

# The Heinlein Society

October 2004 and  
January 2005

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# newsletter

## To Honor Their Dear Friend



Photograph by and courtesy of BT Images, Sri Lanka

### A View at Six the Next Morning, Half a World Away! Sir Arthur C. Clarke receives The Heinlein Award.

**Boston, Massachusetts,  
Friday evening, September  
3, 2004 --**

When Arthur Clarke wrote his October, 1945 article in *Wireless World*, "Extra-Terrestrial Relays," which is widely credited with introducing the concept of world-wide communication through the use of satellites in geostationary orbits, it is easy to imagine him visualizing having conversations himself even with video half a world away by means of world-wide communications.

It's simply unlikely he thought at that time he'd one day, nearly a half-century later, awaken at the crack of dawn to dress, consume his morning cup of tea, and ac-

cept an award from a giddily excited group in a ballroom honoring him as having consistently written the kind of visionary and readable speculative fiction that Robert Heinlein introduced to the field in 1939.

Or, put another way, as Charles N. Brown, publisher of *Locus Magazine*, Sir Arthur's oldest friend at the banquet dinner, did, "If you're truly serious about presenting an award for outstanding published work in hard science fiction or technical writings inspiring the human exploration of space, you cannot ignore Arthur Clarke for one moment."

The presentation of the  
**Cont'd on Page Three**

## The Secretary-Treasurer's Table and Reports



Jane Silver at Noreascon Dinner

### Greetings and salutations from the Secretary's cubicle.

First, the good news: another WorldCon has come and gone, a really great one in Boston and our membership is as of the printing of this newsletter at 481. That is an fifty-nine percent increase since the beginning of the year 2004; and an increase of a total of 257 since we returned from TorCon, the WorldCon last year, significantly more than doubling our size. We held our annual General Meeting in Boston attended by approximately 58 current and new members.

For those unable to attend the General Meeting held in Boston the draft minutes (they are not approved until the membership approves them at next year's meeting) and financial reports may be obtained by E-mailing the Secretary at [secretary@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:secretary@heinleinsociety.org). If you request them, you no doubt will notice on the Balance Sheet an

item entitled Dues Receivable and see that we are carrying a substantial amount there.

Most of you have received the recent dues billing sent December 1, 2004. We sent dues invoices to the membership to enable you to pay those dues, now, within this calendar year so that you may be kept current. Dues are payable every year on January 1st.

Also expect to be included in our annual fund raising drive being matched by the Heinlein Trust so we may reap the mutual benefit in this and the future tax year.

Once again, we are making a last plea to those of you who have not paid your dues to bring them current as soon as possible.

I do not emphasize too much by saying we are unable to continue the work to further our goals without dues being paid. None of the board members, committee chairs and our wonderful and dedicated volunteers, all working so hard, should have to front the expenses of The Society for any reason for an inordinate length of time.

This is the most difficult part of the job. I much prefer working on the positive aspects: the dreams and creative endeavors that The Heinlein Society has set for itself. I would rather be saying with heartfelt joy we're running and jumping those hurdles, reaching the stars.

We've been lax in suspending those of our membership who have gone beyond one year's delinquency.

Our By-Laws stipulate in Article VIII that, "Any regular member in default in payment of dues shall be suspended from all privileges of membership, and if, after notice, the default is not cured within a period of thirty days, the membership of that member shall automatically terminate."

I had the sad and unpleasant duty of notifying forty-five delinquent members this year that their membership has been suspended. And, in the words of one of our board members, "We all sorrow whenever any brother leaves us."

Knowing I may have lost a few readers upstream, to those of you that have made it this far, I hope every one of you enjoy a happy and safe Holiday Season.

Now some more good news: we had a volunteer at NoreasCon Four. Pamela Somers, who helped so much with last year's Balticon blood drive, and the fan table and blood drive at WorldCon, volunteered to help and take on Membership Services.

Pam will do a great job to move things along.

Now all we need is a Library Committee chair, and active members for the committee.

Any victims, er -- volunteers?

Write or E-mail me at [secretary@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:secretary@heinleinsociety.org), please, and we'll talk. We truly need help to meet our dreams and endeavors that we have set to Pay it Forward.

Please pay your dues.

Jane Silver

**2004 Heinlein Award Live  
Audio Visual Presentation  
To Sir Arthur C. Clarke  
Cont'd from Page One**

2004 Heinlein Award, began at about 7:30 PM, by introducing Mr. Tedson Meyers.

Mr. Meyers, Chairman of the Arthur C. Clarke Foundation, was present, accompanied by his step-son, Brannan Schell, to physically accept the award medallion and plaque on Sir Arthur's behalf and to convey them to Sri Lanka. A noted lawyer in the telecommunications field, Mr. Meyers, recently retired from active practice, has other significant accomplishments ranging from command of a company in the 1st Marine Division in Korea in 1953 to being past president of the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC. After expressing his great pleasure to be present on Sir Arthur's behalf, Mr. Meyers briefly addressed the aims and accomplishments of the Clarke Foundation. While he was doing so, the connection with Sri Lanka was projected on a large screen behind the podium, and Sir Arthur C. Clarke appeared in person upon that screen visible to all the audience. Information about the Clarke Foundation may be obtained at <http://www.clarkefoundation.org/>.

Our presentation of the actual Award to Sir Arthur began with his introduction to the audience attending the dinner by Mr. Charles N. Brown, the senior incorporating member of the



**Left to Right:** Joe F. Haldeman, C. Herbert Gilliland, Tedson Meyers, Michael Flynn, and Larry Niven.

Photograph by and courtesy of David Silver

Society's board of directors, who has known Sir Arthur since 1953. The award was then presented by the four members present of the independent judges' panel for the award, authors Larry Niven, C. Herbert Gilliland, Captain, USNR, Ret'd, and Professor of English, USNA (Annapolis), Joe Haldeman, and Michael Flynn, last year's Heinlein Award recipient and the newest member of the independent judges' panel. Messrs. Niven, Haldeman and Flynn, we all know, are noted SF authors; however Capt. Gilliland is published too, and his latest non-fiction work, a edited and annotated historical journal, **Voyage to a Thousand Cares: Master's Mate Lawrence with the Africa Squadron, 1844-1845**, is reviewed on the Heinlein Society web site, and available from the Naval Institute Press (2003), ISBN: 1591143209.

"Although there have been many books written on the slave trade and many others on life in the ante-bellum Navy, no other book has succeeded so well at bringing to life the issues of America's role in the Middle Passage while exposing the thoughts of a nineteenth-century naval officer."

Mr. Niven noted in his leadoff during his and Captain Gilliland's presentation of the wall plaque for the award to Sir Arthur what appears to have been a consensus by all the judges, those present and not, that it was obvious to all that, if the Heinlein Award is to be made to living persons for excellence in SF and scientific writings advancing humanity's exploration of space, there is no living person who stands before and deserves the award more

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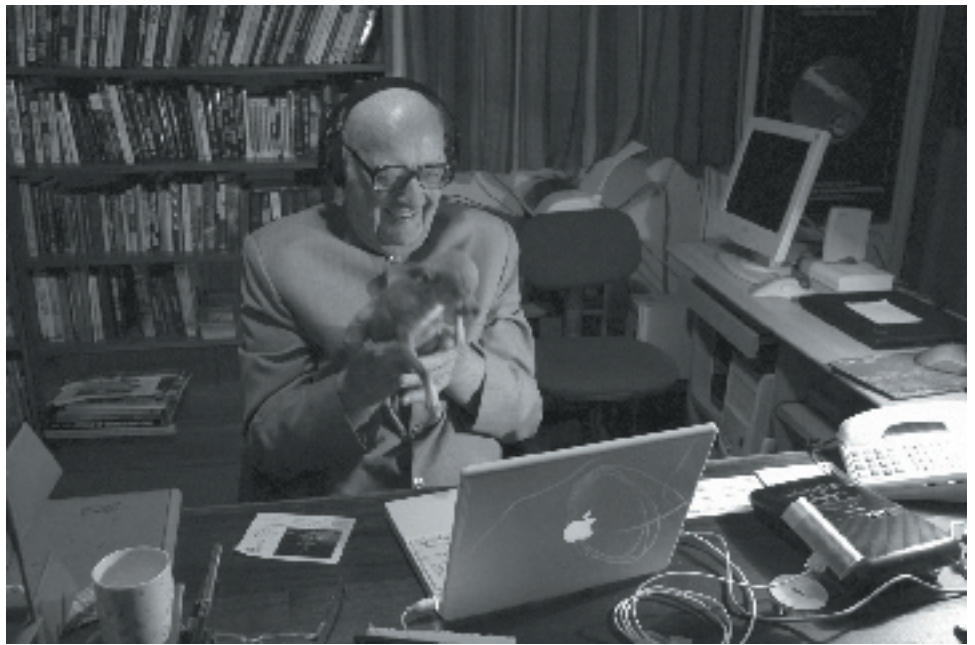


than Sir Arthur C. Clarke, for his lifetime of achievements. After Captain Gil-  
liland's further comments, Joe Haldeman and Michael Flynn awarded to Sir Arthur the silver medallion with the sculptured portrait of Robert A. Heinlein signifying the award.

Sir Arthur, by means of the invention of which he is the acknowledged "god-father," ComSat, then addressed the audience briefly. We thanked Sir Arthur for accepting the award and especially by participating in real time by an audio and visual connection. Sir Arthur was experiencing difficulty in the hearing the audio portion of the event in the ballroom; and in light thereof, we regretfully then terminated the connection with Sri Lanka.

We next started presenting the 1969 interview in which Arthur Clarke and Robert Heinlein discussed Apollo 11 with Walter Cronkite on the day of man's first moon landing.

Slightly more than midway through the 29 minute interview, an urgent telephone call was received from Sri Lanka. Technicians had significantly improved the audio feed on Sir Arthur's end, and he graciously requested the connection be restored as he wished to rejoin and address the evening's audience further. It was now a somewhat more civilized time in Sri Lanka as well, merely seven in the morning, not six-thirty.



Sir Arthur and the creature from the planet where they all have big ears.  
Photograph by and courtesy of BT Images, Sri Lanka

One thing, short of electrical failure or fire, would cause playing of the 1969 Apollo 11 interview to stop. Sir Arthur's request was it.

Sir Arthur then reappeared on screen and delighted the audience by his remarks and answers to their questions for an additional fifteen minutes. He introduced us to "Dainty" a small Chihuahua dog he has recently adopted. Dainty, he observed, possibly comes from a planet where the aliens have large ears.

Then, regretfully, after all questions were asked and answered, we again thanked Sir Arthur for his gracious and valuable participation in the night's affairs, and the connection to Sri Lanka was regretfully terminated.

A dance followed, and, later, there was the usual post mortem affair on into the wee hours in the Society's suite.

The event was recorded,

audio-visually, and a CD rom will be edited as a clear historical record of the event. Audio and visual was satisfactory throughout for those attending in the Ballroom in Boston; and while audio was originally a bit unsatisfactory to Sir Arthur on the Sri Lanka side for part of the program, a clear recording of what he could not hear for a time during the presentation will be provided, of course, to Sir Arthur, first.

A final comment by Michael Flynn after the harried judges, Mr. Meyers, and the MC retired for a quick taste immediately after the dance started:

"Who would have believed ten years ago we could do this with an \$150 piece of hardware?"

Ten days later, the Society gratefully received from Mr. Meyers a photo of Arthur C. Clarke wearing the Heinlein Award, and displaying the plaque.

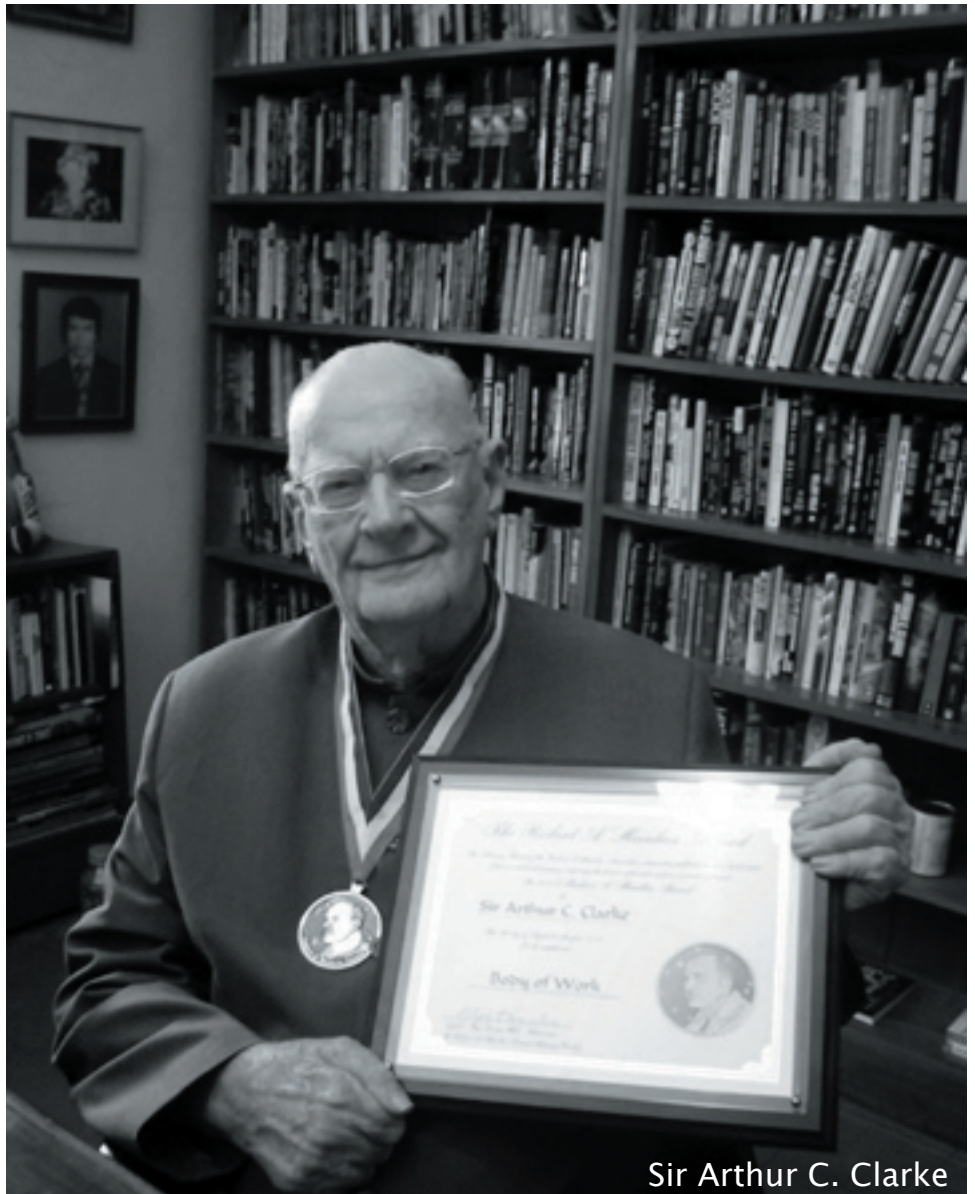
## Sir Arthur Clarke's Health Following the Tsunami

Sir Arthur was at home in Colombo, Sri Lanka on Sunday, December 26, when the recent tsunami struck. Many expressions of concern for his health were made. He reported on December 29, that he and all members of his staff were fine, although some were badly shaken. His report, requests and recommendations for aid for relief and rebuilding may be found here: <http://www.clarkefoundation.org/>

The Heinlein Society joins in the world-wide expression of relief for his safety.

His recommendations appeared in the **London Daily Mail** on Sunday, January 2, 2005, and appears web-published here: <http://www.clarkefoundation.org/news/releases/011005.html>

In it, he writes: "... For real changes to happen, Sri Lanka and other affected countries need sustained assistance and



Sir Arthur C. Clarke  
2004 Heinlein Award  
Recipient



Sir Arthur C. Clarke bids us adieu, from a half world away.  
Photograph by and courtesy of BT Images, Sri Lanka

constant engagement by the world's rich nations and corporations. They also need appropriate investments in technology and skills to stand on their own feet." Please read the rest of that worthwhile article. Help if you can.

The Heinlein Society expresses its grateful appreciation to BT Options, the Apple Computer, Asia, dealer in Sri Lanka. Without its expertise and dedication, the live video and audio presentation to Sir Arthur C. Clarke would not have been possible.





Michael Sheffield on video  
at dinner at Torcon III

### **Heinlein Society Blood Drives Committee Report**

Since the last newsletter we have sponsored four more blood drives, bringing our total to for 2004 to ten. In addition we supplied blood drive pins and support to several more.

In August we ran a blood drive at Gen Con in Indianapolis for the first time. Gen Con is the largest gaming convention in the U.S. with over 25,000 attendees. The drive was quite successful for a first of its kind, with 63 donors presenting and 51 units of blood collected. Thanks to Fran Van Cleave for heading up that effort. We followed up that success with a drive at Gen Con in Anaheim, California (December 2-5). The turnout was not as good as we had hoped for due to rain, but we still had 39 attempted donors and collected 22 units.

Over Labor Day weekend we had two blood drives going. At Noreascon 4 (the 62<sup>nd</sup> World Science Fiction Convention in Boston) we ensured the tradition of having a blood drive at each and

every Worldcon would not be broken. Though we did not have the support of the convention, we were nevertheless able to have a successful drive (48 donors, 41 units collected) thanks to the efforts of John Hodges, who organized the drive there, and the wonderful cooperation of Massachusetts General Hospital. MGH will also be working with us at Arisia in January, as they did this year.

Our other drive Labor Day weekend was at Dragon\*Con in Atlanta, run by a tag team of Jason Thomson, Scot Mealy, Dan Poore, Hugh Gregory and Michael Booker. The results were even more spectacular than our freshman outing there last year. We increased our total from 130 donors with 92 units collected, to an amazing 194 donors and 162 units of blood. The drive ran for all 4 days of the convention and we are looking forward to doing it again next year.

We also planned a drive at Philcon for the second year, organized again by Barry Berman, but it was cancelled just three weeks before the convention by either the Red Cross or the convention committee; we can't seem to get the same story from them both. We will hope for something more in December 2005.

Going forward, we are looking toward a record number of drives for 2005. First up we have Arisia in Boston which runs January 21-23. John Hodges will again be heading up that ef-

fort. Also scheduled for the same weekend is in Chattanooga, Tennessee, which David Wright is organizing.

Easter is shaping up to be a busy weekend. We have a drive scheduled at ConDor in San Diego, March 25-27. Some of you may recall that the San Diego Blood Bank was forced to drop our drive there last year due to budget cuts, but they will definitely be with us this year. Also Easter weekend we will have a blood drive at Minicon in Minneapolis. Geo and Deb Rule will be leading the team there. We were hoping to have a drive at Eastercon, the British National Science Fiction convention this year, but the National Blood Service was unable to accommodate us. However, they wish us to promote blood donation and, if possible, get signups for a donor session that is scheduled in the same hotel (Hannover International, Hinckley, Leicestershire) for two weeks after the convention. I am looking for THS members who can attend the convention and could support that effort. And, of course, we will be sending blood donor pins to the Norwescon blood drive in Seatac that weekend, and would like to offer help to the folks who run that drive if we have any members attending there.

Following that we are scheduled to be at the Star Wars Celebration III in Indianapolis, April 21-24. This convention is run by the same folks who do Gen Con, and they have been very en-

thusiastic about having us. We are already on the schedule for drives at both Gen Con Indy (August 18–21) and Gen Con in Anaheim (November 17–20). Then comes Leprecon in Scottsdale, Arizona (May 6–8). The convention is already on board and we are waiting to see if United Blood Services will be able to support the drive.

Memorial weekend may also be a busy weekend, for us. We will be doing our third annual blood drive at Balticon, which Pam Somers will be leading. John Tilden, who headed up that drive for the past couple years will be taking a well deserved break. Balticon has been very supportive of our drives and we appreciate their enthusiasm. We also are working to set up a drive at Kublacon, a gaming convention in Burlingame, California. The convention has already agreed and I'm waiting for confirmation that the Stanford Blood Center can support the drive. Their mobile unit is already scheduled for Baycon on Saturday that weekend. We will be sending blood donor pins (and bodies to help), so I plan to have the Kublacon drive Sunday.

We are also planning a bigger presence at Comic-Con International in San Diego this year (July 14–17). If you haven't heard, they have the longest standing blood drive of any convention we know. This will be their 29<sup>th</sup> annual Robert A. Heinlein Memorial Blood Drive. We have been giving them pins



**Left to right:** John Hodges and Pamela Somers, and her husband Bob Preisenger (center), blood drive volunteers extraordinary, relax and enjoy themselves, Saturday night in The Heinlein Society suite at WorldCon, after all the work was done. All three also put long stints in at the fan table.

for the blood donors for a couple of years now; and this year, in addition, we plan to have a table at the convention to promote blood donation and paying it forward with The Heinlein Society. We are also hoping to sponsor a prize in the masquerade for the best re-creation of a Heinlein character. The masquerade is the most attended event at the convention, with a typical attendance of 4,000. The convention itself has over 80,000 attendees.

We also scheduled for

our first ever blood drive at Demicon in Des Moines, July 29–31. We weren't able to get the blood drive scheduled there last year as the Iowa Blood Center was already booked up for the weekend. I'm looking forward to working with them.

We will also be running a blood drive at Interaction in Glasgow, Scotland the first weekend in August, continuing a five-year tradition of THS sponsored Worldcon blood drives. And I have contacted Due North, the 58<sup>th</sup> Westercon, about setting up a drive there over Independence Day weekend.

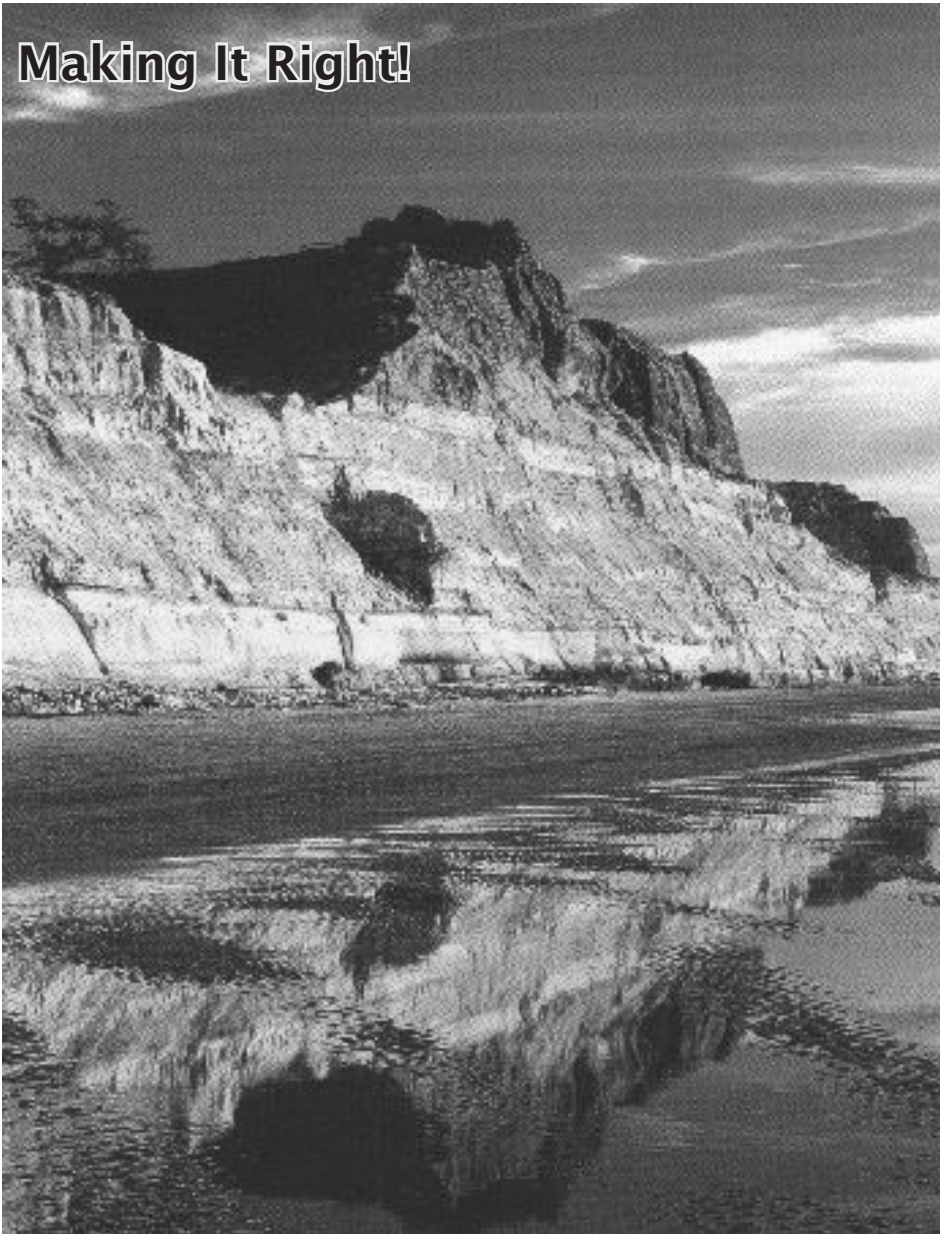
On Labor Day weekend we will have a blood drive at the Cascadia Con, the North American Science Fiction Convention in Seattle. They are quite eager to have us and are working with The Heinlein Society on a number of other events at the convention, as you will read about later in this issue.

That about covers what we have going so far; and I'm contacting more conventions every month, so look for more listings to come. As you can imagine, with so many events scheduled we always need volunteers to help staff them; and I will be contacting our members as the conventions get nearer to ask for assistance. Or you can contact me at [blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org) and volunteer.

Thank you all for your support, and for continuing to Pay it Forward.

Mike Sheffield

## Making It Right!



**Torrey Pines State Reserve:** These brightly illuminated golden orange sandstone beach cliffs, reflected in the color version of this photograph by the setting sunlight onto the slack tide below, at Torrey Pines, San Diego County, California, are the spot where Perry Nelson meets the accident that propels him into the future as Robert Heinlein's first science fiction hero in the long lost **For Us, the Living**. It is a most beautiful and restful site and a cherished public park, today. Sixty years ago a busy two-lane undivided highway, known as "Suicide Alley," ran in cuts midway up and alongside these wind-battered cliffs.

This December, I was dragged into a bookstore by my daughter who hitched a ride with me, to await her pleasure, while she picked up whatever gifts for whom-ever she had in mind. I wandered past the SF shelves and, as is my habit, glanced to see what Heinlein titles

were in stock.

Sitting there, minding their own business, were five copies of the newly-published paperback version of **For Us, the Living**. I had my copy of the hard cover since last year when we received a few advance copies to use at the reading we had Thanks-

giving weekend 2003.

Misprints in the first edition are always the bane of any author, editor, or publisher's existence. There had been a few, that some of our members and others have pointed out. We passed them on to the editor, hoping for a correction in subsequent editions.

I pointed out two myself to Ms. Sarah Knight, Simon & Schuster's editor -- but unless you live in Southern California, you probably didn't notice those: They are contained in the second chapter, at page 14 of the hard cover, after Diana queries her research service to verify from old newspapers what Perry is telling her, that he's a Navy officer who killed himself driving back to San Diego from Los Angeles when his car went off a cliff, throwing him out onto the rocky beach below.

The misprints involve the place of accident and name of one of the newspapers in which the reports appear.

The hard cover was typeset from at least a third generation Xerox copy of a second or third or later on-ionskin carbon copy of a typed manuscript. In places it's quite hard to read and, therefore, not inexcusable for a compositor to misread.

Most of the obvious hard parts were read correctly. There was one not so obvious to a non-resident of Southern California. As printed, the place, under the title of the newspaper report, reads "Torrey Fines, Califor-

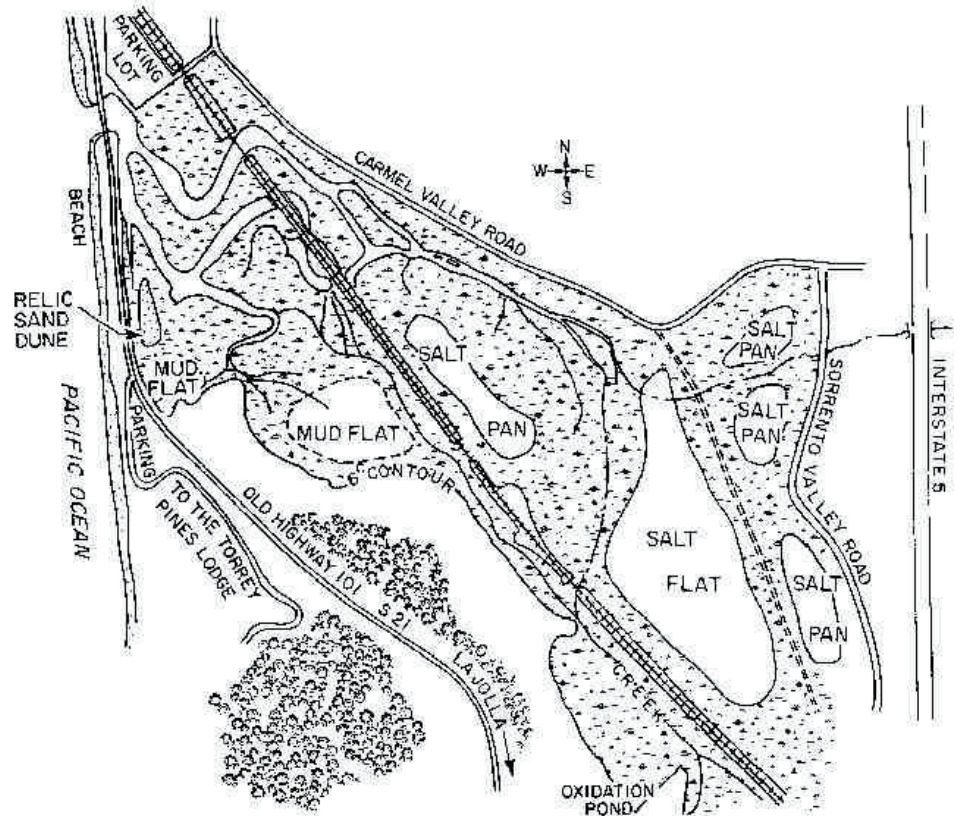


nia, July 12.” There’s no such place in California.

But there is, in San Diego County on a coast road, the place as written in the novel. Torrey Pines State Reserve in 1939 was a park owned by the City of San Diego, where the rarest pine in the United States and one of the rarest little trees in the world grows. Back to the original exploration of California, when Spanish sailors in the 1500s saw trees growing on a high bluff they marked it on charts as Punta de los Arboles or “Wooded Point.”

The Torrey Pine, shown below, is a beautiful little thing, restricted in range only to this windblown spot on the mainland and a few offshore channel islands.

The other misprint was easier. It was Heinlein’s mistake. The manuscript copy contained a homophone he incorrectly used: “... there were copies of pages of ... **The Harold Express** ... for July 13, 1939.”



**Topographic Map: Torrey Pines State Reserve.** The accident where Perry was run off the road could likely occur just North of the spot marked “Relic Sand Dune” above the “Mud Flat” where old Highway 101 turns Southeast to circle around the hill where today sits the “Torrey Pines Lodge.” Note that Interstate 5 to the East bypasses it today.

That was easy to see for a former ten-year-old news-boy who had a corner and later a bicycle home-delivery route from which he sold and delivered enough to buy his

first good baseball mitt, a half-century and more ago. **The Herald Express** was the Hearst afternoon paper in Los Angeles for years until it merged with Hearst’s morning **Examiner** and yet later closed after a ten-year strike beginning in 1968.

I thought you’d all enjoy a little note on these things; and that you’d like to know that we are publicly taking this opportunity to express gratefulness to editor Sarah Knight for her diligence in seeing the corrections made it into the new edition. Paperbacks make nice gifts, and we’ll buy them for that.

Thank you, Sarah! For catching those, and other, errors on the short hop.

David Silver



Geo Rule at  
TorCon III in  
2003

### Heinlein Society Education Committee Reports

Educators on a regular basis contact us here for help at The Heinlein Society. They ask for Heinlein books, lesson plans, and materials. While we do what we can, we know in our hearts so much more could be done if we only had the means. Not just for those teachers who have, on their own, taken the initiative to contact us. While we deeply appreciate the trust this implies, we know there are thousands more who haven't taken the initiative but would be open to our message if only we could make them aware of it.

Why? Because we have a great product to sell: the incomparable Heinlein works for young readers. They are both timeless and inspiring, and their subtle yet relentless pro-education message is one that any schoolteacher would be eager to put in front of her students.

How can we help the teachers who contact us? How can we reach those teachers who would be open to our agenda if only they knew about it? As so much

in this world, the answer is money. As much as we appreciate our members: there would be no Heinlein Society without you, the fact is a relatively small membership organization can only work so far on membership dues. To pursue the ambitious agenda that so many have told us you wish us to pursue, we also need to come to you, hat in hand, and ask you for the means to do what you urge us to do.

The good news is, once again, the Heinlein Prize Trust has promised to match all contributions for this and next year of those of you who answer this appeal, to double your generosity, so that Robert Heinlein's message of the survival of the human race through education and expansion to the stars can continue to be heard by future generations of youngsters.

How would we use this money? The Board has approved two programs, both aimed at raising the profile of the works of Robert Heinlein in the educational community.

The first:

#### **HEINLEIN SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST**

We proposed, several years ago, a scholastic writing contest for high school students in the United States and Canada. It will award prizes to students who submit the best essays on a designated topic. The goal is to encourage thoughtful written exploration of fundamental issues and challenges

facing human civilization in the 21st Century. The Society wants students to explore these challenges with imagination, information, insight, and integrity. Prizes will be awarded for the best essays. The prizes are to be:

**"The Robert A. Heinlein  
Gold Award for  
Scholastic Achievement"**  
(worth \$5,000)

**"Silver Award"** (\$2,500)  
**"Bronze Award"** (\$1,000)

Each prize also includes an award plaque and a letter of recognition from the Heinlein Society. Funds permitting, the Society may increase the amount of these prizes in subsequent years.

In addition to the prizes themselves, the Society requires your financial assistance in publicizing this contest in the major educational outlets, so that teachers all over the country will make their students aware of it.

In other words, we need a mailing list of schools you think may be interested in participating and a name of administrator or English department heads for each school or district.

The second:

#### **NASFiC/RFF CD ROM PRODUCTION**

Recently approved by the Board, this brings the Society into partnership with Reading For the Future (RFF), a group of educators committed to expanding the use of science fiction in the nation's classrooms. Several years ago, three noted SF authors, David Brin, Gregory Benford, and Gregory Bear, who of-



ten cite the influence Robert Heinlein had on their education and writing, founded the RFF movement. It has tried, with some success, to hold panels for educators at SF conventions since that time. We have agreed to lead an effort to create, and produce in mass, an Educator's Resource CD initially slated for use at next year's NASFiC, **Cascadia Con** in Seattle. NasFic is the convention held in the United States every so often when WorldCon is held outside North America, at the same time (Labor Day Weekend) when a WorldCon would otherwise be held. For the first time at NASFiC, there will be a special one day con-within-a-con for sympathetic educators to network and learn what resources are available to help. Hundreds of sympathetic educators may attend, many of them as their first experience with the community. It is a unique opportunity to promote the Heinlein works and message along with the wider message of the power of science fiction (when done well!) to educate and inspire young readers. The CD will include various materials, some publicly available in scattered outposts elsewhere, some specially approved to appear on this work, and others newly commissioned to appear here. As you might expect, the Society intends that materials on the Heinlein works for young readers will be well represented on this CD. After Cascadia Con, it is our inten-

tion as The Heinlein Society to continue to make the CD available to educators who are interested in this agenda and just need some help getting started.

The Board approved this program, knowing if it is as successful as we have every reason to expect it will be, that hundreds, even thousands of dollars eventually will be required to produce the CDs in mass and provide them to teachers. So, once again, we come back to money: yours and mine! to make it possible to spread the word on the power of the Heinlein works to inspire young readers.

These are just two educational programs that we need your urgent assistance to fund. Our contacts with education-related groups are paying off with an increased receptivity to our message and a growing respect in our ability to get things done. For that to continue and for it to grow to fill even a fraction of the need that we all know is there, it will require you to reach down deep and provide the means for us to do so.

TANSTAAFL! said the flag of Luna Free State, and it is just as true in pursuing the Heinlein agenda in education.

Please give us what you can.

E-mail [educationchair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:educationchair@heinleinsociety.org) and I'll help you earmark your donation by postal mail or PayPal to help fund these projects.

Geo Rule

## Annual Letter from Heinlein Chair at Annapolis



**Left to Right:** Vice Admiral John Ryan, Superintendent, USNA, Dr. Pisacane and Dr. Lois Wehren, M.D., his wife, at reception conducted in August 2001 at the Superintendent's Quarters, US Naval Academy.

Photograph courtesy of Wayne McCrea, USNA Photography Lab

James Cunningham, who is one of the trustees of the Heinlein Memorial Library in Butler, Missouri, recently received a letter from Dr. Vincent L. Pisacane, Ph. D., who occupies the endowed Robert A. Heinlein Chair in Aerospace Engineering. Mrs. Heinlein established that chair with a series of gifts, exceeding \$3 million by the time she was done, in August 2001.

Cunningham correctly thought we might be interested in the letter, and so, here it is:

**Thank you for your very nice note. It has been my good fortune that the Heinlein chair has given me the opportunity to share my research experiences with the Midshipmen at the Academy. I have enjoyed it. Thought I'd mention several of the extra-scholastic activities the Midshipmen were able to experience as a result of the endowment.**

Through my NASA funded research grant, four midshipmen were co-authors on a presentation of our research at a technical conference. The paper has also been accepted

**Cont'd on Page Fourteen**



# Teamwork In Preparing For The Society's

Next year's 2005 Society Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday, September 4, at the **North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC)**, during the September 1-5 U.S. Labor Day weekend, known as **Cascadia Con**, in Seattle, Washington, at the Seattle Hilton Conference Center near SeaTac, rather than a month earlier in August during WorldCon which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland. Our Society's annual corporate meeting will likely be held the following Monday, September 5.

We need now to discuss Cascadia Con because likelihoods in meeting several crucial goals of The Heinlein Society's goals have improved by teamwork and make this convention well worth attending.

## **Teamwork Between The Heinlein Society and Cascadia Con On The Awards Banquet**

Hugos, its readerships' premier awards for SF writing, are awarded only at WorldCons. Those awards will be presented in Scotland during August this year since Glasgow is hosting the WorldCon.

Years ago, Hugos were presented during an award banquet held at WorldCons; but that intimate ceremony, as award numbers and categories increased and the ceremony became longer, has necessarily fallen out of fashion in favor of a Holly-

wood Oscar-like stage performance, lasting most of the evening.

To return to tradition, The Heinlein Society has agreed, at Cascadia Con's offer, to open its annual Heinlein Award and Banquet to all convention attendees. Our usual black tie optional dress mode, and other forms will be maintained, as in bygone years when the Hugos were awarded at semi-formal banquets. In cooperation with Cascadia Con, a select number of other sponsoring organizations will present awards usually made at WorldCon when held in North America. To date, these will include the **Sidewise Award** and the **Golden Duck Awards**.

The Sidewise Award was created in 1995 to recognize excellence in alternate history. The award is named for Murray Leinster's short story "Sidewise in Time."

The Golden Duck Awards are presented for excellence in children's SF literature are given annually to picture books, books for middle grades, and books for young adults; the latter category is called the **Hal Clement Award**.

Other selected awards may also be included in the program.

Additional details regarding, time, location, dinner ticket cost (which we plan to reduce if possible) and other selected awards that may be included will be announced

in our next Newsletter, or by earlier E-mail bulletin as soon as possible.

## **Teamwork Between Cascadia Con, Reading For the Future/Developing Young Readers, and the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame**

It is particularly appropriate that we will be including the Golden Duck Awards. A major goal of The Society since inception has been to restore and increase use of good SF in classrooms and libraries.

Seattle is a unique venue for this effort, since it is the situs of the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of



Fame founded by benefactor Paul G. Allen inspire generations to new visions beyond the present, imagine the future and explore the infinite possibilities of the universe. Mr. Allen, of Microsoft, is well-known for his high regard of SF. His first SF reading, at age eleven, was Heinlein's **Rocket Ship Galileo**.

# 2005 Annual Awards Banquet and Meeting

Cascadia Con and the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame are teaming up to offer a top-notch Teacher's In-service for professional development credit on Thursday, September 1, 2005. Thursday opens with Cascadia Con Educators' Conference Coping with 2005: Future Teaching, Future Thinking. The conference charter is:

- To help teachers, librarians, home schoolers, parents and other educators develop programs to promote their learners' interest in reading by using SF.

- To explore effective use of science fiction in elementary and secondary classroom. Events include panels on curriculum creation, testing, and the merits of science fiction in curriculum integration.

- To produce a recommended reading list of speculative fiction available and suitable to the young reader.

- To engage in dialog with international educators and award winning writers, artists and scientists.

The Cascadia Educators and the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame Education team are planning to offer two tracks:

Cascadia Educators will offer a morning and afternoon "Developing Young Readers" track for teachers

of elementary age children; and SFM will offer two tracks: one on "Using Science Fiction to teach Science, Strategic thinking about the impact of today's changes on the future" and one on "Science Fiction in the English Classroom" for grades 7 - 12.

Teachers signing up for Thursday will receive 7 clock hours. Three additional hours worth of professional development panels will be offered over the course of the weekend that will allow teachers to sign up for the 10 clock hours total needed to make one college credit.

- Registration for the Educators Conference by current Cascadia Con members can be made through [memberships@cascadiacon.org](mailto:memberships@cascadiacon.org) at no additional charge.

- Educators wishing to attend only the Conference may register at [http://www.cascadiacon.org/EMC\\_reg.php](http://www.cascadiacon.org/EMC_reg.php).

Among those teaming up for this program are Heinlein Society members: Lynda Williams, a writer and educator from British Columbia; Robert James, a scholar and educator from Los Angeles; G. E. (Geo) Rule, Chair of our Heinlein Society's Scholastic/Academic committee; and David-Glenn Anderson, an educator from Utah, and de facto manager of the overall RFF/DYR program, inspired and founded in 1999 by writers David Brin, Gregory Benford, and Greg Bear. Both Mrs. Williams

and Dr. James have served past stints as our Society's Education Committee Chairs.

## **Teamwork Between Cascadia Con and Blood Drive Operators**

Northwest fandom have a long tradition of memorial blood drives. As Mike Sheffield's report notes, we are assured a drive will be held and, if facilities provide the room, on premises, which will get blood donation turnout back on track for one of SF fandom's most cherished traditions.

In sum, we are doing our best as "new kid on the block" to integrate our efforts into those of others for worthwhile goals we hold with them in common.

You can help:

- By registering now to attend Cascadia Com

- By supporting the Awards dinner by buying tickets as soon as final information becomes available

- By supporting the educational programs planned now and in the future by donations. If you are a teacher or librarian concerned about reading, you should attend them if at all possible. If you know teachers or librarians who might benefit, encourage them to attend by bringing these worthwhile efforts to their attention.

- By supporting the blood drive, donating if possible, and if not, by encouraging your friends, families and associates, and helping out.

See you at Cascadia Con!

Reading for the Future

## Annapolis Heinlein Endowed Chair's Letter Cont'd from Page Eleven

for publication in a technical journal. Recently, two other midshipmen gave a paper at a local technical conference that has been accepted for presentation at an international meeting in January in Reno. These projects address one of the potential barriers to human spaceflight, to assess the radiation environment in real time to warn astronauts to seek shelter. On another topic, another midshipman carried out a simulation that is part of an effort to modify the flight rules for the NASA Shuttle when it returns to service. She spent about 4 weeks at the Johnson Space Center (JSC) working with NASA engineers and astronauts, an exciting experience for her. The thermoregulatory simulation that she helped implement is now being used at JSC to carry out additional studies. In addition, I was able to take 5 midshipmen to Houston to carry out an experiment on the "vomit comet," NASA's airplane that flies parabolic loops to simulate zero gravity conditions.

"It has been my pleasure and honor to be the Heinlein professor and I will continue to try to live up to the expectations of this important and prestigious appointment.

Respectfully,

Vince Pisacane

R. A. Heinlein Professor of  
Aerospace Engineering, USNA

We think Ginny would be pleased with the progress of studies under the Heinlein Chair that she endowed. Thank you to Dr. Pisacane and thank you to Jim Cunningham, for sending a copy of the letter. Perhaps we'll receive further letters in the future from Dr. Pisacane.



Deb Houdek Rule at TorCon III

## Heinlein Society Web Site Committee Report

The Heinlein Society web site has grown rapidly this year, achieving high search engine rankings and an ever-growing number of visitors. Next year we will continue growth, making the web site the top choice for information on Robert Heinlein. We will add new material appealing to both novice and long-time, knowledgeable Heinlein readers, and academics.

Several major additions make the Society web site the primary resource for new, comprehensive information. In February, we added our **Photo Tour of Bonny Doon**, presenting a collection of photographs owned by Ginny Heinlein showing in detail Heinlein's seldom-seen home; we also added **A Heinlein Concordance** by M. E. Cowan with hundreds of cross-referenced pages of detailed information about Heinlein's works.

In June, we posted **Campbell on Heinlein: Selections from the John W. Campbell Letters**, an exciting piece of original academic work sponsored by the Society, selected and introduced by Society member Robert Gorsch, Professor of English at St. Mary's College of California. Last month, we provided Bill Patterson's **Photo Tour of the Heinlein Exhibit and Archives at the University of California at Santa Cruz**. In 2004, we've also published reprints of articles by Spider Robinson, J. Neil Schulman, L. Neil Smith, and C. W. Sullivan III.

Though the web site reflects the Society's positive view of Heinlein, we also will not hesitate to present material of a more controversial nature if it is well-researched, well-written, and thoughtfully presented. We will continue to add to our already fine collection of member articles reviewing and analyzing Heinlein books and stories. Upcoming additions to Heinlein History will include photos and articles of Heinlein's hometown of Butler, Missouri, and a genealogy of the Heinlein family.

We plan a more user-friendly message board as well as an interactive area, providing games and quizzes and a news source for the Heinlein community, with updated information on publications, movie rights and productions. We're still seeking a news reporter to take on this role.

Deb Houdek Rule



## Letters

"Keep your eye on that baboon; we'll be back to him."

-- "Pragmatics of Patriotism," by Robert A. Heinlein

From time to time we get letters, postal and E-mail. Recently I received one from Joseph Cantu, an Annapolis graduate, Class of 1976, who told me he'd been in the audience for Robert Heinlein's Forrestal Lecture that evening of April 5, 1973, when it was delivered. He asked whether a "copy" of it existed, so I told him about the printed final form under the title "The Pragmatics of Patriotism," that exists beginning on page 375 published in Baen's new hard cover version of **Expanded Universe** (ISBN 0-7434-7159-8). Then I went the extra few yards and told him how to obtain a copy of the taped presentation that also includes the first half of it in which, at the request of the midshipmen, Heinlein discussed freelance writing.

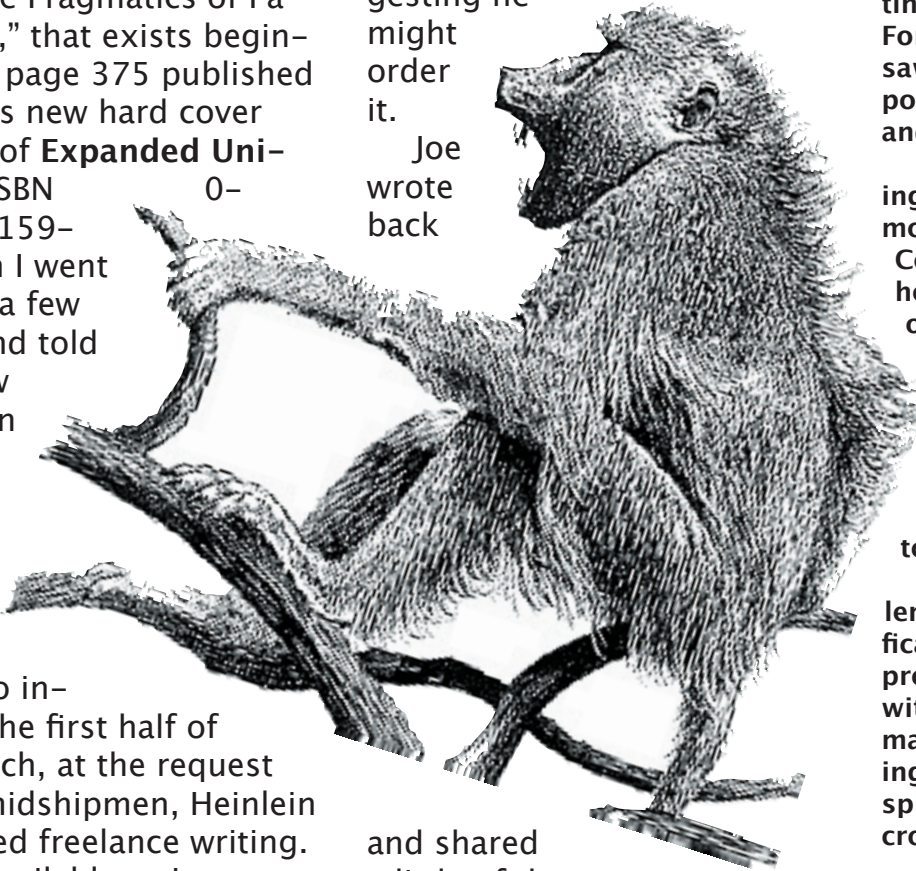
It's available as inventory number 190: "Robert A. Heinlein: Lecture at US Navy Academy." (Jeffrey Norton Publishers Sound Library), Jeffrey Norton Publishers, One Orchard Park Road, Madison, CT 06443 USA Phone: 800-243-1234, or 203-245-0195. E-mail [info@audioforum.com](mailto:info@audioforum.com),

with a web site at <http://www.audioforum.com>.

I told him I usually go to the web site, and use their search machine, which often doesn't work, then E-mail to the information address to get a copy, when it doesn't.

I also mentioned the article comparing the three text versions of the address that appears in the recent issue of The Heinlein Journal, suggesting he might order it.

Joe wrote back



and shared a little of the experience listening to the lecture, as well as an anecdote about the Forrestal lecture. From his reply:

I still have vivid memories of Mr. Heinlein's speech. I had already read every book he'd written by that date. The anticipation was tremendous just waiting until the time when we would file into the Halsey Field

House to hear the great man speak. I was spellbound the entire time. There in person was the man whose writing I admired so much. Now, I'm not one of those who seeks to find meaning in "Stranger in a Strange Land," and seeks out Mr. Heinlein as a Messiah. I just love his stories and his writing.

For many years I've tried to find a copy of his speech, and now I have my answer; Thank you!

I'll share a great story with you. We had many distinguished speakers at the Forrestal Lecture Series. We saw Jacques Cousteau, many a politician, foreign dignitaries, and of course, Robert Heinlein.

Some talks were inspiring, many boring. One of the most entertaining was Howard Cosell. I don't remember what he said, but I do remember one question from the Q&A.

At the time he was considering running for the US Senate from New York. A midshipman asked him, "Mr. Cosell, what makes you think you are qualified to be a US Senator?"

Mr. Cosell gave a very lengthy review of his qualifications. They were very impressive. Then he concluded with this statement (which may not be exact), "And arguing with me is like throwing spitballs at a battleship!" The crowd roared.

Joseph Cantu, USNA '76

A copy of the new Baen hard cover **Expanded Universe** may be ordered by using the link that appears on <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/>

Click on the book cover displayed there near the bottom. We'll get a few pennies for the order you place.



Alec Iorio

### Heinlein Society Convention Coordinator's Report

This is a review of SF Con Programming we've conducted and attended since last July. I'm sorry to say I wasn't able to attend WorldCon, as my mother became very ill in August, and I wasn't able to attend to other than family matters until mid-October.

However, my spies have fully reported; and here is my report to you.

#### NOREASCON IV PROGRAMMING

Fundamentally, there wasn't any at WorldCon this year, so far as Heinlein subject-matter general programming is concerned. We were informed -- and it still seems somewhat incredible to read this -- the Con organizers had decided to plan and set in stone all general programming over a

year in advance. One general Heinlein panel, on his juvenile writings, was scheduled. When we suggested other Heinlein general paneling might be appropriate we were told essentially there was no room in the inn.

The one Heinlein panel scheduled, on Juveniles, was held in a large, well-attended room, with far more in attendance than many other general panels. Joseph Major, a Society member, was scheduled as a panelist, as was Bradford Lyau, another Society member. Brad, however, was unable to attend WorldCon this year -- he was a volunteer on the staff of one of the candidates for election to the U.S.

Presidency; and they couldn't spare him. Heinlein Society member Solomon Davidson, who had arranged for an academic track set of panels in addition to the general panels, moved over to this single Heinlein general panel to moderate and filled in admirably. Also on the panel was a writer of sword and sorcery novels for children and young adult audiences, Tamora Pierce. She recited how much she admired Heinlein juvenile works, thought her works were comparable, and disliked his adult novels because they were too "literary" for her, and contained themes that made her feel uncomfortable.



**Noreascon IV Juvenile Panelists (L to R):** Dr. Solomon Davidoff, Joseph Major, and Tamora Pierce.



**Sunday Evening Reading at Heinlein Society Suite at Noreascon IV (from top Left):** Bill Patterson, seated reading under lamp in front of television set, Tim and Roxana Morgan, seated on couch, Andrea Silver, arms folded against window, Toby Fredrickson and Tanya Montoya-Fredrickson (head partially obscured), Kate Gladstone (in profile in chair), and **(from left front)**, backs to camera: Robert James, Kent Van Cleave, two unidentified guests in center front, Capt. Herb Gilliland (arms folded in dark wood upholstered chair in front of Ms. Montoya-Fredrickson), and Bob Preisenger's shoulder clad in patterned shirt in right corner.



A few of our regulars, Robert James, Bill Patterson, David Silver, and others, also attended and tried to help out with questions and the occasional correct fact from the peanut gallery.

So how did we further

draw substantive numbers. I strongly recommend that we not pursue this alternate in the future as a substitute for more general paneling.

“Academic panelling” more properly belongs in an “academic” venue provided



**Fan Table at Noreascon IV (L to R): Robert James and Alan Milner standing with open book in hand behind him, newlyweds Mike and Sharon Sheffield, Pam Somers, and Bill Patterson, a quite well-stocked table, ready for any inquiry about the Heinlein Society you'd like to make.**

cope? There was the “academic track,” initiated by Dr. Solomon; and Bill Patterson and Robert James presented a couple interesting papers they had prepared each.

However, this turned out to be an inadequate substitute for regular general panels from many standpoints. Such panels isolate Heinlein subject matter. They appeal to a less-than-full audience of SF convention goers because they do not fully entertain the general reader of Robert Heinlein. These panels carry with them an elitism in tone that just doesn't

by true academic institutions and societies, such as the ACA/PCA sub-program on Heinlein Studies that went so well at San Antonio, Texas, last Easter weekend, under the auspices of Lisa Edmonds.

An additional problem was the way the Convention Program itself was poorly organized; no one knew these papers were being presented because they couldn't easily be found in the printed format. For one thing, there was no one overall grid layout showing topics and times presented. The small, even



**Saturday Evening's Shared Reception with Libertarian Futurists:** This postage stamp shot shows only one angle of the suite. We had about thirty people who enjoyed the excellent refreshments which the Futurists cost-shared and Mrs. Andrea Silver and Miss Jane Silver prepared. Andrea Silver is in the background, arms folded and holding up the door to the suite, again, patiently ready to lay out more food when needed.

tiny, rooms into which the academic programs were shoe-horned were less than half full, if that, and in somewhat inconvenient locations -- hard to find, and required a lot of climbing on escalators to reach. One interesting contact, however, did result: Farah Mendlesohn, a British historian who is editor of **Foundation: The International Journal of Science Fiction** and wrote the Introduction “Reading Science Fiction,” to the **Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction**, which she also co-edited, attended some of Dr. James' and Mr. Patterson's presentations and, perhaps, we can expect her help with our scholastic efforts in the future.

So, we went to “guerrilla programming” once again, advertising it with flyers from our fan table and every panel we attended. Bill Pat-

**Cont'd on Page Eighteen**



Programming Report  
Cont'd from Page Seventeen



**MileHi Con panel "Heinlein's Heroes -- Women and Children First!"**  
L to R: Authors Robert Buettner, Sarah Almeida Hoyt, Heinlein Society President David Silver, and MileHi Writer GOH Elizabeth Moon. It was both an exciting and thoughtful panel despite some very muted lighting.

terson had two chapters of the forthcoming biography ready, which he read in our suite on Saturday (the night we shared a reception with the Libertarian Futurists) and Sunday evenings. The first reading dealt with Heinlein's previously unknown first marriage, right out of the academy; and the second with the United States' entry into World War II.

Those readings were very well attended, enjoyable, and fruitful sessions; and they produced a few new and valued members.

#### **MILEHI PROGRAMMING**

We'd been trying for the past two years to expand our convention (and blood drive) coverage from the two coastal areas to cons in the mid- and far western states.

A large Denver area convention, MileHi Con, is held in late October. We'd tried to

establish a small presence at this convention in the past two years, but an attempt to organize a blood drive fell through two years ago; and last year's presence was limited to providing refreshments in the ConSuite for a couple of hours. This allowed us to leave some flyers for those interested. This year it happened that author **Elizabeth Moon** was scheduled to be writer Guest of Honor (GOH); and we have two other author-members who live in the area, both of whom regularly serve on panels programmed: **Sarah A. Hoyt** and **Robert Buettner**. Mr. Buettner picked up one of those left-behind flyers in the ConSuite last year, filled it out and sent it in with his dues check.

**Elizabeth Moon** has been very supportive of the Society. She has written excellent

novels for at least the past fourteen years, and is author of **The Speed of Dark**, the Nebula Award winner for 2003. She is one of the independent judges who select the Heinlein Awardee each year, and three WorldCons back, at ConJosé, she spent all of one afternoon, by herself, essentially, thanking blood donors at our very successful on Con hotel premises blood drive.

We again provided hosting for their ConSuite for a few hours, but we determined to do a little more this time. Requesting a panel seemed a natural thing to do under the circumstances. We wrote MileHi's programming director and staff and requested to do a panel on "Heinlein's Heroes -- Women and Children First" in honor of their GOH and asked Mrs. Moon to join the panel. Held on Saturday, October 23, it was very successful and well attended. About the only thing anyone could complain about was the rather muted lighting in the room, which affected sharpness the photos taken of the event.

We also provided along with the refreshments three showings of the Apollo 11 interview of Arthur Clarke and Robert Heinlein. More members have joined.

Finally, the Secretary and President took a little jaunt to nearby Colorado Springs, the day before the Con started. Heinlein's custom-built home is still there, despite reports to the contrary. The current owner invited



Photograph by and  
courtesy of David Silver

### And There It Yet Sits: The Iron Street Address Marker Wrought By Robert Heinlein Marking Their 1950s Custom Built Former Home In Colorado Springs.

us to visit. It's simply been added to, reinforced to hold a second story and cantilevered deck, and built up and around.

We'll have some additional photos in a later Newsletter; but here's a little teaser, the photograph above.

#### LOSCON PROGRAMMING

This report is not dependent on my spies. The venue for this year's LOSCON 31 was the LAX Marriott and, despite the hotel's lack of foresight for persons having limited mobility, the convention was very well-attended and a worthwhile weekend.

The programming folks

scheduled three RAH-themed panels for "prime-time" slots during Friday and Saturday of the Convention. These "prime times" are when the greatest numbers of convention attendees are actively present. The panelists included THS members Messrs. David Silver and Bill Patterson, Dr. Robert James and your correspondent. The Friday panels were enhanced by the inclusion of two notable SF authors/RAH-fans, Dr. Jerry Pournelle and Brad Linaweaver. Dr. Pournelle's contribution of personal anecdotes illuminated the personality of

our favorite author in a way that mere description cannot and greatly increased the audience's appreciation of the panels. On Saturday, the very knowledgeable and affable producer of "The Puppet Masters" film, Dr. Michael Engelberg, and the noted screenwriter and SF author, Michael Cassutt, added their individual expertise to the panel on the RAH juveniles. Mr. John DeChancie, a local Los Angeles SF&F author, also sat on the Saturday panel.

Heinlein Scholar, Bill Patterson, was featured on the  
**Cont'd on Page Twenty**

LOSCON schedule to present a reading from volume one of his newly-completed biography of RAH, "The Learning Curve." Bill graciously participated in our THS "guerilla programming" by reprising his reading and leading a discussion of it on Friday night in the THS suite. On Saturday evening, THS scheduled two showings of the Apollo 11 interview by Walter Cronkite of Sir Arthur C. Clarke and RAH. The Society's hospitality was demonstrated by the provision of comestibles and beverages on each of these occasions. The audiences for the readings and interview showings were appreciative. During the showing David Silver noted that the Society would be willing to visit other conventions and show the interview as part of appropriately scheduled panels.

Throughout the convention, THS President, David Silver, attended to the interminable list of minutiae without which the Society's efforts would have fallen flat. He also staffed the Society fan table, present membership information, solicitations and bonhomie to all who visited.

As the Convention Programming Coordinator, I would like to thank all the Society members who participated in the panel staffing and otherwise helped and attended conventions in support of THS. Without such participation, our presence would have been severely restricted.



Dr. Michael Eisenberg and David Silver at RAH Juvenile Panel at LosCon  
Photograph by and Courtesy of Mrs. Michael Eisenberg

### RECENT PROGRAMMING and UPCOMING EVENTS

David Silver, and THS Secretary, Jane Silver, his sister, attended **COSine** on January 21 to 23, a small convention in Colorado Springs, Colorado. **Joe Haldeman** was GOH; and Silver, Sarah Hoyt, and Bob Buettner, both of whom helped out with MileHi, did a Heinlein subject matter panel with Joe. More on this con next report.

Some of those present at the LOSCON private showing of the Apollo 11 interview were from the Chicago area. We've received an invitation to present it in a Heinlein panel at Capricon 25, during February 10 to 13, in Arlington Heights, Illinois. **James Hogan** is the writer GOH, and who wrote a nice tribute to the Heinleins in one of his stories, has enthusiastically agreed to participate on the panel, if scheduled. One of our newer members, Lt. Col. **Charles Coffin**, who, with his

wife, were good friends of the Heinleins, will also attend. Expect an E-mail with more details if you live near Chicago.

We will also attend Norwescon in Seattle, Washington, over Easter weekend.

I'm also writing this week to Balticon and to BayCon, and to members living in those areas, to suggest programming for the Memorial Day weekend, and hope to receive favorable replies.

Expect an E-mail if you live in any of these areas, offering the opportunity to participate in any Heinlein panel they schedule and other activities.

Please suggest any other Con locations where we might try to place panels this year, by writing me at **baybus@mindspring.com**. We'll try to schedule what we can!

Let me know how I can help you in the New Year!

Alec Iorio



## The Virginia Edition Survey

Publishing and distributing the proposed omnibus hard cover edition of the works of Robert A. Heinlein is a substantial undertaking with a large financial risk to The Heinlein Prize Trust, and The Heinlein Society. We need reliable information and input from our membership and others. Please take a few minutes, answer the survey questions and return it to us by postal mail to:

**The Heinlein Society**  
**PO Box 1254**  
**Venice, CA 90294-1254**

If you have experience or knowledge of the book publishing industry, book selling, book binding, book anything and would like to help, please enclose a note or letter and tell us more.

Some notes: We've seriously discussed with the Prize Trust, publication of the Virginia Edition for months. We now need to receive your very important input as soon as possible. Producing less than all of Heinlein's works is not possible because the only way a "special edition" where many separate publishers have rights involved, as here, will appear is an all-or-nothing arrangement. You may, if you wish, make a copy of this Survey and ask a friend or associate to complete and return to us. You might also include the membership application on the back of this page for that person's use.

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail or Telephone:**\_\_\_\_\_

1. How interested would you be in buying a set of the complete works of Robert A. Heinlein?

- \_\_\_Quite interested
- \_\_\_Somewhat interested
- \_\_\_Interested
- \_\_\_Uninterested
- \_\_\_Very Uninterested.

2. What features would most interest you in considering buying a set of the complete works of Robert A. Heinlein?

- \_\_\_High quality binding and paper
- \_\_\_Matching leather covers
- \_\_\_The inclusion of the writer's additional materials such as essays, screenplays, treatments, out-lines and out-of-print small works
- \_\_\_The inclusion of selected correspondence of the writer
- \_\_\_The inclusion of rare photographs of the writer
- \_\_\_The inclusion of introductions

written by prominent contemporary writers

\_\_\_Other (please attach a note and explain).

3. How interested would you be in buying a set of the complete works of Robert A. Heinlein on a subscription basis, one volume per month?

- \_\_\_Quite interested
- \_\_\_Somewhat interested
- \_\_\_Interested
- \_\_\_Uninterested
- \_\_\_Very Uninterested

4. What is the maximum per-volume price you would be willing to pay for a monthly subscription to the complete works of Robert A. Heinlein?

- \_\_\_\$10
- \_\_\_\$15
- \_\_\_\$20
- \_\_\_\$25

\_\_\_\$30

\_\_\_\$35

\_\_\_\$40

\_\_\_\$45

\_\_\_\$50

5. Please rate (by writing '1' for the highest through '7' for the lowest in the blank on the left of the following items) order the items that are most important through least important considerations to you in deciding whether to buy a set of the complete works of Robert A. Heinlein. (The easiest way to do this is pick the most important and write "1," then pick the least important and write "7," and go on to what is left with "2" and "6," and so on)."

\_\_\_Price

\_\_\_Quality of production of the books

\_\_\_Possible investment value

\_\_\_Being able to have the complete works in one place

\_\_\_Inclusion of Heinlein writings unavailable elsewhere

\_\_\_Inclusion of scholarly critical analysis and commentary

\_\_\_Other (please attach a note and explain).

Thank you for your valued participation!



On Right: Panelists Bill Patterson, Dr. Jerry Pournelle, Brad Linaweaver, a con-invited guest, Dr. Robert James, and Alex Iorio at RAH in the 21st Century Panel at LosCon.

Photograph By and Courtesy of David Silver



A Non-Profit Corporation  
PO Box 1254  
Venice, California 90294-1254  
[www.heinleinsociety.org](http://www.heinleinsociety.org)

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Dear Prospective Member:

The Heinlein Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the intellectual and literary concerns, and social legacy, of Robert A. Heinlein. In addition to his main reputation as a science fiction writer and futurist, Heinlein during his lifetime tried to give worthy social causes a boost. The best way we can show our appreciation for his legacy is to PAY IT FORWARD.

Some examples of projects already proposed for the Society (now pending tax-exempt charity status) are: continuing the series of blood drives he started; developing an educational curriculum using Heinlein's writing; sponsoring educational programs such as essay contests; keeping his books in libraries; sponsoring scholarly and literary work on Heinlein; and doing our best to promote space exploration. A complete list of the working sections already started is in the information part below. We will want to add more worthy projects as time goes by.

Membership in the various working sections is not mandatory, but it is certainly encouraged. Also we want your ideas for working projects in the future! An annual Supporting Membership level is provided for students and those on fixed incomes who wish to support the work of The Heinlein Society.

If you are interested in joining us in continuing the good work Robert Heinlein started, please fill out the application form below and mail it to The Heinlein Society, P.O. Box 1254, Venice, CA 90294-1254. Or visit our web site at <http://www.heinleinsociety.org>, where you may apply for membership by an online application form. For further information, please contact the Society at the above postal address or Internet E-mail via "membership@heinleinsociety.org."

"I think the Heinlein Society is a fine idea. Robert would be proud of the way  
his Children have grown up." -- **Virginia Heinlein, October 2000.**

**Detach Here for Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Dues Check Enclosed Regular Membership \$35 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Supporting Membership: \$15 \_\_\_\_\_  
[\*Supporting membership is available only to students enrolled for a degree or certificate, or retired and on a limited income. It confers no eligibility to vote or hold Society office.]

I wish to join and work on the following projects (check as many as you wish):

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Library support \_\_\_\_\_ Scholastics-Academics  
\_\_\_\_\_ Blood Drives \_\_\_\_\_ Fund-raising \_\_\_\_\_ Education (K-12th grades)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Centennial Celebration of Robert Heinlein's Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Aerospace Outreach

Other Projects I would like to see the Society become involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Cut Here



## Some Reminiscences About the Early History of The Heinlein Society, Pt. 1

by Bill Patterson

Several things came together for me in 1997. I had been thinking about doing a Heinlein-related magazine for a few years, but I was not certain that there would be enough material to support a regular publication schedule. I could always write filler, but I didn't have any interest in doing a fanzine. Dr. Leon Stover encouraged me and suggested it should **not** be called "World As Myth." He suggested the newsletter of the H.G. Wells Society as a model.

I had something a little more substantial in mind and brought out the first issue of **The Heinlein Journal** in time for Heinlein's 90th birthday. I also asked the WesterCon 51 committee the following year -- in San Diego -- for a function space to have an organizing meeting for a Heinlein Society. I didn't want this to be just another single-author literary society; Heinlein's legacy had many different facets, and I wanted to see if discussion with like-minded people might come up with a better way to "pay it forward."

On Sunday, July 5, 1998, I tried to simulate the Heinleins' legendary hospitality, with catered refreshments in a large, canopy-covered semi-outside programming "room" and about fifty people showed up, many of them wandering away when they found it was working

out more like a "mixer" than like a traditional panel presentation. I circulated, handing out 4x6 cards I had made up to collect contact information and ask for input on the kinds of projects the Society might involve itself in. The cards were also membership pledges; I didn't plan to try taking money at that point, as hotels and cons are notoriously nervous about the ire of the IRS that can come down on them when "sales" take place outside the dealers' room. Keith Kato, whom I had known at that time for a mere 24 years, helped crystallize the chats into a real discussion, and the various project suggestions on the 30-35 membership pledge cards collected became the core of the Society's activity structure -- library, scholarly & academic, blood drives, educational outreach, and so forth. We were not able to implement two of the projects that had the highest degree of interest, as a complete edition of Heinlein's works and a film project involved factors that were out of our hands -- particularly the complex factors of permissions and intellectual property considerations.

One of the pledgees, Terry Brussel-Gibbons, wanted to pay some of the expenses of the refreshments. I declined, but told her she could advance her dues. I had to quickly figure out a reasonable amount for dues that would let the Society do something real and settled

on \$35/year. Terry handed me the cash quietly.

The pledge cards collected at that organizing event were the core of a start -- but there remained a great deal of organizing work to do, and very little spare time in which to do it. I took the opportunity of a speaking engagement that month at the Karl Hess Club -- a libertarian supper club still functioning in southern California -- to promote the **Journal** and to announce the formation of the Society. Neil Schulman stood up immediately and announced that he wanted to be the first person to support the Society -- cash on the barrel head. Neil's money wasn't actually the first cash receipts the Society took in, but he was so proud to pay the cash, I didn't mention Mrs. Brussel-Gibbons, and so I reckon that both Terry and Neil Schulman are important founding members of the Society.

When I got back to my home in Los Angeles, I sent out update E-mails to all of the members--presumptive. Recollection is dim, but there may have been two or three over the course of the next six weeks or so. Unfortunately, I was not able to perform any of the minor but time-consuming tasks that would have converted the Society into an actual organization, and there the matter lay for about a year and a half.

Enter Ginny Heinlein.

**End of Part 1**

## **“Some days there are joyful banquets in black tie, But still, a few small things ...”**

This Newsletter is a bit longer than usual. We missed an issue planned for October following WorldCon.

A few words about WorldCon: despite expected resistance we did what we had to do. The blood drive occurred. The awards banquet and presentation to Sir Arthur went off well for an innovative event at an ungodly hour of the morning for Sir Arthur. We suffered expenses we shouldn't have had to -- attendance was down, affected no doubt by program advertising that mysteriously got lost in transmittal and other announcements never published for reasons unexplained. Overall, panels were only minimally related to Robert Heinlein's writings and influences. Yet, each year is another venue. By contrast, the approach of the Cascadia Con's chair, Ms. Bobbie DuFault, is more than refreshing -- it is exemplary. Bobbie is a teacher and appreciates what we try to accomplish.

As seriously and forcefully as I can, I urge you: please attend Cascadia Con this September, even if you've never attended SF cons before. Seattle is a wonderful city, its weather warm during September. My wife and I honeymooned and visited relatives there nearly ever summer for years. The SF museum opened recently under the Space Needle is

well worth visiting. Seattle has fine attractions, good food and and wonderful entertainment.

There is a important survey on page 21. The data we seek affects our approach to important project, The Virginia Edition of Robert A. Heinlein's Works. Please fill it



David Silver at Awards  
Banquet at Noreascon IV

out and return it promptly.

We will be meeting this spring with representatives of the University of California, Riverside, to discuss cooperation for a formal academic journal of Heinlein Studies. I'll report the results.

We need, as we always do, all the help we can get on our committees. We need a Library Committee chair, an Education Committee chair, and a Newsletter editor. It's past time for some of us to stop wearing two or three hats. The Newsletter Editor requires an ability to use software such as Adobe InDesign or the equivalent, and experience in editing and

herding cats. E-mail agplus one@heinleinsociety.org. Let me know what you can do.

We need to focus upon fund-raising. This year, again, the Prize Trust has announced a matching grant of up to \$15,000 for every dollar we raise. It applies to both for 2004 and 2005. We should have no trouble, with your generosity. Dig deep and give what you can.

Finally, in 1968, after some of the worst race riots of the past century, reader Rich Chambers alluded to them when he wrote Robert Heinlein. Heinlein replied, noting his efforts to change patterns of discrimination. He observed Juan Rico plainly was Filipino, and also stated: "... I wrote one with a Negro hero (TUNNEL IN THE SKY) ... ." That ends arguments about Roderick Walker's color that have endured since readers of the novel closely began to add up all the hints about Rod's color in the story. Rich has donated that letter to the Society for exhibition and research purposes; and we await its arrival with anticipation and plan to immediately put it to use. Thank you, Rich, for your gracious donation. And, everyone, please note and pass to your friends the membership application on Page 22. Enjoy 2005!

David M. Silver

President and Chairman

"The Lieutenant expects **your**  
names to shine!"