

# THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY



## Virginia Edition Raffle Winner Libby Sharpe



Libby won the raffle of the full Virginia Edition during this year's Annual Meeting. She reports that the arrival of her special delivery coincided with a surprise visit from her son, a United States Marine.

“He saw the collection and was amazed. Starship Troopers is his favourite novel, and he said it's the favourite of several of his friends as well.

“Anyway, I shelved them, but left them in plastic to open one at a time as I read them. I did open The Star Beast, as it was my very first "big people book" (my first paperback I

bought that was not a kids book, a Scholastic book from school or a comic book). So it definitely has to be the first one in the set that I read!

“I really can't express how special receiving this award is to me. As I said, The Star Beast was my first paperback, and I immediately after dove into everything of his I could get my hands on, and there's probably no one else who has had such an influence on my life and way of thinking. I've never consciously noticed it myself, but over my lifetime I've had four totally unrelated people tell me that I'm like a character that stepped out of a Heinlein novel, so I guess some of that influence rubbed off. I remember when I made a pilgrimage about 25 years ago to his home in Butler and how amazing that was too. It's truly amazing how much of my life has revolved around RAH and his work.”

Congratulations to Libby! We hope you enjoy the set for many years to come.

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## In Memoriam: Dr. Yoji Kondo

Sadly, we must necessarily follow the joyful news above with sad news below.

We mourn the passing of Dr. Yoji Kondo on October 9, 2017. Dr. Kondo was an accomplished astrophysicist, science fiction writer, and a world-class martial artist. A friend of the Heinleins, Dr. Kondo was a founding director of the Heinlein Society, serving formally from 2002-2007. He

edited Requiem: New Collected Works by Robert A. Heinlein and Tributes to the Grand Master (first published 1992). He was the driving force behind the creation of the Heinlein Award in 2003, given to writers "for outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings [that] inspire the human exploration of space." Dr. Kondo was also honored by the independent selection committee as a 2013 recipient of the award. A full obituary of Dr. Kondo's life may be found via the Baltimore Sun website.

(link: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/obituaries/bs-md-ob-yoji-kondo-20171023-story.html>)

In the spirit of Paying It Forward that Dr. Kondo showed in his lifetime, the Heinlein Society has renamed one of its three scholarship awards for 2018 the Yoji Kondo Memorial Scholarship. 2018 will be the Society's seventh consecutive year providing scholarships. Our Virginia Heinlein Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to a female candidate majoring in engineering, math, or biological or physical sciences. The 2018 Kondo scholarship and our third scholarship may be awarded to any candidate in those fields, but includes Science Fiction as Literature as an additional eligible field of study. The amount of each scholarship award for 2018 is \$1500. For more information about our scholarship program you can follow the link.

(Link: <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/scholarship-program/>)



## Syfy Wire and Scholarships

Speaking of scholarships, The Robert. A Heinlein Scholarships and the Virginia Heinlein Memorial Scholarship recently made the top spot on a list of “11 Geeky Scholarships That Can Help You Pay For College” from Syfy Wire! Check out the [full article here](#), and check for updates on application timelines (and further information on the scholarships themselves) on [our website](#). The Heinlein Society is pleased to offer three scholarships annually, and are even more **thrilled to announce that this year’s scholarship award amount has increased to \$1,500.**

### Over 14,000 Books Sent!

The Heinlein For Heroes program (H4H) sends free books to troops, veterans, and military families. We send only to individuals or units that have requested SF material. Clearly many of our military men and women WANT to read good science fiction, including Heinlein. To meet that demand, our shipments go around the globe, as well as to veterans’ hospitals here at home.

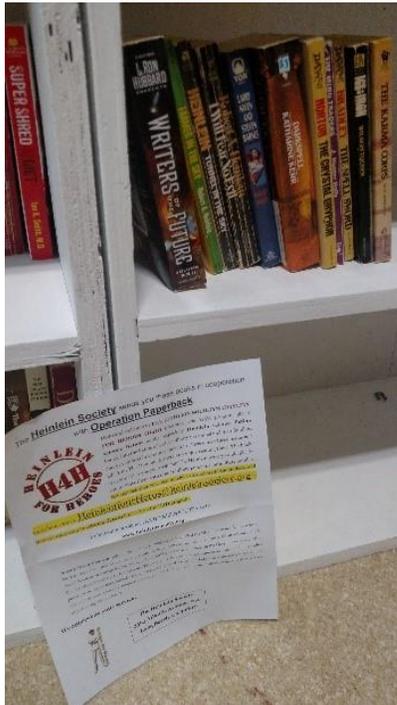


Contributions keep coming in, but your help is still needed. We need gently used paperbacks—and especially Heinleins, as we include Heinlein books in every shipment.

Money contributions are used to buy books wherever we find them (book dealers, eBay) at the right price. But free is even better than cheap. Is an SF friend or neighbor downsizing? You can help them and help us!

Go to [heinleinsociety.org/h4h/](http://heinleinsociety.org/h4h/) for information on where to send books or money.

## Heinlein For Heroes Continues Impact



To date and in the spirit of Paying It Forward, 15,569 science fiction books, always including at least one book by Heinlein, have been sent to service members and military treatment facilities. Recently, Army CPT Kubiak reached back to us to say,

*Sir / Ma'am,*

*Just wanted to shoot you a thank you note. We received a box of science-fiction books from the Heinlein Society in cooperation with Operation Paperback up at Site K in Turkey and they will make a great addition to the small library we are*

*building. It gets a little boring up here especially during the winter (we are located on the top of a mountain) so these books will help to give the Soldiers a fun activity for their time off shift.*

*Thanks again for your help!*

*To the team at Operation Paperback (CC'd). Thank you as well for setting up this program and for your help so far. We are starting to build a nice little library up here on the mountain.*

If monetary donation isn't in the plans this year, please consider donating your good condition science-fiction (and especially Heinlein!) paperbacks to Heinlein For Heroes at:

**Heinlein for Heroes  
2906 Alvarado Dr.  
Bellingham, WA 98229**



All permanent membership cards for those who became members on or before September 15th, 2017 have been shipped! Please contact Ken Walters at [membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org) if you have not received yours.

## Heinlein Headlines at NavyCon

The United States Naval Academy Museum, at Robert Heinlein's alma mater in Annapolis, recently announced an exciting event: NavyCon 2017. The keynote address entitled "Service, Citizenship, and 'Starship Troopers'" will be delivered by Congressman Mike Gallagher, a veteran of the Iraq conflict while serving with the Marines. Other sessions include panel discussions on "Maritime Security, Sea Lanes, Chokepoints and 'Star Trek: Deep Space Nine'" (Tim Choi, a PhD candidate); "Non-State Actors: The Case of 'Firefly'" (Jonathan Bratten); "Why Old Tech is sometimes the Right Answer: 'Battlestar Galactica'" (Jennifer Marland of the National Museum of the U.S. Navy); and "Acquisition Reform Implementation by the Galactic Empire in the Years Prior to the Battle of Yavin" (CAPT Mark Vandroff, USN, former Program Manager of the DDG-51 Program).

The event took place on Saturday, November 18th, but [the recorded livestream is available here](#).



## The Season of Giving is Here!

While many of us look forward to the day that we face the end of the year with too much cash, we all know that There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch. We trust that you enjoy The Heinlein Society as much as we enjoy your membership, and hope you will consider an end of year donation to THS. We're a 501(c)(3) organization, and 100% of your dues and donations go to our program operations. Unlike many charitable outfits, we use none of your funding for administrative support – no one on the Society's Board of Directors or our various committees receives a salary. No personal travel expenses are compensated unless they are ruled to have been of extraordinary service to the Society.

You can designate your donation specifically to a program that is significant to you like Heinlein Blood Drives, Education, The Heinlein Award (in partnership with the Baltimore Science Fiction Society), our three annual Scholarships, or Heinlein for Heroes. Undesignated donations enter our general operating fund to be used at the discretion of the Board. All donations are tax deductible.

**As we approach the end of the year, please consider The Heinlein Society in your giving plans.**

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Heinlein Society Monthly News and Updates for Members

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