

STARBLIGHT

VOLUME THREE

JULY/AUGUST 2011

ISSUE SIX



HOLY    

WE FINALLY MADE
IT TO OUR SIXTH
ISSUE, ISSUE.

From the First Officer

Hi and welcome to another fun filled edition of the StarLight newsletter. And this issue will not be just the ordinary issue.

Why is this issue different than the others you're asking yourselves?"

Well for the first time in the history of the StarLight newsletter, we have finally made it to sixth issue. Making a full volume year.

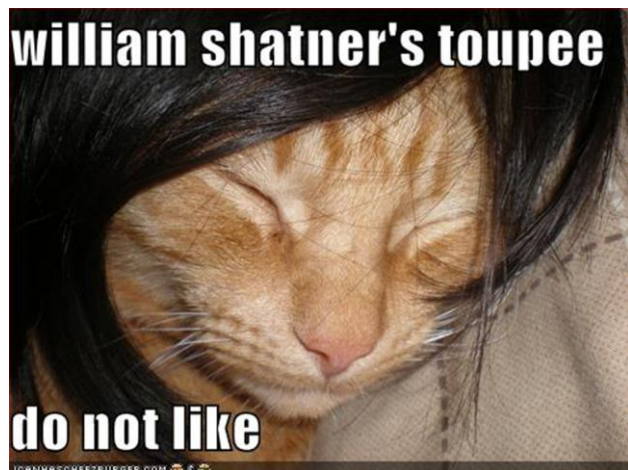
That right, we finally made it to our sixth edition. Why is this so special? In the past when the StarLight newsletter was first started, it was plagued with all sorts of problems of one sort or another. And we could never get to that sixth issue for that year. That is until now.

Despite having one computer give out and another computer that had very limited memory capacity, the StarLight was put out on a bi-monthly basis.

Now the StarLight has new computer equal to the task. And we don't know what to do with ourselves.

And so here we are. With a full six issue, a full volume finally under our belt. Makes you wonder what next six issues will be like.

Captain James (T'sikes) Webb
FO/CSO
U.S.S. BRIGHTSTAR
N.C.C. 1880



Up Coming Events

Gen Con 2011
Indiana Convention Center
August 4 – 7 2011
gencon.com

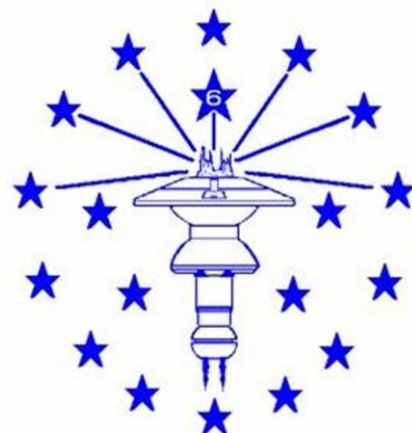
The Official Star Trek Convention
Las Vegas
August 11 – 14 2011
<http://creationent.com/cal/stlv.htm>

Chicago Comic Con
August 11 – 14 2011
<http://www.wizardworld.com/home-ch.html>

Earth Miracle Mile Parade
September 3, 2011
Contact U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS
Indianapolis1945.com

BrightStar Cookout
September 10th, 2011
Contact First Officer at
capsikes@comcast.net

StarBase Indy 2011
December 9th through 11th, 2011
Marriott East
starbaseindy.com



This Just In

It is official now; Paramount has confirmed with DEADLINE/HOLLYWOOD that the next Star Trek movie will not be ready by the June 29, 2012 release date. Instead Paramount has given that date to the next G.I. JOE movie, G.I. JOE: RETALIATION. This movie is being directed by Jon M. Chu. RETALIATION will star Channing Tatum, Dwayne (the rock) Johnson and Adrienne Palicki.

J.J. Abrams having just recently returned from vacation is said to be hard at work with Robert Orci, Alex Kurtzman and Damon Lindelof on the script. Also Paramount has stated that they have exercised its option with the cast. Which means the cast they used in the first movie will be there ready and waiting.

Now production is set to begin January of 2012 with a release date set in the fourth quarter of 2012 no later than the summer of 2013. Stay tune this may change as well.

Calling All Ships

I just recently received two emails from Captain Gene Adams of the Indianapolis and Admiral Andy Sams of the Adventure.

Captain Adams email is asking anyone that would like to help the Indianapolis with Earth Miracle Mile Parade they are more than welcome to join in on the fun. He also says that there will be a car show as well. He asked that anyone wanting to be in parade, to contact him by July 29th. For anyone wanting further information, go to miraclemileparade.com.

Now second email is from Admiral Andy Sams. Andy in connection with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) has joined their "Team in Training" will be competing in the Nations Triathlon.

Andy along with his team mates are trying raise funds for the LLS, to help fight and find a cure for Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma. Nearly 958,000 Americans are battling these blood cancers every day.

He and his team mates are asking that anyone and everyone to make a donation towards this noble cause. The "Team in Training" is hoping to raise thousands of dollars to help save thousands of lives from these diseases. If you wish to make a donation, use this secure link <http://pages.teamintraining.org/in/nattri1/asamsc>.

Journeys of the Brightstar Chapter 4

Captains Log:
Stardate 52281.2
First Officer recording

"The Brightstar has been on yellow alert for the last twenty-four hours. Our sensors are giving us some ideal what is going on in the Bergman system. But we really won't have a clear picture of what we're dealing with until we arrive at the system in another twenty-four hours. At which time if the situation warrants it, we may go to red alert. What bothers me the most, and the Captain concurs with this, is where are the Ferengi.

The sensors show no Ferengi vessels in a ten light-year radius of the system. Where are the Ferengi?

Captain T'sikes recording

“Captain, have you been able to determine what we will be dealing with when we arrive in the Bergman system?”

“What I’ve been able to determine is that, it is not a singularity.”

The first officer said as he looked up at his commanding officer standing next to him at science station one.

“Then it has to be either a wormhole or a vortex.” Deora commented as she went over the readouts that was on the computer screen.

“Yes sir. But I’m beginning to believe it is a vortex of some kind sir.” He told Deora this as he touches several buttons.

“What makes you think that Sikes?” she asked.

“Well at first I thought it was a wormhole. That would account for the here one minute, gone the next. And would account for the lightning.” He commented.

“But something changed that.” Deora stated.

“Yes sir. Thanks to Commander Henderson tweaking the sensors we’ve been able to determine that there is asteroid field between us and the vortex.” Sikes stated as showed his captain the evidence on the computer screen.

“Why didn’t the IOWA catch this?” The captain questioned.

“Time sir. You said yourself that there is a plague on Sirius three and they had medical supplies that had to get there.” T’sikes explained.

“Yes you are right number one.” Deora said as she looked down at T’sikes.

“At any rate sir, we’ll know for sure what we are dealing with in the morning.” Sikes said as he pointed at the screen.

“That good work people.” She remarked as she looked at everyone.

Just then a warning signal comes across Commander Henderson consol.

“Sir, sensors are detecting a ship in close proximity of the vortex.” Kathy reported.

“Sikes can you tell if it is the Ferengies?” The Captain asked.

“Not at this distance sir.” T’sikes answered as he checked the computer screen. “But I am picking up a very faint distress signal.” He said with surprise.

“You sound surprise Sikes.” Deora Commented.

“I am sir.” Sikes answered.

“Why?” She asked.

“Cadet you want to answer that?” T’sikes looks over at the cadet.

“Yes sir. The reason we shouldn’t be receiving their signal is because of the proximity of the vortex. The vortex should be preventing the signal from reaching anyone. Let alone us.” The cadet finished.

“Very good cadet.” Sikes complemented the cadet, who immediately went back to what he was doing. Both the Captain and the first officer shared a smile. The first officer was getting ready to say something else, when his attention was drawn back to the science station screen.

“Cadet are you reading something to the aft end of the ship?” Sikes queried the chief of security.

"Yes sir. But it is too close to tell what it is. It could be a sensor ghost." He replied.

By this time the captain had returned to her chair and was staring at the screen.

"Number One do you have any ideal on how to resolve this issue?" Deora wanted to know if the first officer really had any ideals.

"We could try a crazy Ivan, sir." Sikes suggested.

Captain Deora blue antennae's stood straight up at this unfamiliar term. "What is a crazy Ivan T'sikes?" She asked with much curiosity.

"It when one vessel turns suddenly to either starboard or to port to find out whether or not someone is following. It was used quit extensively doing the what was called the "cold war" just after the second world war to the latter half of the twentieth century. Between what was the United State Navy and the Soviet Union Navy." T'sikes finished.

"What the catch?" Kathy asked.

"The catch as you called it, is if a ship has too much momentum and is too close to the other ship, it would keep going and slam right into the aft end of the other ship. You see if we pulled this crazy Ivan that ship, if there is a ship behind us, would have to shut everything down. And I mean everything just to keep themselves from being detected." Tess stated. She then plotted a new course in anticipation of the order to come.

"Make it so number one." Deora ordered.

"Aye sir. Ninety degrees to port. Hard to port." T'sikes called out.

"Aye sir. Ninety degrees to port. Hard to port." Tess replied.

As everyone was getting ready for the Crazy Ivan T'sikes made his way down to the command deck to sit to the right of Captain Deora.

"Very good cadet! Everyone strap yourselves in and hold on to your lunch." Sikes bellowed out.

"We're ready sir." T'sikes told his captain.

"Thank you Sikes." She responded.

A moment goes by and then Captain Deora says "Execute."

Just then the ship made a sudden turn ninety degree turn to port. At the security console a warning signal goes off.

"Sir, it's another ship. It is a Ferengi Marauder! Sir, she raising shields and arming her weapons!" Josh stated.

"RED ALERT! SHEILDS UP! ALL HANDS TO BATTLE STATIONS. REPEAT ALL HANDS TO BATTLE STATION." The captain ordered as everyone rush into positions.

Its Christmas in July for NASA

It has been a very interesting month for NASA. This string of good news began in May when NASA receive the final results of the Gravity Probe B.

The data received from GP-B proves that Albert Einstein general theory of relativity is not just a scientific theory, but scientific fact. The GP-B was launched back in April of 2004. The probe was put in a polar orbit, and carried with it four ultra-precise gyroscopes and telescope. Once in orbit the probe was pointed at the star IM Pegasi (HR 8703) in our galaxy. The probe job was to prove whether or not gravity has any effects on space and time (spacetime).

Now if gravity has no effect on spacetime then the telescope should stay pointed at the star IM Pegasi every time it makes an orbit. But it did move ever so slightly. Every time the GP-B made a movement it was recorded.

After gathering data for the next six years, the GP-B probe was decommissioned in 2010. It would take entire year to analyze the data.

Hubble discovers a fourth moon around Pluto

Astronomers while using the Hubble space telescope to look for rings around Pluto, like the ones around Saturn, have discovered a fourth moon around that small planetoid. Given the temporarily designation of P4, the new moon is the smallest ever discovered around Pluto.

P4 is estimated diameter is 8 to 21 miles (13 to 34KM) compared to Charon which is 648 miles in diameter (1,043KM) which makes it Pluto's largest moon. Pluto other two moons, Nix and Hydra measure to be 20 to 70 miles in diameter (32 to 113km). P4 orbit lies between Nix and Hydra.

Probe "Dawn" Investigate Vesta

After being launched four years ago, the probe Dawn is now in orbit around the asteroid Vesta which lies in the asteroid belt located between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. Vesta is the second largest asteroid measuring 330 miles in diameter (530km).

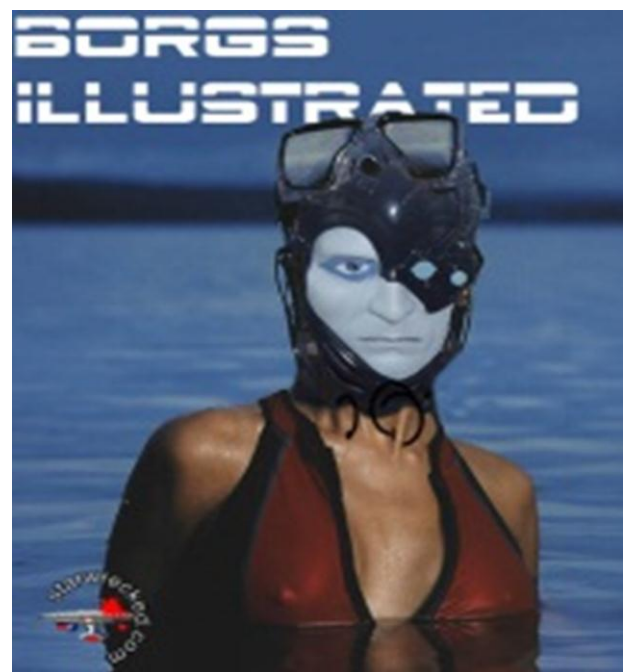
Dawn's orbital insertion occurred at 1 a.m. EST Saturday July 16. Dawn will be in orbit around Vesta for the next year. Then the probe will travel on to the small planetoid Ceres arriving sometime in February of 2015.

Dawn's mission perimeter includes the

The probe will also take pictures in get detail of the asteroid for navigational purposes, and observe the physical properties of Vesta.

Also Dawn will test the strength of the asteroid gravitational pull on itself so that NASA can determine Vesta's mass. And when the probe is not doing anything, it will also try and find out if the asteroid has any moons. Vesta has long been suspected to be the source of a large number of meteorites that fall to Earth. Dawn will try to confirm if this is true.

At the time of orbital insertion Dawn will be at distance of 117 million miles (188 million kilometer) from Earth. To power the craft the engineers who designed Dawn, also designed and built an ion engine. The ion engine works by using ion as thrust by expelling those same ions out into space. By using an ion engine, Dawn is able to go 4.2 miles per second (6.7 kilometer per second) faster than any normal spacecraft known.



Tales of the Defiant

Chapter 8

Captain's Personal Log Stardate 47333.1

"It's just past midnight and I still have to make a decision on whether or not we should help the alliance. When the *Enterprise D* was pulled here they had no choice but to interfere if they were going to get back to our universe. In this case, we have a choice to make and it's damn difficult one to make with the Prime Directive. I need to have another talk with Captain Worf one more time before I can make this decision."

I was sitting alone in the Dogpound staring out the portal when Athena walked over and sat a drink down on the table. A moment went by and then Athena spoke, "That's some decision that the Captain has to make."

"What do you mean?" I asked as I picked up the drink.

"I mean the decision he has to make whether to help or not," Athena said.

"Oh," I said. "Sorry Athena, I was thinking about something else."

"Thinking about your double?"

"A little, but I was really thinking about Miles," I said as I took another sip of my drink.

"Theirs or ours?" she asked as she adjusted the seat to accommodate her tail.

"Theirs."

"Why?" she asked, her ears slightly raised.

"I know that my double has died in this universe, but every time Miles looks at me all he sees is a ghost," I finished the drink that Athena had brought.

"And this bothers you?" her ears pricked forward.

"Yes, I guess it does, a little. I've always known that when I put on this uniform that I could die in it and I've accepted that."

"I sat there toying with the empty glass.

"And you want to know why he sees a ghost and you want to know how you're double died," she commented as she stood up and signaled a waiter to bring another drink to replace the empty glass Athena removed from my hand.

"Your right Athena, but he's not ready to tell me yet!"

I was getting ready to take my drink from the waiter, when she took the drink and said, "Oh, he's ready, Jim."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean what I said. He's sitting over there to your right. He asked me to ask you to come over," she said as she handed me my drink.

I took the drink and went over to where Miles was sitting. He too was lost in thought as well. It took a moment to realize that I was standing next to his table.

"Oh, sorry. Please have a seat," Miles said as he went back to staring out the portal.

"How well do you know your Captain, Lieutenant?" he asked.

"Well enough I guess. I've been on board now for about two years. Why do you ask, sir?"

"Just curious, I guess. Your Captain just asked for another meeting with Captain Worf, alone," he stated.

"As I've said sir, I've only been on board for two years and if I were to take a guess, I would have to say that he's trying to convince himself that he's doing the right thing by refusing to help. But, if I read your report right, he'll have no choice but to help."

"I hope he does. If we're going to have any hope in defeating the empire," he said as he swallowed his drink.

"May I ask you something Commander?" I asked as I looked down at my drink.

"You want to know how you're double died," Miles stated sorrowfully.

"Well, yes, I do. Every time you look at me I get the feeling you were looking at a ghost," I said this as I looked him square in the eyes.

"I'm sorry Lieutenant. I guess my Jim's death has hit me pretty hard." I noticed that as he was talking that tears had begun to develop in the corners of his eyes as he started to tell his tale.

"As you know from the briefing a quarter of our fleet was wiped out before we even had the chance to make a decent withdrawal. You see, that's where you're double died. He made a last ditch effort to draw off the Defiant so that the rest of the fleet could escape. He didn't even have to be on that ship. Jim was our inside man and that's how he found out about the whole damn thing. About two years ago, he was assigned to the Defiant and Managed to steal and pass along information but, he was caught in the process of fleeing."

As he continued his story, the tears were slowly coursing unheeded down his face.

"You mean he was on board the Defiant when he was killed?" I had to ask.

"No, he was killed aboard the Bloodfire. He took command of the Bloodfire just after we rescued him from the Pluto prison mining facility. Just before we hit the Sol One shipyards, he was sent on a mission to Bajor with weapons and medical supplies."

Before he continued on with his story he signaled the waiter and ordered another drink. Then Miles continued with his story. "He was supposed to be back in time to join the fleet.

But just as he was making the final transport, his ship came under attack from the Empire's Cardassian's friends. Bloodfire was barely able to destroy the Cardassian's ship before escaping into warp. When they came out of warp, they found themselves in an area that you call the Badlands," he stopped long enough to wipe the tears from his face.

"There they found several M class planets. Just before they could make their way out of the Badlands, they came under attack by another Cardassian's ship and became severely damaged before they could get away. They limped back to one of our hidden bases. Jim was told that his ship could not be repaired in time, so he asked if any other ship was available. There were none. So he had the repairs rushed through on the Bloodfire, but when the repairs were finished we were already under way to the Sol system. Don't ask me how he did it, but he managed to be there when we needed him."

"When we realized that the Defiant was not there, we took out the Halsey and the Bounty, then we began our withdrawal. Then the Defiant showed up and that part you already know about."

"What you don't know is that somebody tipped them off and they knew which ship to go after. We later found out who that person was and tried and executed him for his crimes, but that still doesn't bring Jim back, does it?" he stopped talking for several minutes trying to get his drink past the lump in his throat.

When he was finished, he ordered another drink from a passing waiter.

"We were really getting pounded. We were trying everything we could to keep the Defiant off our back while the rest of the fleet got away. Then we got hit by two blasts from their phaser cannon and our shields went down. We knew one more hit and we were done for. So, Captain Worf ordered full about and all phaser banks up to full power and photon torpedoes to fire at will. Then out of the blue, Jim's voice came over sub-space and said the cavalry had arrived. Before the Defiant could figure out what was happening, he had taken out both of their phaser cannons."

At this point in his story, I could tell Miles was starting to get drunk.

"But the Defiant was not finished yet. He was getting ready to make another pass when the Defiant fired six torpedoes at him. All but two of them hit, we thought that the ship was crippled and that Jim was dead. Just as the Defiant was coming after us again, he came over sub-space and said watch this. The next thing we knew, I watched him make a run at the ship. When the Defiant realized what he was trying to do, he was too close to the ship. We had no idea that they would be as desperate as to use atomics that close to their own ship. Needless to say Jim's ship was destroyed, but when the Defiant detonated the atomics that close to their own ship they severely damaged her. Against everyone's wishes, Captain Worf ordered an immediate withdrawal. A week after that the Alliance was planning another raid. When we received a message from an unknown source stating that the Defiant was repaired and out of dry-dock and had orders to intercept your Defiant and bring you back to DS9."

I sensed that was the end of Miles' tale. I was about to finish my drink, when the Captain's voice came over the comm.

"Captain to crew of the Defiant. Everyone knows what has transpired in the past twelve hours. And you know that we have an Alliance delegation on board with us. What you don't know is that they came to us with information pertaining to our universe and they came to ask our help. At first, I decided that we could not help because of the Prime Directive and we couldn't interfere in their culture. But new information has been brought to us. I have been reconsidering my position and must now reverse my original decision. As of this Stardate, this ship is on battle ready alert. All senior staff will report section readiness by zero seven thirty hours tomorrow. At that time there will be a briefing given by Captain Worf. Captain Bartle out."

Miles looked at me in mild surprise. All I could think of to say was, "I told you he would make the right decision."

Just then Miles' comm badge chirped. Captain Worf asked him to get the plans ready for tomorrow's briefing and relay to the other ships to implement phase two. We both got up from the table and left the Dogpound.

A few minutes later, I found myself on the bridge, looking at my console. I was gathering information for my security section report. I glanced up at the screen and saw the Freebird suddenly cloak. I quickly looked at my console and didn't like what I saw. Commander Williams also saw the Freebird cloak and said, "What the hell!"

"Sir, we have an unidentifiable ship approaching us at two-eight-zero mark zero-one-zero."

"How soon?" Commander Williams asked brusquely.

"They will be here within a minute, sir," I responded.

"Red alert! Captain to the bridge. Lieutenant, cloak the ship," he barked.

"Aye, sir, cloaking device engaged."

Within seconds, both Gary and Worf came out of the Captain's ready room.

Captain Bartle asked, "What's the situation, Mark?"

"We have an unidentifiable ship approaching at two-eight-zero mark zero-one-zero and we're cloaked."

The Captain looked at Worf and asked, "One of your ships?"

All Worf could do was shake his head no, when the ship rocked from a two phaser blast.

"Then Worf yelled, "Captain, I must contact the Freebird."

The Captain turned around and yelled over the din of the red alert klaxons, "Secured hailing frequency open to the Freebird."

"Aye, sir. Hailing frequencies open."

"Miles, what's going on?" Worf growled.

"Sir, there are two Cardassian's ship, one at two-eight-zero mark zero-one-zero and the other is at zero-zero-five mark zero-nine-five. Sir, they're turning around for another pass."

Captain, if they hit us on the front shields again, they will collapse," I countered.

"Miles use battle plan zero-zero-delta."

"Yes, sir!" Miles responded jubilantly.

But before that happened we took another hit from the second ship. This time they finished what the first ship had started. They hit us with a phaser shot, then with a photon torpedo.

The Captain yelled above the explosive din. "What now. Worf?"

"Captain, I need you to decloak and fire all your weapons at the same time."

"They'll be able to destroy us before we could do anything," Captain Bartle said with a look of disbelief.

"Just trust me Captain," he locked eyes with Captain Bartle.

It only took a second for the Captain to decide. "Number one, Make it so!" the Captain ordered.

"Captain?" Mark whirled around looking at his Captain as if he had just lost all of his marbles.

"Just trust him, Commander," he commanded.

"Yes, sir!"

By this time Commander Sisko and Major Kira stepped on the bridge, when the ship was struck again.

"Lieutenant, fire all weapons when we decloak the ship."

"Aye, sir, standing by on weapons," I said as I made the final adjustments on the console.

Captain Bartle looked at Worf.

Worf spoke, "Are you ready, Miles?"

"We're ready here, sir."

"On my mark, Lieutenant. NOW!" the Captain leaned forward and ordered forcefully, his eyes never leaving the view screen.

The two Cartesian ships started to move in for the kill when all four Birds of Prey decloaked and fired.

Both of the Cardassian's ships were destroyed in the crossfire.

Captain Bartle stood up and asked for damage reports.

"Sir, we've taken hits on the aft shields. The front shields are down and we have structural damage on decks five through nine..."

I trailed off. I couldn't believe what I saw scrolling across the console.

The Captain turned around and asked, "What's the matter?"

"Sir," I gasped. "We have a hull breach on deck ten section one forward. The Dogpound, Sir," was all I could manage to say before I pulled out one of the chairs from science situation two. I felt as if I had been rabbit punched in the throat. As the bridge began to go hazy, I heard the Captain yelling, "Athena! Respond! Athena! Can you hear me...Athena! Come in..." over and over, but no one answered.

Next Time
Tales of the Defiant
Chapter 9

Look Who Having a Birthday



Captain Debbie Henderson
Commanding Officer
U.S.S. BRIGHTSTAR
August 6

Look Who Else Is Having a
Birthday

- Birthdays In the month of July
- July 1 Dominic Keating (Malcolm Reed)
 - July 2 Brock Peters (Joseph Sisko)
 - July 8 Kim Darby (Miri)
 - July 9 Linda Park (Hoshi Sato)
 - July 13 Patrick Stewart (Captain Jean-Luc Picard)
 - July 16 Camille Saviola (Kia Opaka)
 - July 26 Nana Visitor (Major Kira Nirys)
 - July 29 Wil Wheaton (Ensign Wesley Crusher)
 - July 29 David Warner (Chancellor Gorkon)

- Birthdays In the month of August
- Aug 7 Cirroc Lofton (Jake Sisko)
 - Aug 12 Jane Wyatt (Amanda)
 - Aug 16 Josh Clark (LT. Carey)
 - Aug 19 Jonathan Frakes (Cmdr. William T. Riker)
 - Aug 24 Jennifer Lien (Medical Assistant Kes)
 - Aug 28 Gates McFadden (Doctor Beverly Crusher)



From the staff of
the
STARLIGHT
and from the crew
of the Brightstar
Thanks

See you next Issue