

Civilization Search  
123 Farrago Way  
Oakwood, CA

Richard Presley  
123 Park Drive  
Menlo Park, NJ

Dear Richard,

Would you like to participate in mankind's greatest adventure?

You might not have heard of our organization before, but we have been hard at work for more than a decade on the greatest search that our species has yet undertaken: the search for intelligent life elsewhere in the Galaxy. Well, or the Universe; we would actually be pretty happy with either.

Did you watch Battlestar Galactica growing up? We all did, and we never failed to be stirred by the opening credits, where bright stars and glowing nebulae are accompanied by the spine-tingling words:

"There are those who believe that life here began out there, far across the universe, with tribes of humans who may have been the forefathers of the Egyptians, or the Toltecs, or the Mayans. Some believe that there may yet be brothers of man who even now fight to survive somewhere beyond the heavens..."

Of course, we have long since replaced that childhood hope - that, somewhere out in space, Lorne Green was leading a ragtag fugitive fleet on the search for a place called "Earth" - with an adult and scientific recognition that intelligent life, should we find it, might be in a form radically different than our own.

But there is one similarity: that just as a series like Battlestar Galactica requires lots of funding, so a modern search for real intelligent alien life requires funding as well. And that is why we are writing to you: to give you the opportunity to give us money, which we will then turn around and use on buying radio telescope and transmitter time that... (Continues on Page 2!)