

TORCON3

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for attending – he underwent surgery only three weeks ago, and two lobes of his left lung were removed, so he was under considerable “discomfort” as the medicos call it; but Simone, a wonderful lady, deserved even more commendation for making his attendance possible. Next I introduced Larry and Marilyn Niven. Larry is one of the Award judges, and so well known as an author to require no further introduction. Then came Art Dula, the Heinlein Prize Trustee and successor literary executor. Art’s

beautiful wife, Tamea, could not arrive in time for dinner, so we had seated Lt. Col. Sam Kramer, resplendent in his mess blues, whose devoted efforts at selling all the dinner tickets at our table merited his inclusion at the head table, next to Art. I next introduced Jeanne and Spider Robinson. Spider, a very well known author, is an Awards judge, but also was the Toastmaster Guest of Honor at Torcon3 and one special attraction of the dinner was the opportunity to see Spider actually wearing a tuxedo! He looked glorious! Black tie was optional. Dr. Kondo, whose daughter had been called up and is in Afghanistan, could

not attend, but had suggested black tie for the head table. It added tremendously to the tone of the affair. Next year be ready. See if it still fits. I suspect there will be even more guests wearing it, or the equivalent, in Boston. What was it they said about Robert Heinlein, ladies and gentlemen, that he’d even dress for dinner in the jungle?

I then introduced my sister, Jane Silver, who was lovely in her formal, and who lost the bet with my wife on who would be my keeper this World Con; and then on to introduce Gay and Joe Haldeman, who like Larry and

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Heinlein Awards: From left, Eleanor Wood (who jointly accepted for Mrs. Heinlein), recipient Michael Flynn, Awards Judge Spider Robinson, Amy Baxter (who accepted for Mrs. Heinlein), Awards Judges Joe Haldeman, Stanley Schmidt, and Larry Niven.

-- Photo by Geo Rule and Deb Houdek Rule.