



StarLight

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE USS BRIGHTSTAR

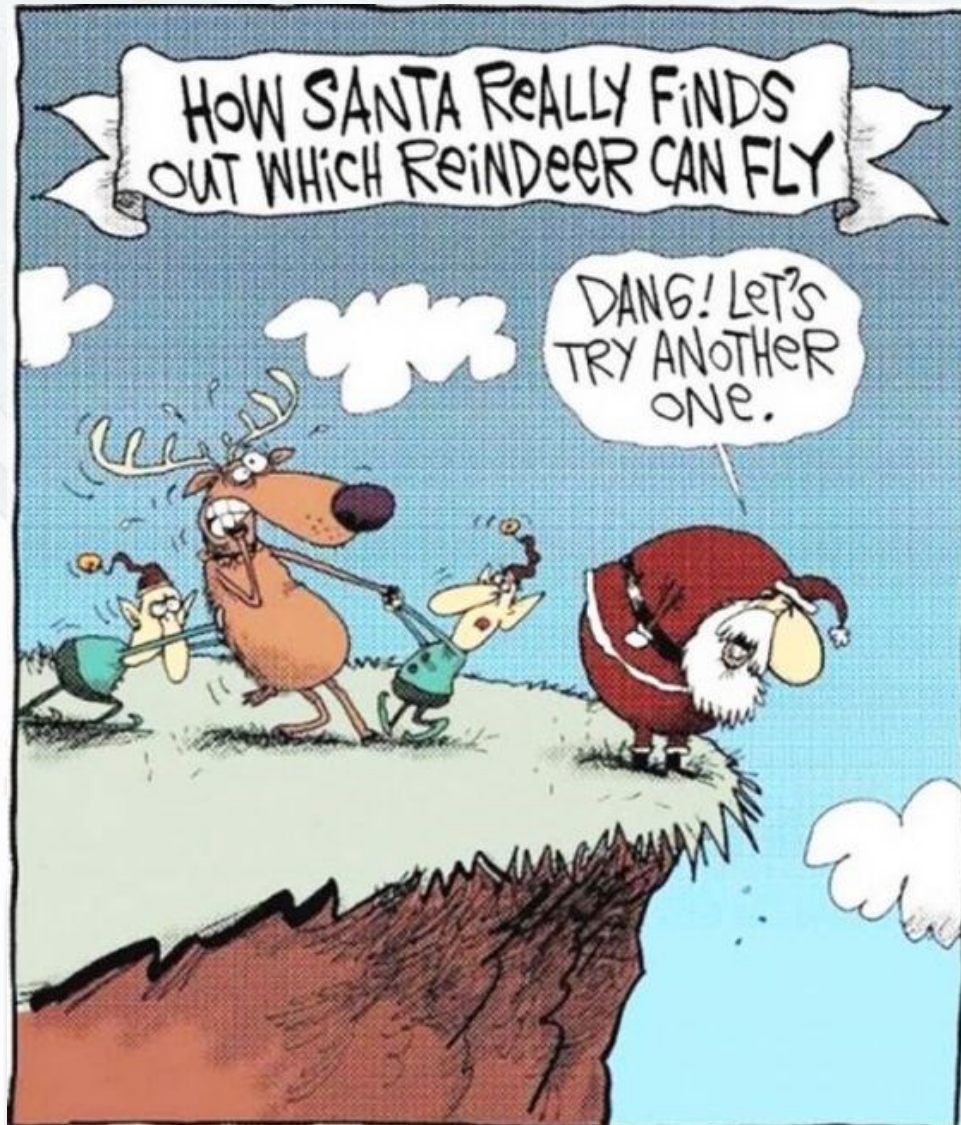
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VOLUME FIVE DECEMBER 2023

ISSUE FIVE



**I Always Wondered About That
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**



From The First Officer

Welcome to another fun filled addition of the StarLight newsletter for the month of December. That's right folks, we've finally made it to the final month of the year, and we now have only 24 days until Christmas, then another week after that for New Year day.

It's hard to believe that we've once again completed a circuit around our little ol' star. And here we go again around a star that we call Sol. Around and around we go, where she goes nobody knows. Well, enough of this dribble.

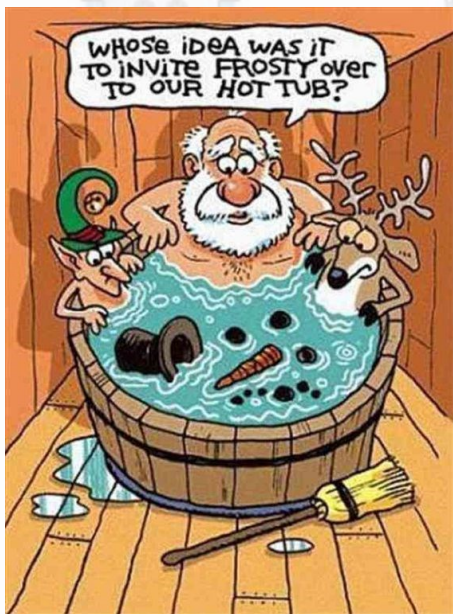
If you haven't guessed already this is our Christmas and end of the year issue. And because this is our Christmas and end of the year special, it may be slightly larger issue than our past publications. For example, we have not one, but two Christmas stories and a report on a second constellation, the constellation Antlia. Unfortunately, this constellation can only be seen in the southern hemisphere, so there's not lot of information about these group of stars. On top of that, we also have our usual entries in this issue as well.

I think that just about covers about everything, let me check my notes here first. Oh yes, there is one more thing, I have been directed (ha, ha, ha) to, by someone higher up in rank than me, to give a shout out to the newest ship in the fleet. That shout out goes to the USS DIVID WOLFE. She was just recently commissioned in October 2023. The DAVID WOLFE hails out of Cincinnati, Ohio. We the crew of the USS BRIGHTSTAR salute you. SALUTE!!! (Sorry to many episodes of HEE HAW as a child). And we wish her a safe voyage and may the winds be ever at her back.

Well, that's it for now, See everybody next issue,

It's time to put this puppy to bed.

The First Officer.



Bible Quotes

Gifts

Genesis 24:53

Then the servant brought out gold and silver and jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother.

Leviticus 23:38

These offerings are in addition to those for the LORD's Sabbaths and in addition to your gifts and whatever you have vowed and all the freewill offerings you give to the LORD.

Matthew 2:11

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Luke 21:1

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury.

Luke 21:4

All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.

Acts 10:4

Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayer and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.

Romans 11:29

For God's gifts and his call irrevocable.

Romans 12:6

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

Revelation 11:10

The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.



Can You Spot The Station?

People are always hoping to catch a glimpse of the International Space Station, and now with the help of new app that is now available, spotting the ISS will be a whole lot easier.

"Spot The Station" is the name of the app that is free to download for iOS and Android devices. NASA has developed the app to work hand in hand with the website of the same name. What this app does is add more capabilities and information to both the website and devices for people that are hunting for the International Space Station and the ability to track the station (ISS) for those who have the experience or those who don't, and it's also for those who are just casual stargazers.

NASA put out an description about the app.

"An augmented reality interface makes it easier for user to locate the station and provides options for capturing and sharing pictures and video of their sightings in real time. With the power of augmented reality, the app's built in compass will show you where the space station is, even if you're on the other side of the globe. User also can sign up for mobile notifications of upcoming viewing opportunities based on their exact location"

The app was conceived by the International Space Station Program by NASA's Space Operation Mission Directorate and the enter of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation.

"Spot the Station" code is an open source for the public to access, modify, customize for themselves and to offer valuable developer feedback.

"Even after 23 years of continuous human presence aboard the International Space Station, it's incredibly exciting to see the station when you look up at just the right moment," Robyn Gatlen International Space Station director at NASA headquarters in Washington D.C., said in the same NASA statement.

"The orbiting laboratory that continues to provide so many unique, tangible benefit's for humanity really isn't that far out of reach."

"Spot the Station" app came one month after the stations 25th anniversary. When the Zarya and Unity modules were united back on December 6, 1998. On November 2,2000, NASA astronaut Bill Shepherd and cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev became the first people to live aboard the station.

End of report.

Source material.
Space.com



The Weird, The Strange, And What The ?

School of Hard Knocks: Valerie Do really wanted to be a Florida Woman. The gal from Vietnam even applied to go to school in Florida, imagining the warm sunny beaches and nightlife in Coral Gables, the home of the University of Miami. So she was gleeful to be offered enough financial aid that her parents could afford to send her, and she headed to Miami University. But she ended up a bit puzzled. "There are no beaches here," she said in a TikTok video that quickly went viral: "it's just corn field and in the middle of nowhere." Miami University and University of Miami are different schools, the former being in Oxford, Ohio. Do is making the best of it. "I really love my school," she says in the video, "and I have a good time here. It was a great mistake to make." (RC/Cincinnati Enquirer) ... *Yep: definitely Florida Woman material*

Not Here Sign: Polk County, Fla., sheriff's deputies went to a Lakeland home to find a suspect, and found a whiteboard outside. It said "Johnny Yates does NOT live here." Unconvinced, they got on a loudspeaker and told him to come out. He didn't. Still not convinced, they tried to smoke him out. He did not emerge. They went in with a dog and discovered the 41-year-old suspect concealed "in a modified chest of drawers." (AC/WFLA Tampa) ... *If one person both made that sign and designed that hiding space, we need a new word: oblivienius.*

Don't Go Stricking Your Neck Out: Kari Hill took her teen sons and a granddaughter to the Fossil Rim Wildlife Center in Glen Rose, Texas, about 20 minutes from home, where they could get up close with exotic animals. People can drive themselves through the grounds to see the animals, but must stay in their cars at all times for safety. Hill was approached by a nice gentle giraffe, who stuck its head into her sunroof, resulting in a photo of the animal with a delighted Hill — until the giant ruminant stumbled and fell on her car, smashing the windshield and denting the body. The animal wasn't injured. Fossil Rim reminded Hill that guests waive liability for any damages, so she had to make a claim with her insurance company. "I think it was hard for them ... not to laugh," she said, "but they were professional." (RC/KDFW Fort Worth) ... *Professional laughter always stings the most.*

The Holiday Spirit: An unnamed mom drove her 10-year-old daughter to deliver a Halloween package to a friend's house in Manhasset on New York's Long Island. After they left, the girl realized she dropped the candy at the wrong house. Mom turned around and went back, and her 6-year-old son popped out to get the package from the doorstep. It was the wrong house indeed: the man who lived there pulled a gun on the boy, pointing it at his head and screaming "Get the f--- off my property!" as mom pleaded for him to not kill her son. The boy followed the man's command and ran, and mom called the cops. Michael Yifan Wen, 43, was arrested, charged with menacing and endangering the welfare of a child. Wen pleaded not guilty, saying "I just wanted to scare them." (RC/WNBC New York, WABC New York) ... *Yelling "Boo!" would have been more than enough*

Educated: "My husband and I were told that people were finding out about it. So I knew this day was coming," said Brianna Coppage, an English teacher at St. Clair (Mo.) High School. School administrators learned of her pay-walled adult web presence, and Coppage, 28, was put on leave; she resigned rather than be fired. She set up the site over the summer to help pay off her student loans. "I have multiple degrees in education, and it would be helpful for

extra money," she said, knowing with her \$42,000/year salary it would take years to pay it all off. She kept her face off the videos and didn't use her real name, but someone told the school. "I'm not advertising it to students, but adults in the community continue to do so," she said. That turned into a blessing: with so much publicity her paid subscriptions on the site have skyrocketed, so she doubled the price. In the past six months her take has been over \$1 million. "I have no debt now, and that's really freeing," she said. "We were deeply disappointed that this negative attention was brought to our community," grumped school superintendent Kyle Kruse. (RC/KMOV St. Louis, St. Louis Post-Dispatch) ...*Beating the system designed to keep working people impoverished? That's a shamin'.*

Alas, Poor Shopper! A woman was shopping in a Fort Myers, Fla., antique store when she spotted a decorative skull the owner had put in a case for Halloween. The shopper — who happens to be an anthropologist — realized the decoration wasn't fake. Detectives picked up the skull and took it to the medical examiner's office for identification. The store owner told detectives it had been found in a storage unit they'd purchased several years ago. The Lee County Sheriff's Office said they didn't suspect foul play, and nobody has been charged. The anthropologist said the skull appears to be from a female native American. If it is, the skull will be returned to the person's tribe for proper burial. (MS/WFLA Tampa, WINK Fort Myers) ...*What about the rest of her?*

Something Removed: Something hurt in George Piano's abdomen, so he went to the University of Washington Medical Center. The diagnosis was appendicitis; the agreed treatment, appendix removal. "Following surgery, Mr. Piano began to experience abdominal pain which was worse than before his surgery," his lawyers said in a statement. After two days, the statement says, with the help of imaging, Piano learned that he still had an appendix. Piano's lawsuit against the university and two doctors alleges that a surgeon had taken some diseased tissue off his bowel. According to the lawsuit, which was filed in King County, Washington, that meant Piano had to go back into surgery, not only to get his appendix out (for real this time), but also to patch up his colon, which had become "leaky." (AC/USA Today) ...*The complaint has 13 pages and an appendix. Trust me, Judge, you don't want to open the appendix.*

Rivalry: Texas Southern University's Tigers football team was playing Jackson [Miss.] State University, whose football team is also the Tigers. The TSU marching band was in the stands when an opposition fan started heckling them. When the man, who was holding a beer, particularly got into the face of TSU's tuba player, the bandmember warned him away and, when several such warnings didn't work, hit the man in the face with four quick punches which "sent the JSU heckler down the bleachers backside first," a reporter from the *San Antonio Express-News* said. Without missing a step of the band's choreography, the tubist stepped back into the line. While local police said no one made a complaint to them, TSU officials had something to say about the incident: "The University is implementing additional measures to ensure the safety of all band members during performances." JSU, which was playing at home, won, 21-19. (RC/Houston Chronicle, San Antonio Express-News) ...*But it was Texas that celebrated all night..*

Celebrating Failure: On November 12, residents of Florence, Ore., celebrated the first of hopefully an annual "Exploding Whale Day" — the anniversary of an event that led to one of the Internet's first viral stories. The Internet wasn't really a thing in 1970, so it wasn't until 1990 that early netizens thought the whale "exploded" the day before, but no matter.

At the time, Portland KATU-TV newsman Paul Linnman was told "they are going to dispose of this whale at the coast so we want you to cover it," Linnman said. "We said, 'Really?' and they said, 'they're going to use dynamite,' and I said 'OK, we're going!'" Linnman's deadpan delivery perfected the report, which showed people running for cover as chunks of whale blubber fell from the sky after the detonation (see "Boom Times" in *True* #1358). "That was a smell beyond descriptions," Linnman remembers. "My trench coat was pink and it was glistening." So why celebrate? "This is something that put Florence, Oregon on the map," said resident Terry Hankins, "a debacle and a mistake really did put Florence in the public eye." (RC/KEZI Eugene) ...*And almost took Florence, Oregon, off the map.*

Bear Necessities: Laidy Gutierrez of Orlando, Fla., ordered about \$45 worth of food from Taco Bell through Uber Eats. About 10 minutes after the driver dropped the food on their front porch, Gutierrez opened the front door — and the food was gone. Gutierrez knew exactly what happened. Her niece, Nicole Castro, confirmed her aunt's suspicions when she checked the footage from the doorbell camera: a bear had stolen the food. "He came, and he grabbed the food — then he came again for the soda," Castro said. Uber Eats refunded the \$45, and the family is a little more aware of what might be outside their door. (MS/WOFL Orlando) ...*We know what that bear will be doing in the woods later.*

Sealed In: Amber Harris couldn't make it to work on time: Neil had invited himself into her yard. "I'm across the road from the beach," said Harris, of southern Tasmania, Australia. "So he's made his way all the way up, up a dirt road and across." Neil, as locals call him, is a southern elephant seal weighing more than 1,300 pounds. Harris called her boss and submitted photos "so they knew it was legitimate. It's given everyone in the office a bit of a laugh." The seal "has moved around," Harris told a radio station. "He's been on my front deck, he's had his little head — well, big head — up on my hammock, and now he's down blocking my car." Harris said she was advised that trying to lure Neil away with food would likely be futile. "He probably won't eat anything," she said: he usually uses his stays on land to hibernate. But he only stayed on Harris's land for a matter of hours before moving on. (AC/ABC Australia) ...*He wanted to provide similar assistance to a neighbor on the night shift.*

Legacy: "If you're reading this I have passed away," tweeted Brooklyn, N.Y., book publisher Casey McIntyre, 38. Really, her husband posted it for her: she had ovarian cancer, and she wasn't able to beat it and watch her young daughter grow up. Her husband, Andrew Rose Gregory, said Casey knew that various dreams of "curing cancer" have not worked, so he and Casey had another idea. One in 10 American adults have \$250 or more in medical debt; 11 million owe more than \$2,500 each. "What if we could just help people who are being crushed by medical debt?" Gregory asked. So he also included a link to a campaign to raise \$20,000 to buy up medical debt racked up by others in her memory, via the nonprofit RIP Medical Debt. The campaign quickly blew up to more than \$500,000 — enough to buy up more than \$50 million of medical debt. The nonprofit says this is the first time someone set up a campaign to start after their death. (RC/AP) ...*But with success like that, it won't be the last time.*

Christmas At The Gas Station

The old man sat in his gas station on a cold Christmas Eve. He hadn't been anywhere in years since his wife had passed away. It was just another day for him. He didn't hate Christmas; he just couldn't find a reason to celebrate. He was sitting there looking at the snow that had been falling for the last hour and wondering what it was all about when the door opened, and a homeless man stepped through.

Instead of throwing the man out, Old George as he was known by his customers, told the man to come and sit by the heater and warm-up.

"Thank you, but I don't mean to intrude," said the stranger. "I see you're busy. I'll just go."

"Not without something hot in your belly," George said.

He turned, and opened a wide mouth thermos, and handed it to the stranger.

"It isn't much, but it's hot and tasty stew, made it myself. When you're done, there's coffee and it's fresh."

Just at that moment, he heard the "ding" of the driveway bell.

"Excuse me, be right back," George said.

There in the driveway was a '53 Chevy. Steam was rolling out of the front. The driver was in a panic state.

"Mister can you help!" said the driver with a deep Spanish accent. "My wife is with child and my car is broken."

George opened the hood. It was bad. The block looked cracked from the cold; the car was dead.

"You're not going anywhere in this thing," George said as he turned away.

"But mister, please help," The door of the office closed behind George as he went inside. He went to the office wall and got the keys to old truck and went back outside. He walked around the building, opened the garage, started the truck, and drove it around to where the couple was waiting.

"Here, take my truck," he said. "She not the best thing you ever looked at, but she runs really good."

George helped the woman into the truck and watched as it sped off into the night. He turned and walked back inside the office.

"Glad I gave 'em the truck, their tires were shot too. That ol' truck of mine has brand new tires." George thought he was talking to the stranger, but the man had gone. The thermos was on the desk, empty, with a used coffee cup beside it.

"Well, at least he got something in his belly," George thought.

George went back outside to see if the old Chevy would start. It cranked slowly, but it started. He pulled it into the garage where his truck had been. He thought he would tinker with it for something to do. Christmas Eve meant no customers. He discovered the engine block hadn't cracked at all; it was just the bottom hose on the radiator.

"Well shoot, I can fix this," he said to himself. So he put a new one on. "Those tires ain't gonna get 'em through the

winter either," he took the snow treads off of his wife old Lincoln. They were like new and he wasn't going to drive the car anyway.

As he was working, he heard shots being fired. He ran outside, sitting beside a police car, an officer lay on the cold ground. Bleeding from the left shoulder, the officer moaned, "Please help me."

George helped the officer inside as he remembered the training he had received in the Army as a medic. He knew the wound needed attention.

"Pressure to stop the bleeding," he thought.

The uniform company had been there that morning and had left clean shop towels. He used those and duct tape to bind the wound.

"Hey, they say duct tape can fix anything," he said, trying to make the policeman feel at ease.

"Something for the pain," George thought. All he had was the pills he used for his back.

"These ought to work," he put some water in a cup and gave the policeman the pills.

"You hang in there; I'm going to get you an ambulance."

The phone was dead.

"Maybe I can get one of your buddies on that there talk box out in your car." He went out only to find that a bullet had gone into the dashboard destroying the two-way radio. He went back inside to find the policeman sitting up.

"Thanks," said the officer. "You could have left me there. The guy that shot me is still in the area."

George sat down beside him, "I would never leave an injured man in the Army and I ain't gonna leave you."

George pulled back the bandage to check for bleeding. "Looks worse than it does. Bullet passed right though 'ya. Good thing it missed the important stuff though. I think with time you're gonna be right as rain."

George got up and poured a cup of coffee. "How do you take it? He asked.

"None for me," said the officer.

"Oh, yer gonna drink this. Best in the city. Too bad I ain't got no donuts." The officer laughed and winced at the same time.

The front door of the office flew open. In burst a young man with a gun.

"Give me all your cash! Do it now! The young yelled. His hand was shaking, and George could tell that he had never done anything like this before.

"That's the gut that shot me!" exclaimed the officer.

"Son why are you doing this?" asked George. "You need to put the cannon away. Somebody else might get hurt."

The young man was confused. "Shut up old man or I'll shoot you, too. Now give me the cash."

The cop was reaching for his gun.

"Put that thing away," George said to the cop. "We got one too many in here now."

He turned his attention to the young man.

"Son, it's Christmas Eve. If you need money, well then, here it ain't much but it's all I got. Now put that pea shooter

away."

George pulled out \$150, out of his pocket and handed it to the young man, while reaching for the barrel of the gun at the same time. The young man released his grip on the gun, fell to his knees and began to cry.

"I'm not very good at this, am I? All I wanted was to buy something for my wife and son," he went on, "I've lost my job, re rent is due, my car got repossessed last week."

George handed the gun to the cop.

"Son, we all get in a bit of a squeeze now and then. The road gets hard sometimes, but we make it through the best way we can."

He got the young man to his feet and sat him down on a chair across from the cop.

"Sometimes we do stupid things." George handed the young man a cup of coffee. "Bein' stupid is one of the things that makes us human. Comin' in here with ain't the answer. Now sit there and get warm and we'll sort this thing out."

The young man had stopped crying. He looked over to the cop.

"Sorry I shot you. It just went off. I'm sorry officer."

"Shut up and drink your coffee." The cop said. George could hear the sounds of sirens outside. A police car and an ambulance skidded to a halt. Two cops came through the door, with guns drawn.

"Chuck! You ok? One of cops asked the wounded officer."

"Not bad for a guy who took a bullet. How did you find me?"

"GPS locator in the car. Best thing since sliced bread. Who did this? the other cop asked as he approached the young man. Chuck answered him.

"I don't know. The guy ran off into the dark. Just dropped his gun and ran."

George and the young man both looked puzzled at each other.

"That guy work works here?" The wounded officer continued,

"Yep," George said. "Just hired him this morning. The boy lost his job."

The paramedics came in and found Chuck and loaded him into the stretcher. The young man leaned over the wounded cop and whispered, "Why?"

Chuck just said, "Merry Christmas boy and you too George and thanks for everything."

"Well, it looks like you got one doozy of a break there. That ought to solve some of your problems,"

George went into the back room and came out with a box. He pulled out a ring box.

"Here you go, something for the little woman. I don't think Martha would mind. She said it would come in handy someday."

The young man looked inside to see the biggest diamond ring he ever saw.

"I can't take this," said the young man, "it means something to you."

"And now it means something to you." Replied George.

"I got my memories. That's All I need." George reached into the box once again. An airplane, a car, and a truck appeared next. The toys that the oil company had left George to sell.

"Here's something for that little man of yours."

The young man began to cry once again as he handed back the \$150 that the old man had handed him earlier.

"And what are you supposed to buy Christmas dinner with? You keep that too." George said. "Now git home to your family."

The young man turned with tears streaming down his face.

"I'll be here in the morning for work if that job offer is still good."

"Nope. I'm closed Christmas day." George said, "Seeya the day after."

George turned around to find that the stranger had returned.

"Where you come from? I thought you left."

"I have been here. I have always been here." Said the stranger. "You say you don't celebrate Christmas. Why?"

"Well, after my wife passed away. I just couldn't see what all the bother was. Puttin' up a tree and all seemed a waste of a good pine tree. Bakin' cookies like I used to with Martha just wasn't the same by myself and besides, I was getting' a little chubby."

The stranger put his hand on George's shoulder.

"But you do celebrate the holiday, George. You gave me food and drink and warmed me when I was cold and hungry. The woman with child will bear a son and he will become a great doctor. The policeman you helped will go on to save 19 people from being killed by terrorists. The young man who tried to rob you will make you a rich man and not take any for himself. That is the spirit of the season and you keep it as good as any man."

George was taken aback by all this stranger had said,

"And how do you know all this?" asked the old man.

"Trust me, George. I have the inside track on this sort of thing. And when your days are done you will be with Martha once again."

The stranger moved towards the doors.

"If you will excuse me, George, I have to go now. I have to go home where there is a big celebration planned."

George watched as the old leather jacket and the torn pants that stranger was wearing turned into a white robe. A golden light began to fill the room.

"You see George, it's my birthday. Merry Christmas George."

George fell to his knees and replied, "Happy birthday, Lord Jesus."

"Merry Christmas to us all!!!"

Author Unknown.



Pin-Pin's Recipe Corner

Orion Rhombolian Butter

INGREDIENTS

8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter
½ shallot, diced

1 to 2 cloves garlic, minced, to taste
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
¼ cup clam juice or chicken broth
¼ cup white wine
¼ cup milk
Pinch of white pepper
Splash of lemon juice
Smoked paprika, for garnish

In a small saucepan, melt 1 tablespoon of the butter over medium heat. Add the shallot, and garlic and cook until soft and fragrant, several minutes. Stir in the flour and cook for 1 minute longer, then gradually add the clam juice, wine and milk and cook until the mixture has somewhat thickened. Add the remaining butter 1 tablespoon at a time, allowing each portion to melt first. Season with the white pepper and lemon juice.

Transfer the mixture to a glass measuring cup or deep bowl. Puree with an immersion blender until completely smooth. Then transfer to a clean dish. The butter will keep refrigerated and covered for about 1 week.

For individual platings, allow the butter mixture to cool to room temperature, then pipe into small dishes with a decorative tip create separate butter pats. Dust with smoked paprika.

Ferengi Tube Grub Skewers

INGREDIENTS

Skewers

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoons unsalted butter
½ pound gnocchi
1 (14-ounce) can marinated artichoke hearts, drained and quartered
6 ounces mozzarella, cubed
Bunch of fresh dill, for garnish

Millipede Sauce

1 tablespoon unsalted butter
2 ½ tablespoons sesame seeds
½ cup heavy cream
½ cup crumbled blue or goat cheese
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Skewers

Prepare the skewers: In a medium saucepan, melt together the olive oil and butter over medium heat. Add the gnocchi and cook for 5 to 10 minutes until a light golden brown. Flip the pasta over and continue cooking until both sides are a toasted golden brown.

To assemble the skewers, alternate gnocchi, artichoke hearts, and mozzarella with small pieces of dill until the entire skewer is full. Hold at room temperature while you make the sauce.

Millipede Sauce

Make the millipede sauce: In a saucepan, melt the butter over medium heat, then continue to cook for a few minutes, stirring occasionally, until golden brown and fragrant. Stir in the sesame seeds, followed by the heavy cream. When the cream is warm, add the cheese and stir until the mixture is smooth. Remove from the heat and stir in the Worcestershire sauce.

Serve the sauce warm either drizzled over the skewers or on the side as a dipping sauce.

Andorian Spice Bread

INGREDIENTS

Dough

1 cup warm milk
3 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
1 large egg
2 teaspoons sugar
2 tablespoons instant (fast acting) yeast
3 ½ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling out
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Filling And Glaze

½ cup packed light brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon Chinese five-star powder

1 egg, beaten with a splash of water

Make the dough: In a large bowl, combine the warm milk, melted butter, egg, sugar, yeast, and 1 cup of the flour. Add the salt and vanilla. Gradually add enough of the remaining flour to make a dough that is no longer sticky. Turn the dough out into a lightly floured surface, then knead for several minutes until it bounces back when poked. Place the dough in a lightly oiled bowl, cover with plastic wrap or a damp towel, and allow to rise in a warm location until doubled in size, about 1 hour.

Meanwhile, make the filling: In a small bowl, combine the brown sugar and spices. Set aside.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Deflate the dough and divide into 4 equal pieces. Working with one piece of dough at a time, roll out on a floured surface to a round of no more than ¼-inch thickness. Transfer to the prepared baking sheet and brush with beaten egg, then evenly sprinkle one-third of the filling over top. Repeat with the next piece of dough and another one-third of the filling. Repeat a final time. Roll the fourth piece of dough and set on top of the stack.

Using a small glass of cookie cutter 1 to 2 inches across, gently mark a circle in the middle of the dough. Leaving this center intact, slice the dough outward into 16 equal wedges. Select 2 wedges next to each other, and gently twist them in opposite directions, which should give you the decorative Pattern. Repeat all the way around the loaf. Allow the bread to rise for another 30 minutes.

Meanwhile preheat the oven to 350F.

Bake until fragrant and golden brown, about 25 minutes.

Klingon Lingta Roast

INGREDIENTS

2 pounds pork tenderloin,
Trimmed of any fat.
2 pears, halved, cored, and cut
lengthwise into slices ¼ inch
thick.
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
1 tablespoon olive oil
¼ teaspoon smoked paprika
½ recipe savory Risan Fettran Sauce
(March 2023 issue) or 1 recipe Klingon
Grapok Sauce (August 2023 issue))

Preheat the oven to 375F. Line a baking sheet with either foil or a silicone baking sheet.

Using a sharp knife, cut vertical slits across the pork almost all the way through to the bottom every ½ inch or so. Place a slice of pear into each of these cuts and curl the tenderloin into a decorative shape in the pan. In a small bowl, combine the balsamic vinegar, olive oil, and smoked paprika. Baste the pork with this mixture, making sure to get plenty into the cuts.

Transfer the pan to the oven and roast until the pork is cooked through and the pears have softened, about 40 minutes.

Serve with your choice of sauce.

Deep Space Nine Fanalian Toddy

INGREDIENTS

8 ounces boiling water
1 chamomile tea bag
1 ounce whiskey
1 ounce Syrup of squill
(April 2023 issue)

Honey, to taste

Pour the boiling water over the tea bag in a heatproof mug. Let steep for at least 3 and up to 5 minutes, then stir in the whiskey and Syrup of squill. Sweeten with honey to taste. Enjoy hot.

Note: If you are fresh out of Syrup of Squill, a dollop of rose-hip or berry jam can be substituted.



Antlia Constellation

The Second of Eight-Eight Constellations

This next constellation is somewhat unremarkable in nature, but because of the person that first discovered the constellation it would still make the list of the eighty-eight known constellations.

The name of this constellation is Antlia. The name itself is pronounced Ant-lee-uh, the air pump. The IAU's (International Astronomy Union) abbreviation for this constellation is ANT. The position of these group of stars can be found at right ascension ten hours, declination minus thirty-five degrees.

It covers an area of 238.901 square degrees. The constellation crosses the meridian at 9p.m, on April 15. Antlia is visible between latitude at forty-five degrees and minus ninety degrees in the southern hemisphere quadrant two, between the months of January through March.

It ranks sixty-six in size. Antlia is boarded by the constellations Centaurus, Hydra, Pyxis, and Vela. And it occupies an area of the sky that mostly contains faint stars. There is no mythological association with this constellation. This is in part because Antlia constellation is too far south of the equator for the Greeks to have discover it.

Antlia constellation is one of fourteen constellation discovered by the French astronomer Abbie Nicolas de Lacaille (March 15, 1713-March 21, 1762, 49). Antlia was first catalogued in Lacaille's Coelum Australe Stelliferum. His book was posthumously published in 1763. The catalogue includes some ten thousand southern stars, forty-two nebulous objects and fourteen constellation known as the Lacaille family.

Originally known as "Antlia Pneumatic" to commemorate the invention of the air pump by the French physicist Denis Papin. The constellation name Antlia was officially adopted by the IAU in 1922.

The brightness of the Antlia constellation is extremely faint and none of it stars goes beyond a magnitude five. The brightest of the four stars is Alpha Antlia with the magnitude of 4.28. It is three hundred and sixty-five light years from Earth. The second brightest is Epsilon Antlia with a magnitude of 4.51. The star is seven hundred light-years from Earth. Third star on our tour is Iota Antlia. It is the third brightest in the constellation with the magnitude of 4.60, and is one hundred and ninety-nine light-years from Earth. Now these three stars are all orange giant stars. The next star is somewhat different. Theta Antlia is the forth brightest star. It has a magnitude of 4.79. It is three hundred and eighty-four light-years from Earth. What makes this star system different from the other three stars is that it is a binary star system.

The constellation contains no known Messier objects, but it does contains the Antlia Dwarf spheroidal galaxy that is 4.3 million light-years from Earth. A spheroidal galaxy is a term used in astronomy to describe a small, low-luminosity galaxy with very little dust and has an older stellar population. They are found in the local group as companion to the Milky Way and to systems that are companions to the Andromeda galaxy (M31).

While similar to dwarf elliptical galaxies in appearance and properties such as little to no gas or dust or any recent star formations. They are approximately spheroidal in shape and generally have a lower luminosity. This spheroid galaxy does has some neighbors of its own. And those neighbors are NGC 2907. That galaxy is an unbarred spiral galaxy. They are also known as a grand design galaxy; this means that spiral arm is clearly defined. And about ten percent of the known galaxies are of the grand design. Also included in this group are NGC 3244, 2560, 2545, 3258, 3268, 3260, 3269, 3267, 3281, and 3271.

As a whole the Antlia cluster contains about 234 individual galaxies. Objects that are extremely faint and can only seen by a large telescope. Antlia cluster also belongs to the Lacaille family of constellations that also include Calum, Circinus, Fornax, Horologium, Mensa, Microscopium, Norma, Octans, Pictor, Reticulum, Sculptor, and Telescopium.

End of report.

Source material

The Constellations on Sea and Sky

Constellation: A Guide to the Night Sky

Laugh About It

Talk To Yourself, First

It's ok to talk to yourself, and it's ok to answer yourself. But it's sad when you have to repeat what you said because you weren't listening.

The Netflix Generation

I feel sorry for Netflix era kids. They will never know the high stakes adrenaline of running to the bathroom/fridge/bedroom in a single ad break, with the beckoning call of a sibling screaming "It's ONNNNN" to send you hurdling over furniture to get back in time.

Give Me Reason

An old man was driving his Lamborghini at a 100 miles an hour.

When suddenly he sees the police chasing him. So, he starts speeding up, 140, then 150, and then 180. Suddenly he slows down and thinks, "I'm too old for this." He pulls over and waits for the police to catch up. The officer gets out of his car and approaches the old man's Lamborghini and stops outside the door and says, "Sir, my shift is ending in 10 minutes. Today is Friday and I'm leaving this weekend with my family. If you give me a very Good reason that I've never heard before, and I'll let you go."

The old man looks at him, thinks very hard and says, "Years ago, my wife ran away with a policeman and when I saw you chasing me I thought you're bringing her back." "A good day to you sir." said the policeman. He then went

back to his car and left.

Self-Checkout People

Walmart announced they will be closed on
Thanksgiving so that us self-checkout
folks can be with our family's.

Is This Our Child?

After ten years a wife started to think their child
looks kinda strange. So, she did a DNA test and
found out the child is not theirs, she told her husband
what she found out, the husband replied, "you don't
remember do you? When we were leaving the hospital
the baby pooped and you told me go and change him so
I went inside got a clean one and left the dirty one there."

The wife fainted.

Couples Counseling

At a couples counseling meeting the speaker mentioned
that couple are so disconnected that eighty-five percent of
husbands don't even know their wives favorite flower.

Mick turned to his wife and whispered,
"it's self-rising, isn't it?"

When You're Young

When you're young and you drop something,
you just pick it up.

When you're older and you drop something,
You stare at it for a while, wondering if you
actually need it anymore,

That Is An Ouch

Wife: "I have a bag full of used clothing I'd
like to donate."

Husband: "Why not just throw it in the trash?
That's much easier."

Wife: "But there are poor starving people who
can really use all these clothes."

Husband: "Honey, anyone who fits into your
clothing is not starving.

The husband is recovering from a head injury now.

Twass the Night Before

Twass the night before Christmas
He lived all alone
In a one-bedroom house made of
Plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney
With presents to give
And to see just who
In this home did live.

I looked all about
A strange sight I did see
No tinsel, no presents
Not even a tree.

No stocking by the mantle
Just boots filled with sand
On the wall hung pictures
Of far distant lands.

With medals and badges
Awards of all kinds
A sober thought
Came through my mind.

For this house was different
It was dark and dreary
I found the home of a soldier
Once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping
Silent. Alone
Curled up on the floor
In this one-bedroom home.

The face so gentle
The room in such disorder
Not how I pictured
A United States Soldier.

Was this the hero
Of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho
The Floor for a bed.

I realized the families
That I saw this night
Owed their lives to these soldiers
Who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world
The children would play
And grownups would celebrate
A bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom
Each month of the year
Because of the soldiers
Like the one lying here.

The very thought
Brought a tear to my eye
I dropped to my knees
And started to cry.



The soldier awakened
And I heard a rough voice
"Santa don't cry
This life is my choice.

I fight for freedom
I don't ask for more
My life is my God
My country, My Corps."

The soldier rolled over
And drifted to sleep
I couldn't control it
I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours
So silent and still
And we both shivered
From the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave
On that cold, dark, night
This guardian of honor
So willing to fight.

Then the Soldier rolled over
With a voice soft and pure
Whispered, "Carry on Santa,
It's Christmas day, all is secure."

One look at my watch
And I knew he was right
"Merry Christmas my friend.
And to all a good night."

This is dedicated to those who are
serving overseas and cannot be home
with their loved ones this holiday season.
From the staff of the StarLight and the
Crew of USS BRIGHTSTAR
Come home, come home safe and
sound.



Oops, Did We Lose Something?

Even N.A.S.A. astronauts on occasion, will have a case of the oopsies, even in space. Case in point, an incident that recently took place. One of the tool bags that they were using at the International Space Station (ISS), was lost during a spacewalk that took place on November 1. This happened when one of the astronauts lost their grip on the tool bag they were using at the time. The bag can be seen just by using a pair of binoculars. The tool bag has shown up in a picture taken by the Virtual Telescope Project on Wednesday November 15.

"The image came from a single 2-second exposure," project founder Gianluca Masi wrote in a statement. Alongside the image. "The object looks like sharp dot of light in the center, as the telescope tracked it, so stars left a long trails on the background."

Astronauts Jasmin Moghbeli and Loral O'Hara were at the time, replacing a part on the solar array when the tool bag was "inadvertently lost" on November 1st, NASA wrote in a statement.

"Flight controllers spotted the tool bag using external station cameras. The tools were not needed for the remainder of the spacewalk," agency officials wrote. "Mission center analyzed the bag's trajectory and determined that risk of recontacting the station is low-and that the onboard crew and space station are safe-with no action required."

The tool bag itself will continue to orbit the Earth for a few more months until it enters Earth's atmosphere and burn up above the surface at 70 miles (113 kilometers) in altitude. The bag is currently at an altitude of 258 miles (415 kilometers) above the surface of the planet.

The tool bag has been given the designation 58229/1998-067wc by the U.S. Space Force catalog system for artificial object, Harvard & Smithsonian center for Astrophysics astronomer Jonathan McDowell (who also tracks space launches, landing, and re-entries) shared on X, formerly Twitter.

NASA monitors any space debris that comes within a multi-mile "pizza box" shape that surrounds the ISS. In its twenty-four years of services, the station has had to move itself a total of forty times. NASA uses a 1-in-10,000 chance threshold to keep the crew safe.

At the rate of launches, and satellites being put in orbit have grown over the years, and the potential for more space junk is climbing. The European Space Agency has model that have shown that these space junk may be more than 130 million piece of space debris that are as small as a millimeters in size. Trackable space junk are far fewer in number.

Union of Concerned Scientists say there may be 6,718 satellites in Earth orbit, and most of those are from SpaceX link spacecraft. North American Aerospace Defense command (NORAD) follows over 45,000 objects in Earth orbit.

This is according to SpaceTrack.org, to a range of roughly 2 inches (5 cm). Astronauts practice the procedure for spacewalks on the ground for hours and hours on end

before even attempting it in space. They practice on how to safely carry themselves and their equipment around the 356-foot-wide (109) complex, and yet, despite all that training, using those bulky spacesuit gloves, it is easy to lose tools and lose your grip on a tool bag and other items in space.

In 2008, astronaut Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper was working on a jammed gear on the station's solar panel when the tool bag she was using, slipped out of her grasp. In 2006, the late astronaut Pier Seller lost a spatula in space during a routine repair on the Shuttle Discovery's heat shield during an STS-121 mission.

End of report

Source material
Space.com

Brightstar Notes

The first meeting of the Brightstar was held on November 9, 2023, at 11:15 p.m. The first subject, donation to the Wheeler Mission of Indianapolis. A donation of \$25.00 was collected from the crew for the Mission.

The second subject was the newsletter and birthdays. The first officer realized that he had forgotten to add in a birthday for the November issue of the StarLight newsletter. The first officer promised that he would mention the crew person birthday in the December newsletter.

The first officer also stated that he would be doing a series of article on astronomy, more specially on the constellations. He also stated that it will take him a total of eighty-eight issues or a total of seven years and four month to complete.

The next subject was on Starbase Indy and the fleet meeting, and who be would attending the convention. The captain said that she would attending the convention, but she wasn't sure about the fleet meeting. The first officer said he could not make it due to transportation, but he would be attending the fleet meeting via Messenger Live.

The next subject was promotion for the crew. Captain Henderson said that she still has not heard anything about promotion from fleet. Those who are up for promotion are as follow; Kenny Charron, Tess Charron, Josh Charron, Micheal Charron, Donald Henderson, Kathy Graves(Henderson), and James Webb.

Next subject was individual plans for Thanksgiving Day. Some had plans to visit family, while others would have Thanksgiving dinner at home and would be staying home for the holiday. The rest of meeting fell into a general chit-chat session. The meeting was finally called to a close at 1:30 a.m.

The second meeting for the Brightstar was held on November 27, 2023, at 10:59 p.m. This meeting was held just two days after the close of Starbase Indy.

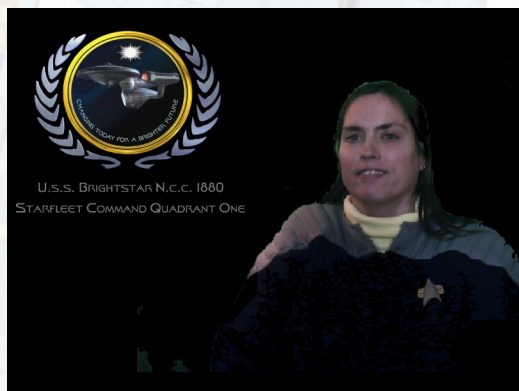
First subject was about the donation to Wheeler Mission in Indianapolis. Another \$25.00 was collected for the mission. This was to cover December donation. For the year so far the Brightstar has donated \$100.00 for Wheeler Mission.

The commanding officer relayed that while she went to Starbase Indy she late getting to convention and was unable to attend the fleet meeting. But was able to pick up the awards the Brightstar had won at the meeting. The total count was four awards. First award was for Retention. The second was for Newsletter of year (2nd place), website of the year (2nd place) and small ship of year (1st place).

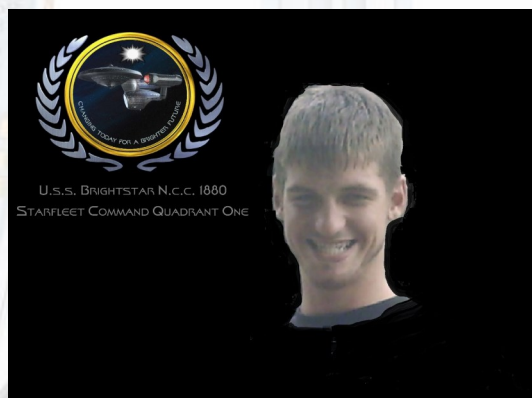
The commanding officer asked the first officer to give a shout out to the newest ship in Starfleet Command, the USS DAVID WOLFE based in Cincinnati, Ohio. She requested the shout out be in both the newsletter and on the ship's website. The meeting was called to a close at 12:15 a.m.

End of report.

Birthdays



Ensign Tess Charron
Chief of Operations
November 29



2nd Lieutenant Michael Charron
Chief of Marines
December 11

Funnies

HE WAS DRESSED ALL IN ARMOR, FROM HIS HEAD TO HIS FOOT,
AND HIS WARRIOR SASH WAS ALL TARNISHED WITH ASHES AND SOOT.

A BUNDLE OF BAT'LETHS HE HAD FLUNG ON HIS BACK,
AND HE LOOKED LIKE A FERengi JUST OPENING HIS PACK.



PARA
ABNORMAL
THECOMIC.COM

When you ask a cardiac nurse to
hang the Christmas garland



DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW, IN MY
RUSTY CHEVROLET,
DOWN THE ROAD I GO, SLIDING ALL THE
WAY. I NEED NEW PISTON RINGS, I NEED
SOME NEW SNOW TIRES. MY CAR IS
HELD TOGETHER BY A PIECE OF
CHICKEN WIRE.



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Minions, Marvelous Minions

OH, RUST AND SMOKE, THE HEATER'S
BROKE, THE DOOR JUST BLEW AWAY. I
LIGHT A MATCH TO SEE THE DASH AND
THEN I START TO PRAY-AY. THE FRAME
IS BENT, THE MUFFLER WENT, THE
RADIO'S OKAY. OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO
DRIVE THIS RUSTY CHEVROLET!!

Da Yoopers

WHO IS THIS HUSSY AND WHY IS SHE
SENDING YOU PICTURES OF HERSELF
WITH HER SKIRT OFF?



12/13

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*See You Next Issue,
See You In 2024*



*Have Safe Merry Christmas
Have Safe Happy New Year*