



DaVinci Pilot

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

Volume 6 Number 4

OCTOBER 2000

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Believe it or not, we finally had enough folks show up at the adopt-a-highway site to pick up trash. Fortunately the highway was not as messy as I thought it would be. I suppose the DUI group hit the streets before we did. It still took us about 2 hours and the cool damp morning made the clean up go much smoother. A BIG Bajoran thanks to Crmn Randy Dunn and Karen Pynenburg and to Cadets Matthew Dunn and Travis Heller.

Due to the lack of interest, the DaVinci away-mission to the Space Science Center to attend the Matrix screening and production personnel lecture had to be cancelled. If you attended as an individual, please write your thoughts down for a future issue of the Pilot.

Speaking of low interest, what is it with the low attendance at recent meetings? Our August meeting was the lowest attended meeting since the early days of the Shuttle DaVinci! Excluding the Captain's family, only three other crewmembers showed up and these were new members to boot!

One of these new members, ENS Michael Crossman, wishes to start a Starfleet Marine contingent aboard the DaVinci. I think this is a great idea and have given him my full support. If you are in Starfleet and wish to be part of this Marine contingent feel free to contact either myself (562-TREK) or ENS Crossman (324-6741) for more information.

Interested in joining Starfleet? The DaVinci still has two pre-paid individual Starfleet memberships available. These pre-paid memberships will save you the hassle of having to send in your application. Just pay the DaVinci and you will be an instant member and receive the rank of acting Ensign. If you want to join a great organization let me know.

Next month is the annual "Help-the-Hooch" river clean up. The DaVinci has participated in this event for the last 3 years and will do so this year as well. If you wish to join in this worthwhile effort, please give me a call. The location has changed! We did not get our usual location behind the Trade Center! The date and time are Saturday the 14th of October at 9 AM. Following the clean up, there will be a get together for all participants at Columbus State University. There will be free tee shirts, hotdogs, drinks, chips, and ice cream as well as different types of entertainment for all ages. Hope you can make it!

FCPT Freddy Heller

SECOND THOUGHTS

Imagine that, another column. There have been a few changes to notify you of. Labor Day weekend, Freddy and I flew to Boston, and then drove to Burlington VT for the Starfleet International Conference (IC). It was not off to a very good start. At 3:30 in the morning Delta calls up Freddy to inform him that our plane will be delayed until 9:10 AM. The flight was delayed coming into Columbus from Atlanta and FAA regulations require a minimum amount of downtime for flight crew. Those who know me know I am not a fan of government regulations, but in this case I would rather have a delay than a tired pilot. They rescheduled us out of Atlanta since we missed our connecting flight. The good thing about that was both Freddy and I were upgraded to FIRST CLASS! This was my first time flying in first class; it was nice, but not worth the extra money. If I flew more often it might make a difference, but I don't fly often enough. I am trying to decide if I want to turn in my SkyMiles for a free couch trip for the cruise next year or save them for a free First class trip in a year or two. What do you think?

The web site should now have the last couple of newsletters posted, I will post the remainder when Freddy gets them to me. For all Starfleet members, we are in an election year, and will be electing a new Commander of Starfleet. If you have not received your ballots, let me or Freddy know, so that we can check with Communications and find out the problem.

I will post the web addresses for the two candidates, so you can check out what their stand on the issues are.. There are also several Constitutional Amendments on the ballot. I hope to have a link to

a page(s) on those, so that you can make an informed decision. This is the only time the members can influence what Starfleet does, so I encourage everybody to send in their ballot.

At the Coca-Cola Space Science Center, there will be a performance of Holst's 'The Planets'. This is a suite of classical music based on the major planets, you have probably heard one or more of them without knowing it. The performances will be from 22 September through 24 September at 7:00 PM. Cost will be 15 dollars. Call the Center at 649-1470 for tickets, or better yet, visit them this weekend, check out the shows and purchase the tickets on-site.

CPT Joe Perry

COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATE

Many of you have asked me what organizations the DaVinci helps out. The list is not extensive, but all are important. Beside the Adopt-A-Highway program, the list includes the following.

As you all know by now, the DaVinci is leading (trouncing) all of Starfleet in donations to the Overseas Coupon Project. As of September, we have sent over \$220,000 worth of coupons to the various Army Community Service organizations overseas!! I would love to finish the year with at least \$250,000 to our credit. So, I need for all crew personnel to save, clip, sort, and count those manufacturer's coupons. If you are new to the DaVinci and are not sure what is required, here are the rules and regulations you need to know. The coupons need to be sorted into "food" and "non food" in piles of no more than \$500. Collect only manufacturer's coupons. No coupons from Wal-Mart, Publix, Eckerd Drugs or the like are useable. Do not worry if the coupons have expired. The manufacturers will extend the expiration date by 6 months for all coupons going overseas.

We are also collecting the tabs from cans for the Ronald McDonald house in Columbus. I recently found out that we should keep track of how many tabs we have collected (sigh). Since I have a 5 gallon container nearly full of tabs, I need some volunteers to help their Captain count this mass of metal! Once we have done this and weighed the amount, we will plan on having an official presentation to the RMH. Naturally the media will be notified and hopefully we will get some coverage.

The Trauma Buddy program has slowed a bit. We still need volunteers to help sew the uniforms for the stuffed animals. Donations are also needed. Remember, we need clean animals that can be fitted with a uniform top and that will fit easily into a gallon sized "baggie". As soon as we get a dozen or so finished we can arrange a presentation to the fire department.

On a similar vein, the DaVinci is beginning to collect items for the annual "Toys for Tots" Christmas collection program. We currently have quite a few stuffed animals ready for donation and will gladly accept other toy donations from crew

personnel. Stuffed animals can be new or used as long as they are in good shape. Other toys should be new.

Our Starfleet Stampede effort is really dragging. I know every one of you receives mail. All you have to do before you toss out the envelope is to cut the cancelled stamp off the envelope and save it. Please cut (do not tear) the stamp(s) leaving about ¼ inch around the stamp. These stamps will then be sent to Starfleet who will in turn sell them to dealers. The money collected goes to the various Starfleet charities.

A new organization we have become involved with is the Columbus Battered Woman's Shelter. When I attended the annual Starfleet International Conference in Burlington, VT, I discovered that some ships were helping out their local women's shelter by donating the soap, shampoo, lotion, etc., you find in hotels. I spoke with the Columbus women's shelter representative and they definitely need not only these items but other things such as cleaning supplies and hygiene items as well. So if you are on any trips save all the stuff the hotel gives you and do not forget to "raid" the cart when the cleaning personnel are at lunch!!

Finally, I would like to schedule a garage sale to benefit Caring for Babies with AIDS, the DaVinci's own adopted charity. If you have any items you care to donate please bring them to the Night Out, the meeting, or by my house anytime after 5 PM but before 9 PM. In particular clothes and toys are quite popular. Remember, you can always use your donations as a tax write-off. The garage sale will tentatively be scheduled for the 21st of October. It will take place at my house beginning at 7 AM and naturally, volunteers are needed to lend a hand.

TREK BUZZ

Not much "buzz" this month!

Patrick Stewart has finally married Wendy Neuss, his steady for the last 6 years (sorry Patty). Stewart, 60, and Neuss, 39, swapped vows in Los Angeles. Brent Spiner served as best man and several other Next Generation cast members were in attendance. Stewart met his bride on the set of Next Generation where she held a position as Production Assistant. This is Stewart's second trip down the isle; the first for Neuss.

Thanks to Dateline: Starfleet for the info!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Cadet Ivy Walker	6 th	
Todd Bryant (Klaa)		8 th
Mark Lenard (Ambassador Sarek)	15 th	
John Winston (LT Kyle)	24 th	
Gene Roddenberry Dies (1991)	24 th	
Robert Picardo (Holographic Doctor)		27 th
William Campbell (Koloth & Trelaine)	30 th	
CRMN Deniece Dunn		30 th
CMDR Josh Ainsworth	31 st	

WELCOME ABOARD!

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

ENS Karen Ferris (D)
ENS Geroge Ferris (D)
ENS Michael Crossman (S)
ENS Jennifer Crossman (S)
Crmm Todd Kes (D)

CONVENTIONS, ETC.

Found out about another convention source. Make It So Productions, out of Ohio, is putting on some really awesome conventions. They put on the "V" convention in LA in mid September and are planning two conventions for 2001 that look to be really spectacular! The first will be on the 28th and 29th of April in Jacksonville, FL. It is called "Klingon Kon 2001" and is scheduled to have a great Klingon guest list. Included is Michael Dorn (Worf), Roxann Dawson (B'Elanna), Tony Todd (Kurn), Suzie Plakson (K'Ehleyr), Robert O'Reilly (Gowron), JG Hertzler (Martok), Gwyneth Walsh (B'Etor), and Barbara March (Lursa)! What a show that will be! The second convention is on the 25th and 26th of May in Cleveland, OH. The convention is entitled the "Women of Star Trek Voyager". A signed contract is in hand from Jennifer Lien (Kes) and contracts are pending from Kate Mulgrew (Janeway), Roxanne Dawson (B'Elanna), and Scarlett Pomers (Naomi Wildman). They are also try to get Martha Hackett (Seska)!!

If anyone attended the convention in Atlanta and would like to write an article for the Pilot, be my guest!

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE ON 19 OCTOBER AT
7:00 PM AT THE CAPTAIN'S HOUSE.
COME ONE COME ALL!**

**THE NEXT NIGHT OUT WILL BE AT
THE PIZZA HUT ON THE
MANCHESTER EXPRESSWAY ON 2
OCTOBER AT 7 PM! Y'ALL COME!**

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance 102.78
Closing Balance 102.78

CMDR Connie Heller

FINALLY

Help! Okay, devoted readers I need some help in the way of articles for the newsletter. It does not necessarily have to be Trek oriented. It can be on anything you have an interest in. I would prefer something in the science fiction genre but I will take anything about now. So, get your writer's cap on and send your words of wisdom my way! You can email me at trekfans@knology.net. Please note that this is a new e-mail address.

DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer Freddy Heller 562-TREK

Executive Officer	Joe Perry	327-5888
Finance	Connie Heller	562-8735
Community Service	VACANT	
Publications	Freddy Heller	562-8735

Science Officer	VACANT	
Counselor	JoAnne Vazquez	563-9185
Morale	VACANT	
Medical	Emma Certo	582-3442

Engineering Officer	VACANT	
Communications	Gisela Stephens	689-4266
Quartermaster	Randy Dunn	291-0150
Security	Zach Farley	682-0140

Cadet Corps Commander **VACANT**

Master Chief Petty Officer **VACANT**

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