaconusa.com/atlanta-2/)
 Sep 20 **Cobb County Brick Convention** - Marietta, Georgia
 (www.brickconvention.com/cobbcounty)
 Sep 20-21 **Ocala Comic Con** - Ocala, Florida (www.ocalacomicon.com/)
 Sep 26-28 **Necronomicon** - Tampa, Florida (necrofl.org/)
 Sep 26-28 **Fanboy Expo** - Orlando, Florida (fanboyexpo.com/orlando/)
 Sep 27-28 **South Alabama Comic Con** - Mobile, Alabama (www.southalabamacomiccon.com/)
 Sep 28 **Florida Horror-Fest** - Fort Myers, Florida (floridahorrorfest.com/)

October

- Oct 11 **Con of Horrors** - Cartersville, Georgia (cartersvillecomiccon.com/)
 Oct 11 **Appalachian Horrorfest** - Knoxville, Tennessee (appalachianhorrorfest.com/)
 Oct 17-19 **Multiverse** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.multiversecon.org/)
 Oct 17-19 **Smoky Mountain Anime Fest** - Gatlinburg, Tennessee
 (www.smokymountainanimefest.com/)
 Oct 19 **Georgia Horror-Fest** - Grovetown, Georgia (georgiahorrorfest.com/)
 Oct 25 **Alabama Horror-Fest** - Dothan, Alabama (alabamahorrorfest.com/)
 Oct 25 **Tennessee Horror-Fest** - Clarksville, Tennessee (tennesseehorrorfest.com/)
 Oct 25-26 **Vampire Fan Weekend** - Orlando, Florida (www.creationent.com/cal/tvd_orl/)
 Oct 31-Nov 2 **Spooky Empire** - Orlando, Florida (spookyempire.com/)

November

- Oct 31-Nov 2 **Spooky Empire** - Orlando, Florida (spookyempire.com/)
 Nov 2 **Atlanta Comic Convention** - Atlanta, Georgia (www.atlantacomiconvention.com/)
 Nov 8-9 **PalmCon: Treasure Coast** - Port St. Lucie, Florida (palmcon.net/treasure-coast)
 Nov 14-16 **CONjuration** - Duluth, Georgia (www.conjurationcon.com/)
 Nov 14-16 **Superstar Comic Con Savannah** - Savannah, Georgia
 (galaxycon.com/pages/superstar-comic-con-savannah)
 Nov 15 **Augusta Anime Fest** - Augusta, Georgia (augustaanimefest.com/)
 Nov 28-30 **Starbase Indy** - Indianapolis, Indiana (www.starbaseindy.org/)
 Nov 30 **SW-FloridaCon** - Fort Myers, Florida (swfloridacomicon.com/)

December

- Dec 6 **Sarasota Anime-Fest** - Sarasota, Florida (sarasotaanimefest.com/)
 Dec 6-7 **Enchantment Con** - Jacksonville, Florida (www.enchantmentcon.com/)
 Dec 7 **Charlie's AnimeCon** - Fort Myers, Florida (www.charliesanimecon.com/)
 Dec 14 **Huntsville Anime-Fest** - Huntsville, Alabama (thehuntsvillleanimefest.com/)
 Dec 18-21 **Anime Weekend Atlanta** - Atlanta, Georgia (awa-con.com/)
 Dec 19-21 **Holiday Matsuri** - Orlando, Florida (holidaymatsuri.com/)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Here are just a few of the following DaVinci personnel, Star Trek celebrities, and historical events that are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this month.

Grace Lee Whitney (Yeoman Janice Rand, <i>The Original Series</i>)	1 st
NASA launches <i>TIROS-1</i> , the First Successful Weather Satellite (1960)	1 st
NASA launches <i>Artemis II</i> on Lunar Flyby Mission, the First Crewed Flight Beyond Low Earth Orbit Since 1972 & First Crewed Flight of the <i>Orion</i> Spacecraft (2026)	1 st
<i>Enterprise-E</i> and a Borg Sphere Travel Back In Time to 2063	4 th
Space Shuttle <i>Challenger</i> launches for first time (1983)	4 th
“First Contact Day,” Zephram Cochrane Launches <i>Phoenix</i> Breaking the Warp Barrier and Making First Contact with Vulcans (2063)	5 th
Synthetics Destroy Utopia Planitia Fleet Yards on Mars (2085)	5 th
<i>Pegasus</i> Becomes First Privately Developed Launch Vehicle to Reach Space; First Air Launched Rocket to Reach Orbit (1990)	5 th
<i>Artemis II</i> Crew Awoken By Pre-Recorded Message from Jim Lovell (<i>Apollo 13</i>) Prior to Their Lunar Flyby (2026)	6 th
<i>Artemis II</i> Does First Crewed Lunar Flyby Since 1972’s <i>Apollo 17</i> (2026)	6 th
Victor Glover Becomes First POC to Travel Beyond Low Earth Orbit & Fly By the Moon on Artemis II Mission (2026)	6 th
Christina Koch Becomes First Woman to Travel Beyond Low Earth Orbit & Fly By the Moon on Artemis II Mission (2026)	6 th
Jeremy Hansen of the Canadian Space Agency Becomes First Non-American to Travel Beyond Low Earth Orbit & Fly By the Moon on Artemis II Mission (2026)	6 th
Reid Wiseman Becomes Oldest Person to Travel Beyond Low Earth Orbit & Fly By the Moon on Artemis II Mission (2026)	6 th
NASA Announces First Seven Astronauts for <i>Project Mercury</i> (1959)	9 th
<i>USS Enterprise</i> Launched From San Francisco Fleet Yards (2245)	11 th
<i>Apollo 13</i> Launches on Mission to Land on the Moon (1970)	11 th
Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin Becomes First Man In Space (1961)	12 th
Space Shuttle <i>Columbia</i> Launches for First Time (1981)	12 th

LT Leiko Koone	13th
<i>Apollo 13</i> Suffers Disastrous Oxygen Tank Failure (1970)	13 th
Jerri Mock Becomes First Woman to Fly Solo Around the World (1964)	17 th
<i>Apollo 13</i> Crew Splashes Down Safely in the Pacific Ocean (1970)	17 th
Ashley Judd (ENS Robin Lefler, <i>The Next Generation</i>)	19 th
First Space Station, <i>Salyut 1</i> , Launched (1971)	19 th
George Takei (LT Hikaru Sulu, <i>The Original Series</i>)	20 th
<i>Star Trek: Picard</i> Final Episode (2023)	20 th
<i>Apollo 16</i> Lands on the Moon (1972)	20 th
“Ancestor’s Eve” Celebrated Aboard <i>USS Voyager</i> (2375)	22 nd
Jack Quaid (ENS Brad Boimler, <i>Lower Decks</i>)	24 th
First Chinese Satellite, <i>Dongfanghong I (China I)</i> , Launched (1970)	24 th
Hubble Space Telescope Launched via Space Shuttle <i>Discovery</i> (1990)	24 th
LTJG Michael Allen	25th
NASA’s <i>Pioneer 10</i> Space Probe Crosses Orbit of Pluto (1983)	25 th
Dennis Tito Becomes First Space Tourist After Paying for a Seat Aboard a Russian <i>Soyuz</i> Spacecraft to Visit the <i>International Space Station</i> (2001)	28 th
Kate Mulgrew (CAPT Kathryn Janeway, <i>Voyager, Prodigy</i>)	29 th
Lucille Ball Dies (CEO Desilu Studios, approved production of <i>TOS</i>)	29 th
“Broken Bow Incident,” First Contact Between Earth & Klingon Empire (2151)	?

ARIES - KLINGON



**Will Shake Things Up,
Usually Consistent,
But Sometimes Rush In
Without Planing**

Mar 21 – Apr 20

TAURUS - FERENGI



**Very Materialistic,
Not Afraid of Hard Work
To Get What They Want**

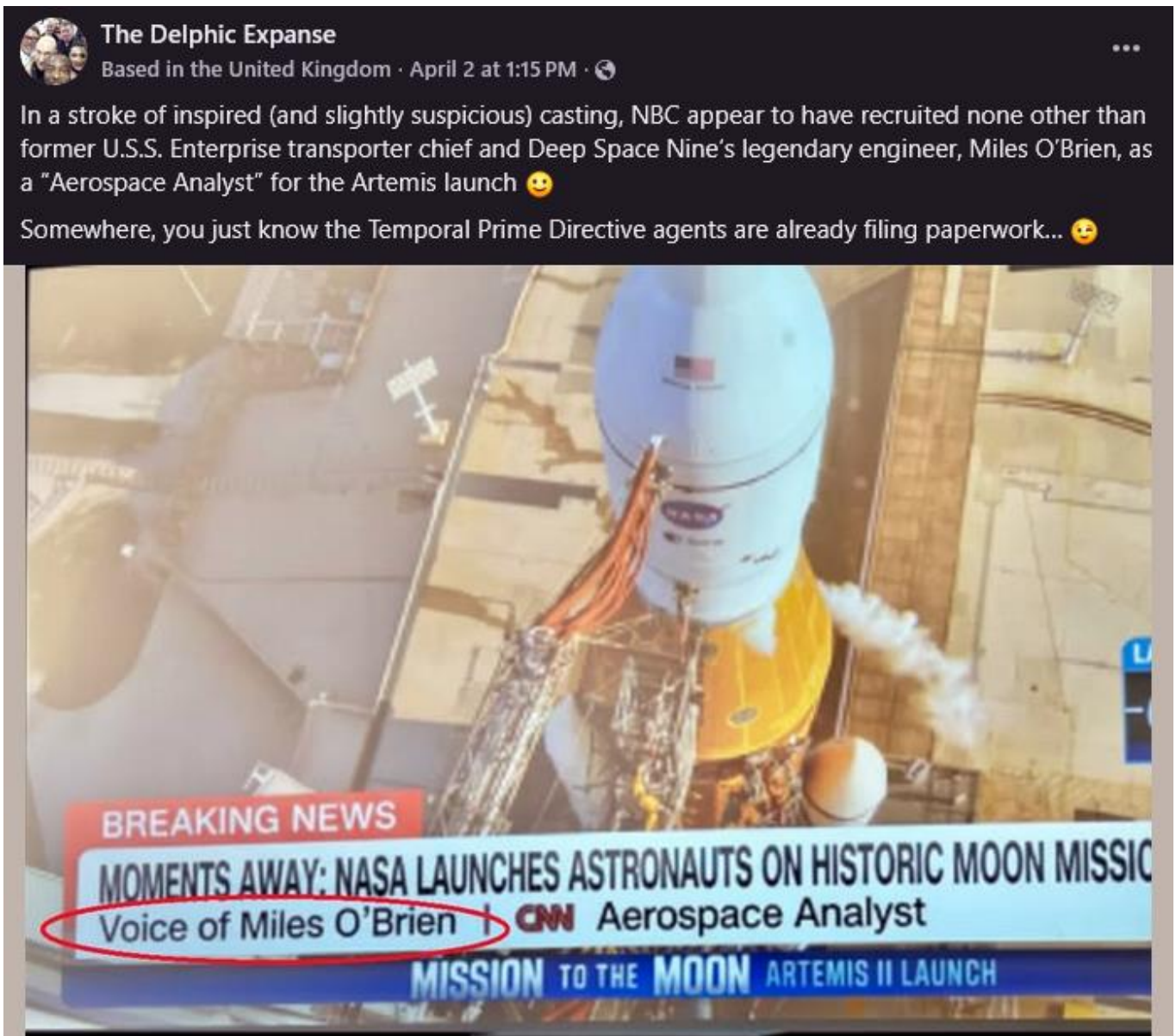
Apr 21 – May 20

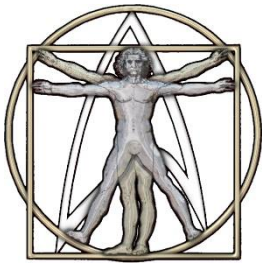
NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

April Old Chicago
May DeOrios
June Five Guys
July Fuji
August Raising Cane
September Red Robin
October Cheddar's
November Firehouse Subs
December Black Cow

Alternates:

Country's BBQ
Chef Lee's
El Carizo





MEMBERSHIPS

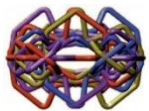


Many of you do not know when your membership in Starfleet is due for renewal. So to help you remember, the following lists your **family** expiration dates.

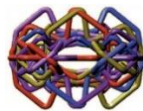
Please note that if the date is highlighted in **RED**, your membership has expired and you need to renew as soon as possible.

If highlighted in **BOLD** your membership is nearing its expiration, so please renew soon.

Name	Starfleet	Name	Starfleet
Sandra Adams	Nov '26	Leiko Koone	Apr '26
Wilbert Adams	Nov '26	Charles Koone	Apr '26
Robert Anthony	—	Sue Koone	Apr '26
Michael Allen	Expired	Everett Leonard	Mar '27
Richard Biniasz	Expired	Gregory Newer	Mar '27
Steve Brown	—	Joe Perry	Nov '25
Steve Cushing	Expired	Karen Pynenburg	Mar '27
Randy Dunn	Expired	John B Morell	Sep '28
Freddy Heller	LTM	Harold Stewart	Mar '27
Todd Kes	Nov '26	Mike Watkins	Apr '27
Jeff Kirkland	Nov '26	Paula Lee	May '26



LINKS



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

- USS DaVinci** www.usdavinci.org
- Starfleet International** www.sfi.org
- Starfleet Database** db.sfi.org/
- Starfleet Region 2** region2.org/

LATIDUM VAULT

Opening Balance	\$119
Donation	+ \$100
Closing Balance	\$219



DAVINCI T-SHIRTS

DaVinci t-shirts are still available! The cost is very reasonable: YM to L (\$11); XL (\$12), 2X (\$13), 3X (\$14), and 4X (\$15). Please contact Joe if you'd like to purchase a shirt.

Here is what the shirts look like:



Operations



Science



Engineering

Here is what we currently have in stock:

<u>Operations (Red)</u>		<u>Science (Blue)</u>		<u>Engineering (Yellow)</u>	
Medium	2	Youth Medium	1	Youth Medium	1
Large	0	Small	1	Small	1
XL	3	Medium	2	Medium	4
2X	2	Large	0	Large	1
4X	1	2X	0	XL/2X	0/1

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND
MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE AT
Old Chicago
ON MONDAY 20 APRIL AT 6:30 PM
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Fax # 706-596-5222
email: stew121dc@aol.com

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ONE MORE THING THEN DISMISSED



Artemis II Mission Fails
After Astronauts Miss
Connection Rocket In Atlanta

the ONION

THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT AND
MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE AT
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