



**Waiting for dinner:** Left row, front to back: Fred Moulton, Frances Van Cleave and Kent Van Cleave. Right row, front to back: Jake Keaton, Patricia Mathews, Gary Rubin, Elizabeth Moon, Kay Metzger and Valerie Johnson.

*Photo by Karen Connell*

## CONVENTION

from page 4

resounding success, despite being held at a hotel about a quarter mile away from the Convention Center.

The folk from the Stanford University bloodmobile unit were happy, however, that we had arranged facilities inside in an air conditioned ballroom at the Fairmont.

Mike eased their worries about the slow early turnout by prowling the Convention Center with advertising and, possibly, judging from results, used a cattle prod to move donors on over. But, I can't vouch for that.

My blood pressure was down enough this time; and it was a pleasure to donate again after many years from the surgery that led to my somewhat early retirement.

We had 100 volunteers, from whom Stanford collected 80 units. Next year in

Toronto, our goal will be twice that. We're learning how to arrange these things. Mike and the LAFSF found a cache of pins Robert Heinlein originally designed and commissioned for donors years ago; the donors all received a pin; Ginny sent autographed copies of "I Will Fear No Evil" (and "The Cat Who Walks Through Walls" for those who donated last year).

I'm not sure how many of the authors we invited found time, but I know Elizabeth Moon spent the entire afternoon chatting with and thanking donors for their donation. A very nice lady, who is one of the advisory panelists who will select the winner of the new Heinlein Award for science fiction that will likely be awarded at next World Con in Toronto. We are honored to be a sponsor of that new, and really long-awaited, award, which our board member Yoji Kondo has organized.

## 40 years after Hugo

Saturday afternoon, Bill Patterson, Geo Rule, Dr. Robert James, and Cap. Herb Gilliland, a U.S. Navy Academy Professor of English who is also one of the Heinlein Award panelists, presented their panel on "Stranger in a Strange Land" called "40 Years After the Hugo." Again the room was packed to literal overflowing, people were actually standing outside the open doors in the hallway listening to the panel all throughout the hour and one-half it was scheduled. I squeezed in for a time, but gave up my place to one of the folk hanging in the hallway. I get to listen to Bill, Robert, and Geo all the time anyway. Geo is our newly appointed committee chair for scholastics and academics; and he's doing a bang up job organizing it.

Continued on page 7