

The Heinlein Society

The principal mailing address of The Heinlein Society, a non-profit charitable corporation, is PO Box 1254, Venice, CA USA 90294-1254

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We Continue To Need A Newsletter Editor

A successful applicant will need to be able to attend, on-line, one two-hour monthly board business meeting and initiate articles of interest to membership, by encouraging Society officers and members to prepare them, and by writing them him or herself, and editing the results. Ability to use InDesign or the equivalent is useful. So, too, is ability to herd cats. This Newsletter is intended to issue quarterly. Until we have that person volunteer, it's unlikely we'll meet our goals to keep you informed. Email agplusone@heinleinsociety.org or telephone (310) 346-5669.

newsletter

2006 Heinlein Awards To Be Given to Williamson and Bear In Anaheim at World Con



Jack Williamson

Jack Williamson and Greg Bear, two legendary authors of speculative fiction, have been named recipients of the 2006 Robert A. Heinlein Award for their overall body of work.

The award, administered by the Heinlein Society, will be presented formally by Jerry Pournelle, a past recipient, director of the Society and a member of the Advisory Board for the Heinlein Award, at the World Science Fiction Convention in Los Angeles, California, on Thursday, August 24, 2006, during ceremonies surrounding the guest of honor speeches, which are scheduled to begin at 8 PM.

"I feel a deep appreciation for the award, not only because I



Greg Bear

admired Heinlein as a writer and a man, but also because he was a valued friend," said Williamson, widely recognized as the dean of science fiction. The author of dozens of novels and winner of both the Nebula and Hugo Awards, in 1976 Williamson was named a Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master by SFWA — only the second author so honored after Heinlein in 1975. Williamson's most recent novel is the world-hopping adventure *The Stonehenge Gate*.

"Of course, it's an honor and a privilege to receive the Heinlein Award this year, especially since I share the honor with one of my favorites, one of the most influential writers in science fiction
Cont'd on Page Three

The Secretary-Treasurer's Table and Reports



It's been pretty quiet. We've been very concerned for some time about some of our membership that seem to have slipped through the cracks and gone away. Each business meeting I report increases our numbers in new memberships but those numbers have to be adjusted by the ones whose dues have become past due by two or more years. What to do?

Perhaps I should give you information that some of you may not realize. Each and every person who is working for the Society is a volunteer. From the Board of Directors to the committee chairs, everyone does this for the love of it! Sometimes you wonder if this is not a love/hate relationship. There are many different opinions and 'suggestions' of how things should be done. Any organization run by committee has a tendency to bog down. I wonder sometimes, frankly, if it is all worth it. Then I remember why I got involved.

I am related to the Chairman and President. He is my older brother, (clarification because some of you may think we are husband/wife). He was the Secretary-Treasurer when I offered to help with 'some' of the clerical. I thought

Cont'd on Page Three

The Heinlein Society Notice of Annual General Meeting And Voting Procedures

July 19, 2006

Board of Directors
Virginia Heinlein (1916-2003)
Charles N. Brown
Yoji Kondo
Alan Milner
Joe Haldeman
Jerry Pournelle
Michael Sheffield
David Wright, Sr.
Jane Silver, Secretary-Treasurer
David M. Silver, President and Chairman
P.O. Box 1254
Venice, California 90294-1254

Dear Members of The Society:

Our by-laws, adopted by the Board of Directors in 2002, as amended, require that the board conduct an annual general membership meeting each year during the time and at the place of the annual World Science-Fiction convention, when held in North America, and when not at a place in North America it shall determine.

This the written notice of that meeting as required in our by-laws to each member entitled or likely to be entitled to vote at the meeting. You will be entitled to vote only if you are registered as a regular member and only if your dues are fully paid up and through the current year of 2006 at the time of the meeting. An opportunity to make dues current will be afforded members prior to and at the beginning of the meeting. Supporting members are not entitled to vote, but, subject to ruling of the chair, may address the meeting.

This year's meeting will be our Society's fifth annual general meeting. It will be held at Anaheim, California, on **Saturday, August , 2006, at 5:00 PM, PDT**, in a hospitality suite as yet to be assigned to The Heinlein Society by the Anaheim Marriott, 700 West Convention Way, Anaheim, California 92802 USA, Phone: 1-714-750-8000. L.A. Con IV, the annual World Science-Fiction convention, has not yet published its programming schedule, and notice of this meeting may not be in its program. Check the front desk at the Marriott for The Heinlein Society. You need not be a purchaser of L.A. Con IV membership to attend the meeting. The Anaheim Marriott is located directly south of the Anaheim Convention Center, across the street, where L.A. Con IV is being held. The hotel is a public venue, open to non-L.A. Con IV members. Visitors are encouraged to attend, subject to ruling of the Chair.

The regular order of business specified in the by-laws to be observed is that customary for non-profit membership charitable corporations and will include, this year, election of three of the nine directors of The Society for the three senior non-exempt positions on the Board for a term of three years, as specified in the by-laws.

The two senior incumbents by length of service in their current term are Charles N. Brown and David M. Silver; additionally, newly-appointed director David Wright, Sr., on the expanded board, has been placed in this three year tier for election. Any, or all, or neither, may stand for reelection, as he each may announce at or before the time of the meeting. Mr. Brown has served as an original director of this Society since its formation and pre-incorporation filings, in August 2000, and was reelected to a three-year term in 2003. Mr. Silver was appointed in November 2000, and was reelected to a three-year term in 2003. Mr. Wright was appointed upon expansion of the number of directors this past June. Other nominations may be made and accepted at the meeting.

Further business consistent with the by-laws will occur at the meeting.

You may vote at the meeting in person, or by an assigned written proxy, if you are eligible to vote at the time of the meeting. All proxies must be written, signed, and notarized, or accompanied by a clear and legible photocopy of a government-issued photo identification containing a signature for comparison purposes, to be valid.

Further, they must designate in writing the person to exercise the proxy; and they must be received by the Secretary of the Society by postal mail or in person at or before the time of the meeting. If you mail your proxy to the Society's postal address in Venice, California, please note that an officer of the Society will finally check that post office box address on the afternoon of Monday, August 21, 2006, before he departs to Anaheim; and it is solely your responsibility to ensure it arrives before his departure. You may designate any natural person to attend the meeting and vote your proxy. Further, the by-laws specify that failure of a non-attending member to designate a proxy shall constitute designation of the president as the holder of the proxy of the member not in attendance.

We all hope as many of the Society's members as possible do attend the meeting.

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

/s/Jane Silver
Jane Silver
Secretary-Treasurer and Director

Heinlein Awards to Jack Williamson and Greg Bear --
Cont'd from Page One

history — Jack Williamson,” said Bear, a recipient of multiple Nebula and Hugo Awards. His most recent novel is the near-future thriller *Quantico*. “To carry on Robert Heinlein’s grand tradition of storytelling, visioning and general rabble-rousing is a real pleasure — and a sobering responsibility. Thanks to all, and heartfelt congratulations to Jack — who may actually have taught Mr. Heinlein a thing or two!”

This is the fourth year for the Heinlein Award, presented for outstanding published work in hard science fiction or technical writings inspiring the human exploration of space. Advisory Board members voting in this year’s selection were: Joe Haldeman, Yoji Kondo/Eric Kotani, Elizabeth Moon, Larry Niven, Pournelle, Spider Robinson, Stanley Schmidt, Herb Gilliland, and John Hill. The last two advisors are professors of English at the U.S. Naval Academy, which is Heinlein’s alma mater and serves as the home port for this award.

Robert Anson Heinlein (1907-1988) was arguably the most influential writer in the science fiction genre. He received 4 Hugo awards, 3 retrospective Hugos, and the first SFWA Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master Award. His 31 novels, and other collections, rarely out of print include *Starship Troopers*, *Stranger in a Strange Land*, and *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*. His widow, Virginia Heinlein, authorized the creation of this award prior to her death.

Past awardees have included Virginia Heinlein (posthumously), Michael Flynn, Sir Arthur Clarke, Pournelle, and Larry Niven.

There will be a brief reception

for Mr. Williamson and Mr. Bear after the awards and the Guest of Honor speeches conclude at the

Convention Center, hosted in The Heinlein Society’s small hospitality suite at the Anaheim Marriott hotel, across the street south of the Anaheim Convention Center.

Do you have a new novel out?
Do you market properly licensed
Heinlein memorabilia?
Do you offer goods or services of
interest to Heinlein aficionados?
This might be the spot for an ad-
vertisement that would help.

Contact secretary@heinleinsociety.org for
rates and terms.

Secretary’s Report --
Cont'd from Page Two

Robert A. Heinlein had some very interesting ideas on how one should conduct a worthwhile life.

One goal, getting his dreams and ideals back into primary educators’ libraries seemed a good idea. So I pitched in. I have since learned that there are some very hardworking and dedicated people who are giving a lot of their precious time to The Heinlein Society’s goals. To all of them, “Without your help the Society would not exist.” It takes a special person with a lot of patience and talent to coordinate all of the efforts and goals that this Society is attempting.

Now we gear up for our Centennial Year celebrations where we will need many of you throughout the country, and abroad, to help Pay It Forward and bring to fruition events at venues far and wide. We know that when the call goes out

that we will need every member to step up and support this endeavor. We’ve gotten tremendous encouragement and proffered support from some of our Angels and you will read of that in other columns.

I sincerely hope that some of you, who may have been wondering what this membership is all about, will contact me or Pam Somers, our Membership Services Chair, so we can help you answer that question and see how you by volunteering can help us Pay It Forward.

Please email to Secretary@heinleinsociety.org or Membershipservices@heinleinsociety.org. We will be more than happy to answer any questions; or just to say hello and let us know what you think about how we are doing our jobs. There is always room for improvement (and other ever able volunteers!)

Jane Silver, Secretary and Director
secretary@heinleinsociety.org

First Heinlein Prize of \$500,000 Presented to Dr. Peter Diamandis, Founder of the Ansari X-Prize, by Robert A. and Virginia Heinlein Prize Trust

HOUSTON, TX --

On Friday evening, July 7, 2006, Robert Heinlein's 99th birthday, at the St. Regis Grand Ballroom, in Houston, Texas, the inaugural presentation of the Heinlein Award of \$500,000 was made to Dr. Peter H. Diamandis, M.D. before a gala crowd of about 130 guests, at a formal dinner. Dr. Diamandis was honored by receipt of the \$500,000, a gold Heinlein Medallion, and the Lady Vivamus Sword, and a Laureate's Diploma.

The presentations were made by the three trustees, Arthur Dula,

ics as an undergraduate at MIT. In 1980 he founded the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS), which has since become the largest student-based space organization in the world. He went on to earn a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering from MIT, concurrently with a Medical Degree from Harvard. Dr. Diamandis, in acceptance of the award, cited the influence of Robert Heinlein's work during his career, noting that he flew, as cargo aboard SpaceShipOne, during the winning Ansari X Prize on October

ety board members Dr. Yoji Kondo, chairman David Silver, and former board member William Patterson, whose biography of Robert Heinlein was recently completed and commended especially by Mr. Dula, who served as master of ceremonies, during his presentation.

Mrs. Ursula Kondo and Mrs. Andrea Silver accompanied their husbands. Mr. Dula graciously introduced Mr. Silver during the ceremony and noted the laudable growth in membership of the Society from a few in 2001 to nearly 700 at the present time. At



James Miller Vaughn, Jr., and Buckner Hightower, who administer the Prize Trust fund established by the Estates of Robert A. and Virginia Heinlein, to honor the memories of Robert and Virginia by substantially rewarding accomplishments in commercial space by individuals, which may be made annually to those who best inspire commercial space development.

Diamandis is best known as Founder of the X PRIZE Foundation, whose \$10 million Ansari X PRIZE sparked the birth of the personal spaceflight industry.

Diamandis' contributions to the commercialization of space began while studying molecular genet-

4, 2004, his own personal copy of the Heinlein novella, *The Man Who Sold the Moon*.

Initially, Diamandis wished to be a NASA Astronaut. That dream inspired his education at MIT and Harvard. Dr. Diamandis' subsequent activities has been extensive.

Keynote addresses at the awards ceremony were made by Apollo 11 Astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, and representatives of a worldwide board of advisors to the Heinlein Prize trustees.

Among dignitaries from aerospace, academia, literature, publishing and other organizations present, were several Heinlein Society members, including Soci-

breakfast the following morning, Colonel Aldrin joined others that evening who offered to Mr. Silver to assist the Society in its goals.

A highlight of the evening was presentation of Lady Vivamus, a replica created of the weapon carried by Heinlein's hero Oscar in the novel *Glory Road*; and Oscar's description of it was read at the ceremony of presentation to Dr. Diamandis: "... and found there the blade that suited me the way Excalibur suited Arthur ... the blade was faintly curved and razor sharp on the edge ... a point as deadly as a rapier ... The guard was a bell curved back around the knuckles into a semi-basket ... It was the sort



Above: Trustee Arthur Dula, Kristen and Peter Diamandis (Peter's the one with sword) and Colonel Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin. At left: Mr. Dula's private collection of Heinlein novels published in many countries.

Photographs by James McLain (above) and by The Heinlein Society (at left)

of sword that feels as if it were an extension of your body."

It was jointly presented by all those present who had seen Earth's disk from space. Eleven astronauts in all were present. That made quite a line across the front of the room.

Diamandis promised to bear the sword and use other award components in honor befitting the author who created and whose estate established it.

During the reception before dinner, guests circulated among several displays of current activities of the Trust, the Estate's continuing publication of Heinlein works, and the Society and others associated to Paying Forward the legacy of Robert and Virginia Heinlein. A number of recent published works were used as table decorations and given as gifts to each attendee. The Trust also gra-

ciously distributed with the gifted books membership applications for the Society to each attendee.

The dinner, nicely prepared and presented by the staff of the St. Regis, was served during the ceremonies and included wine and redfish and beef filet entrees, and a delightful dessert.

During the evening, several representatives of the Trust from Asia and Europe recounted accomplishments and next year's plans by the Trust's "Robert A. Heinlein Flight into the Future Project Contest," a competition to encourage young international students and researchers in space exploration and promote innovative projects by those researchers.

The next presentation by the Trust of a Heinlein Award may occur in Beijing, China, in 2007, on Robert Heinlein's Centennial,

and Professor Li Furong, who is a Heinlein Society member and representative from China, after recounting some of the past year's accomplishments in Asia, graciously invited those in attendance to attend next year's ceremonies in Beijing.

Also present (among the many other unnamed in this report Heinlein Society members and supporters) were Dr. Amy Baxter, the Heinleins' "adoptive" granddaughter, with her husband Dr. Louis Calderon; Mrs. Eleanor Wood, literary agent to the Heinlein trusts; and James Cunningham, a trustee of the Bulter Library trust, with his delightful wife Lela. Mrs. Tamea Dula, Arthur's wife, was as gracious to all as her husband while helping him to serve as host. Mrs. Dula is one of the author's dedicatees to the novel *Friday*.



Above: One of fifteen tables during dinner. Mrs. Andrea Silver is at far right. Next to her (back) is an actor who played D.D. Harriman.
 Photograph by The Heinlein Society

Below: Bill Patterson and Eleanor Wood, the estate's literary agent, hopefully giving Bill good news from a publisher concerning his just-completed biography.

Photograph by The Heinlein Society



Right: Dr. Yoji Kondo and Art Dula, chat during the reception before dinner.

Photograph by The Heinlein Society



Above: Eleven Astronauts Join Trustee Arthur Dula to award Peter Diamandis the Glory Road word. "Dum Vivimus, Vivamus!" Apollo 11's Aldrin, wearing the decoration, is the second man from the left.

Photograph by The Heinlein Society

A LETTER FROM AMY

Amy Baxter, the Heinlein's "adoptive" granddaughter, also wrote a sprightly little note about the Prize Award ceremony, for her circle of friends, which we extract here with her permission:

"... The ceremony was elating; a more appropriate culmination and beginning to Heinlein's life work would be difficult to imagine. A stylized ice sculpture from *Rocketship Gallileo* graced the entry way, and darned if Oscar the Spacesuit wasn't draped in a welcoming pose next to teaching materials from *Have Spacesuit — Will Travel*. Throughout the hall were tables of Heinlein's books, displays of recipients of smaller Heinlein Prizes (primarily in China and Russia) ... Dignitaries from all countries and walks of life were mingling; I wished people wore "Hello, My Context Is" tags. Old friends greeted each other, but everyone seemed eager for new introductions as each brought fascinating back stories. The stunning model turns out to be an engineer; the long haired eccentric scientist cameraman turns out to have dual PHD's in Physics and Chemistry. The guy in the suit turns out to be the world's foremost expert on pterosaur flight, and one of Granma Heinlein's best friends for decades. And the guy in the kilt (!) bowing to the man in the kimono turns out to be Lazarus Long. When pressed, he admits to being the Great Lorenzo Smythe ... but he proffers business cards for both identities.

"One of the guests introduced himself as DD Harriman, *The Man Who Sold the Moon*. As we were leaving the house for the airport, I had grabbed my old Signet copy of the short story. Turns out Dr. Diamandis had the same book shipped as cargo on the winning Ansari X flight (and graciously signed my copy). ... The man wants to space. If the governmental astronaut route won't suit, he'll fill the population's need through enterprise

and go on his own ships. If the need isn't sufficient, he'll create the need, then fill it. Apropos of a wedding (and for some reason reminding me of the Sesame Street "this is your life" spoof), slides and videos from Dr. Diamandis' life preceded the award. Snapshots of a slightly younger Diamandis in an MIT dorm room showed the undergraduate who wanted to join a student group for future spacers. There wasn't one, so he created it. He had testified before a senate subcommittee that, just as Lindbergh's flight was in response to a contest for private aeronautics groups, contests breed originality faster than government contracts can. There hadn't been a space contest, so he had created it. ... He wished there were a university dedicated to the study of sciences and arts which would be needed in space ... and created it. ...

"Back to the awards ceremony. Buzz Aldrin spoke, then all cosmonauts and astronauts present came to the front of the room. An astounding 11 humans who had seen the earth as a bluegreen globe with their own eyes came to the front. A passage from Heinlein's *Glory Road* was read describing the sword Lady Vivamus, ... Dr. Diamandis accepted it, brandished it in the name of space exploration, then someone hastily grabbed it back so he could give his no doubt moving acceptance speech. I was bawling at this point, but assume it was really inspirational. The evening wrapped up after a few more comments. I think I finished my creme brulee.

"Before leaving the scene, I should describe ... the tables. At each place setting was a folder about the Heinlein Prize, the Heinlein Society, a DVD called "Rocket Science" ("Best documentary chronicling the space program EVER"), and a smorgasboard of Heinlein paperbacks. Art Dula, the organizer and primary Trustee of the Heinlein Prize, had gone to three

bookstores and cleaned them out of Heinleins before the event. It is a testament to the longevity of Heinlein's ideas that 150 place settings were accommodated by only three booksellers. At the evening's conclusion a most entertaining jockeying and shuffling of books took place, with aficionados trying not to duplicate their collections or pushing more appropriate titles on the few novices present. ("OOhhh, I woudn't start your 14 year old on *I Will Fear No Evil*. How about this one?")

"... Astronauts were graciously photographed, as was Dr. Diamandis, and the night was over.

The prevailing mood was a jubilant



Drs. Diamandis, Baxter, and her copy of *The Man Who Sold the Moon*.

Photo supplied by Dr. Baxter

assurance that commercial spaceflight for everyone was truly around the corner, and that the people in that room were the catalyzed thrust behind the dream.

"I have known that the Heinleins' goal was to fund a "Nobel-calibre" prize to promote commercial spaceflight since I was around 14. There have been times when neither Granma nor I were sure it would happen, and I am so profoundly grateful to Art Dula. He made this happen, he did so gracefully, and balanced the fiery Diamandis with stalwart explorers, financiers, scientists, and the touch of whimsy of which Heinlein would have approved. Wish you could have been there."

"Amy"



Above: “A stylized ice sculpture from **Rocketship Gallileo** graced the entryway....” At right: “The stunning model turns out to be an engineer” (Which one?)

Photographs by The Heinlein Society



More Heinlein Prize Dinner Photos



“... and darned if Oscar the Spacesuit wasn’t draped in a welcoming pose next to teaching materials from **Have Spacesuit -- Will Travel**.”

Photograph by The Heinlein Society



Above: "The prevailing mood was a jubilant assurance that commercial spaceflight for everyone was truly around the corner..." At left: "And the guy in the kilt (!) bowing to the man in the kimono turns out to be Lazarus Long. When pressed, he admits to being the Great Lorenzo Smythe ... but he proffers business cards for both identities."

Photographs by The Heinlein Society

Yet More Heinlein Prize Dinner Photos



"At each place setting was a folder about the Heinlein Prize, the Heinlein Society, a DVD called "Rocket Science" ("Best documentary chronicling the space program EVER"), and a smorgasboard of Heinlein paperbacks."

Photograph by The Heinlein Society

NOTICE OF BYLAW AMENDMENT

The following Bylaw change will be in effect at the Society's General Membership Meeting on Friday, August 26, in Anaheim, California. See Notice on page two for details of place and time.

On March 27, 2006, the President and Chairman gave the following written notice:

TO the Board of Directors, The Heinlein Society

Pursuant to Article IX, Amendment of Bylaws, Section 1 "Amendments, how effected" notice is hereby given at today's regular meeting of March 27, 2006, of a chair's motion to the Board to amend the Bylaws as follows:

To Article IV, Board of Directors

Section 1. Number and term of directors. CHANGE "seven" to "nine"

Section 3. Classification of directors. CHANGE "three classes of two members each" to "three classes of three members each"

Under Article IX, the proposed Bylaws Amendment will be voted upon at the next regularly-scheduled board member that will be set for Monday, April 17, 2006.

On April 17, 2006, at the Board's duly scheduled and noticed

meeting, a quorum of five of seven directors being present, it was regularly moved, seconded, and without objection, carried unanimously, that the board of directors be increased from seven to nine, and the classes modified as specified in the president and chairman's prior notice.

Membership, since Mrs. Heinlein incorporated The Society in late 2000, has increased from about thirty to more than 600 registered members by the end of March 2006. The last increase in number of directors had been in November 2000, when Dr. Owenby and Mr. Silver were appointed.

In November 2005, Mr. Silver, the president and chairman, suffered his first heart attack. More recent events, a second heart attack in May 2006, and a heart by-pass operation to Mr. Silver; two hip replacements to another officer, committee chair Lindalee Stuckey; and a further heart by-pass operation to yet another officer, committee chair and corporate counsel Lester N. Collier, demonstrate that illness and affliction can strike us at any time.

For these reasons, the board deemed it expedient to expand the number of directors.

In fact, there were no meetings of the board in May or early June, because of cancellations due to Mr. Silver's second heart attack.

On June 26, 2006, at the Board's duly re-scheduled and noticed meeting, a quorum of four of seven directors being present, Mr. Silver, as Chairman, reported

the unanimous consensus of the board to appoint Mr. Michael Sheffield and Mr. David Wright, Sr., as new board members to fill the positions created by recent amendment.

Copies of the newly-amended Bylaws may be downloaded in .PDF format from our website, from the link for bylaws at <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/contact.html> or by writing to the Secretary at the Society's postal mail address.

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

Obituary

PHILIP H. OWENBY - age 54 of Knoxville, died Friday, July 14, 2006, in Chattanooga. Phillip was a combat veteran of Vietnam, serving as a medic in the U.S. Army. He was a devoted and loving husband and father.

Survivors include: his wife, Vicki Owenby; daughters, Johanna and Kristen Owenby; his mother, two brothers, and four sisters. Mr. Owenby was cremated and a memorial service was held in Maryville/Seymour, Tennessee.

Dr. Owenby was a director of the Heinlein Society from 2000 to 2002. He wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on Robert Heinlein's views on adult education.

The Society's Secretary has already sent our condolences to Phil's family and will forward further condolences she receives to the family.

SHEFFIELD AND WRIGHT APPOINTED AS DIRECTORS

Michael Sheffield was born in San Diego, California, in 1960. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force as an Electronic Warfare Systems Specialist with the 37th Tactical Fighter Wing "Wild Weasels". At the end of his service in 1985 he began working at TRW Space & Technology (now Northrop Grumman Space Technology) where he has been for more than 20 years. During his time there he has worked in several departments, including Quality Assurance, Satellite Integration, Test and Launch



Michael and Sharon Sheffield.

Photo by The Heinlein Society

and his current position as a Software Engineer in Ground Systems. He began organizing SF convention blood drives at Conucopia, the 1999 NASFiC in Anaheim, California, and has been involved in every Worldcon blood drive since then. He joined The Heinlein Society in September 2001 and later that year became the chairperson of their blood drive committee, where he continues today. He was appointed to the board of directors in June 2006 to fill one of the positions in the newly expanded board. In June of 2004 he married his wife, Sharon, who is one of the most brilliant people he has ever met. They live

in Long Beach, California. Mike has a predilection for wearing kilts, much like Lazarus Long.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, David Wright, Sr. lives in Northwest Georgia. He is married to the former Jennelou Earnhardt and has two sons. He holds a B.A. in German from The University of The South, an M.A. in Linguistics from Indiana University and an M.S. in Computer Science from The Georgia Institute of Technology. He is also a graduate of the Russian Program of the Defense Language Institute, (formerly The Army Language School), in Monterey, California and taught Russian at Georgia State University after his Army service and before entering graduate school. He worked as a programmer/systems analyst for several corporations, ran his own computer service for several years, and worked as Programmer/Analyst for the Health Department of the State of Georgia, and retired on July 1, 2006 with 21 years of service. He has published in *The Heinlein Journal* and is writing a book about Alfred Korzybski and General Semantics in the works of Heinlein. He was appointed to the board of directors in June 2006 to fill one of the positions in the newly expanded board. He is currently serving as Webmaster for the Heinlein Society Website.

Both Mike and David have devoted hundreds of volunteer hours to The Heinlein Society since joining, David in late 2000, and Michael just before our first SF World Con in 2001. Both have proved themselves always reliable, accepting all manner of volunteer assign-

ments, and always accomplishing what they've set out to do.

The Board is gratified that each has accepted an appointment as a director and is certain their steady record of devotion to the goals of this Society will continue. On behalf of the Board of The Heinlein, Welcome Aboard!

David M. Silver, President and
Chairman of the Board of Directors



David Wright, Sr.

Photo supplied by Mr. Wright

Academic Committee Report



Lisa D'Amico at Cascadia Con.
Photograph by The Heinlein Society

CALL FOR PAPERS

2007 marks the 100th anniversary of Robert A. Heinlein's birth. Centennial events and celebrations will take place throughout the year. Select papers presented at the 2007 PCA/ACA conference will be published in special Centennial issues of *The Heinlein Journal*. The conference will be held in Boston this coming year, at the Boston Marriott Copley Place, April 7-10. See, <http://www.rahstudies.org/boston.html> for details. The Heinlein Studies Area invites papers, panels, artwork, and multimedia presentations related to Robert A. Heinlein, his works, and his influences. Presentations from a variety of academic and critical perspectives and disciplines are welcome and should be suitable for a 15 to 20 minute reading presentation time limit. Please Email inquiries or 250-word abstracts and working bibliography (optional) to Lisa N. D'Amico, Heinlein Studies Area Chair, using pca@rahstudies.org. Deadline for abstracts and proposals is October 15, 2006. Prospective panelists will be contacted promptly via E-mail. All submissions will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Suggested topics of exploration include (but are not limited to):

- The Human Diaspora
- The Future History

- World-as-Myth
- The juveniles
- Defining humanity in sf context
- Cultural contexts
- Popular culture and science fiction
- The space program
- Short stories and novels
- Social structure
- Critical analysis of Heinlein's works, characters, and themes

Since Heinlein's works encompass many fields of study, Heinlein Studies is not limited to science fiction or literary themes only. Presentations are encouraged from all academic areas.

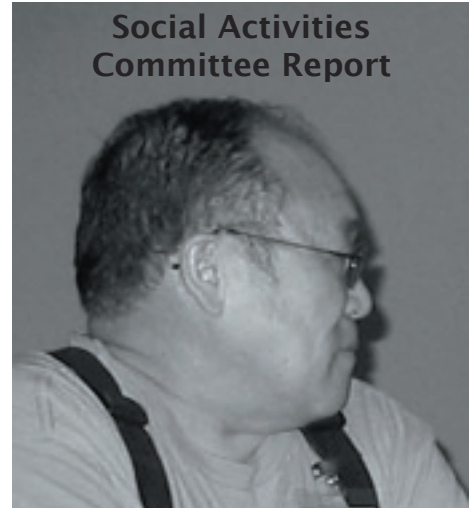
Artwork can be representational of (or inspired by) Heinlein-related themes, characters, works, or other aspects of the Heinlein universe. Artists will present and discuss their work at the conference.

Visit www.rahstudies.org for more information and updates leading up to the conference. Other opportunities for scholarship will be posted on the website as they become available. Also, please visit the Heinlein Society website (www.heinleinsociety.org) for more information.

Lisa D'Amico, Academic Committee Chair

rahstudies@yahoo.com or
pca@rahstudies.org

Social Activities Committee Report



Keith Kato at Conkopelli.
Photograph by The Heinlein Society

NO AWARDS DINNER PLANNED AT 2006 WORLD SF CONVENTION

The Heinlein Society usually sponsors its Awards Dinner during the World Science Fiction Convention.

For L.A. Con IV, the 2006 WorldCon in Anaheim, California, the Board of Directors of the Society have concluded it would be highly impractical, both for financial and scheduling reasons, to hold the Awards Dinner or even a Luncheon this year. The banquet menus available at both the Hilton and Marriott hotels housing WorldCon attendees ask the inordinately high prices one expects for a captive clientele, plus state tax, a "service

charge,” and substantial hourly fees for bartenders and servers. The area surrounding the two hotels also reveals a lack of quality restaurants within short walking distance. Farther away is Downtown Disney. Despite an abundance of restaurants, a separate dining room for the Society’s use cannot be rented during peak hours at an acceptable price. Ultimately, the Board of Directors was unwilling to ask in excess of \$80 per diner, hence the decision not to hold an Awards Dinner this year.

The Society will have some lower profile events at L.A. Con IV that are still in the discussion and planning stages. There is a reception for Heinlein Award winners Jack Williamson and Greg Bear Thursday night in the Heinlein Society hospitality suite at the Marriott. An expedition to 8777 Lookout Mountain Avenue in the Laurel Canyon hills just north of Beverly Hills, and lunch in the nearby West Hollywood or Valley area is being considered. This house is significant to Heinlein students, as it was owned by Robert Heinlein during the 1930s and 40s. There will be readings other nights. Details for these and other Society activities at the Worldcon will be available at the Society’s fan table within the Convention Center itself, or by telephoning the Society’s suite at the Anaheim Marriott. Ask for David Silver’s room telephone if they don’t recognize the Society’s name when you call.

The Society’s Annual Meeting, at L.A. Con IV, will be held at 5 PM, Saturday, August 26, in the Society’s hospitality suite. We hope to see you there!

Keith G. Kato, Social Activities Committee Chairman
kgkato@raytheon.com

Convention Programming Coordinator’s Report



Alec Iorio, “sitting in the sun.”
Photograph by The Heinlein Society

“PAY IT FORWARD” WITH HEINLEIN SOCIETY CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

This first quotation you will likely recall from Robert A. Heinlein’s 1951 juvenile novel, *Between Planets*:

At the offices of the New London Trust & Investment Company, New London, Venus:

... The banker reached into the folds of his gown, pulled out a single credit note. “But eat first—a full belly steadies the judgment. Do me the honor of accepting this as our welcome to the newcomer.”

His pride said no; his stomach said YES! Don took it and said, “Uh, thanks! That’s awfully kind of you. I’ll pay it back, first chance.”

“Instead, pay it forward to some other brother who needs it.” The banker touched a button on his desk, then stood up.

Don said goodbye and left.

This second quotation is from an essay by Mr. Robert Wilfred Franson:

Pay it forward — that’s a vital component of the Heinlein philosophy. We cannot possibly repay all those we owe for who we are and what we have — our culture, our free institutions, the essential childraising — and Heinlein surely places freedom ahead of banknotes. We cannot adequately pay back the dead heroes and philosophers and frontiersmen, even our immediate ancestors; but we can pay forward to those in need of a banknote to steady their judg-

ment, sustain a free society in which to flourish.

As we approach the Centennial anniversary of Robert Heinlein’s birth, the membership of the Society founded by his loving wife, Virginia, is preparing suitable offerings and exhibitions for display at various venues all across the United States and beyond. Beyond the commemorations and celebrations, RAH’s expression of the “pay it forward” concept is informing our communal operations. This portion of our communal pay it forward operation is beyond the abilities of any one person and presents wonderful opportunities for each of us members to increase our participation in the Society’s efforts.

There are conventions being scheduled right now throughout the United States and we have members in localities adjacent to many of these. We are soliciting active membership participation in these enterprises. Up the ante in your personal pay it forward scheduling. Get online and look up the convention(s) nearest your home — or where you’d like to vacation. There’s an excellent listing of many of these at the Locus magazine website along with convenient links for obtaining more information on those that appeal to you.

Together we strive to bring knowledge and appreciation of the seminal works and philosophies of Robert Heinlein to the current readership of speculative fiction. We have many currently undeclared co-appreciators and many more potential friends and fellow travelers to whom we should extend our friendship with an offer of Heinleinian hospitality. Every convention meeting, panel discussion or costume party is another fresh, new opportunity. “Shucks,” to quote

Cont’d on Page Seventeen

Blood Drives Committee Report

Things have been a bit slow since September. We were unable to mount drives at Orycon and Philcon this past year, though we still hope for the future. Nevertheless, we've run drives at several old and new venues.

On the weekend before Thanksgiving (Nov. 17-20) we ran our second annual drive at Gen Con in Anaheim, California. The turnout was not as good as last year, despite better weather and moving inside rather than using a bloodmobile. The problem was lower attendance at the con, or that we were just not as visible, but we had fewer than 20 donors, only half as many as last year, and collected only a dozen pints. Any blood is useful, but it may be difficult to convince the Red Cross to come back this year with such a low turnout. Thanks to THS members James

Leonard, Tim Morgan and Keith Kato for helping staff the table.

On the weekend of January 14-16 Arisia hosted their third annual Robert Heinlein blood drive in Boston. This was a rousing success as always, and grew again this year to 65 donors and 61 pints collected. Thanks as usual to John Hodges, who has honchoed this drive from the beginning, and to Natalie Seals and her Naughty Nurses, who have really been bringing in donors. Thanks to the great impression she

made last year, as well as her posting on LiveJournal, they had an even dozen "nurses" of both sexes this year encouraging folks to roll up their sleeves. After each donor was off the table, they made a big show of presenting each with their cloisonné pin, which brought further attention to the cause and gave donors the applause they deserve.

The following weekend we were finally able to have our first drive at Chattacon in Chattanooga. Last year's drive was cancelled at

drive. I'm sure we would have had as many this year had there been someone to work.

Which raises a point that I've made in previous newsletters; we really need volunteers to make our blood drive efforts a success. I can't emphasize this strongly enough. Every member of the society needs to step up and volunteer their time as well as their money, if not at a blood drive, then to support another project. We all have busy lives, but anyone can make

the time to pay it forward in some way. All the committees have projects that require varying degrees of time and effort, so there is work to fit any schedule. By working to make the world a better place, you benefit yourself as well as others.

We also need your thoughts, ideas and inspiration to help us move forward. Natalie's naughty nurses have been a great boon to our



the last minute due to mechanical problems with the bloodmobile. Unfortunately, I was unable to find anyone to work this drive; and numbers suffered as a consequence. We had only six donors, better than nothing, but still was disappointing. Last year, when David Wright was there to take signups and provide visibility, there were considerably more signups prior to the day of the

Above: Mike leads by example at Cascadia Con.

Photograph by Sharon Sheffield

Arisia blood drives. The convention has a 'Rocky Horror Picture Show' each year on Friday night; and they are there and get up on stage to tell entice people to come and donate with lines like "Getting drained...is sexy," "Giving it up...is sexy," "Your hot blood...is sexy." Then Nat takes the mike and explains about the drive and the tradition that Heinlein started. I want expand to other conventions, implementing similarly imaginative ideas. Balticon and Dragon Con are

More Blood Drives Committee Report

also doing great things and bringing in large numbers of donors.

Over Easter weekend we had

the standards of the collection organizations. We get about the same percentage of attendees donating as at many large cons, but eleven is just not enough for the organiza-

lected 50 pints, with nine of those being double red donors. Thanks to Vaughan Spencer for running things there. The con and the Red Cross are looking forward to doing it again next year.

Our 2nd Annual drive at Kublacon (Burlingame, May 26-29) also turned out well. I found out fairly late that Stanford Blood Center had dropped our drive for a larger one that Sunday, but the Stanford rep suggested I contact Blood Center of the Pacific, and they stepped in and did a great job. We had targeted for sixteen pints, about what we got last year, and they came prepared to handle as many as 25. They exceeded their expectations, ran out of time and supplies, and had to turn away several people. They already have us on the books for next year; and the convention may be able to move us inside rather than using the blood-mobile, which will probably boost

At left, above: The "Naughty Nurses" at Arisia.

Photograph by John Hodges

our second annual blood drive at Minicon in Minneapolis. The drive was held on Saturday, April 16 and brought in 30 donors who gave 21 pints of blood. Thanks to Jim Yount and Otto Tennant for running the drive for us there.

The Leprecon (Phoenix, May 5-7) blood drive was, unfortunately, even less inspiring than our previous outing two years ago, despite a great effort put forth by local artist Mark Greenawalt and Richard Madden who ran the sign up table for THS, as well as good support from the con. Mark did a special body painting session recreating James Warhola's cover of I Will Fear No Evil and sent out press releases about the drive, but to no avail. We got only fourteen donors and collected eleven pints, not enough to entice United Blood Services to return next year. I believe the convention is just too small to have a drive judged successful by

tions.

By contrast, our first blood drive at Marcon (Columbus, Ohio, May 26-28) was a great success,



even though the attendee/donor ratio was about the same as Leprecon. We had 72 donors and col-

Above: "Naughty Nurse" Natalie Seals and some prime prospective donors at Arisia.

Photograph by John Hodges

Yet More Blood Drives Committee Report

donation even more.

The Balticon (Baltimore, May 26-29) blood drive keeps improving every year. This was our 4th annual drive there, and we got 38 pints of blood from 52 donors presenting. Thanks go to Pam Somers and her husband Bob Preisinger and J.J. Brannon for again doing a wonderful job there.

Next up was Conzilla, the 2006 Westercon (San Diego, July 1-4). Mike Mahoney ran the convention for us there with help from his wife; and Jerry Munger and Paul and Terry Brussel-Gibbons were available to assist for part of the time. It went well. There were 29 donors presenting, and 22 pints were collected. The San Diego Blood Bank was pleased, and put us in their book for our next local drive which will be at ConDor (Mar 2-4, 2007). Thanks to Mike Mahoney.

He will be running ConDor too.

After that is Demicon (Des Moines, July 28-30). Sheril Harper will again be running the blood drive there as she did last year.

August 17-20 will be our 3rd

annual drive at Gen Con (Indianapolis). Scott Hann, Mike Urbanski and Jennifer Bernstein will be there to run the drive as they did last year.

Last week I delivered the usual

donor pins to Origins (a gaming convention in Columbus, Ohio, June 29 - July 2). They have had a blood drive there for a few years now and one of the organizers was at Kublacon, donated a pint, and

requested pins to give out their blood donors. He likes the Heinlein Society's work and wants us to be involved with their future drives.

I received and email earlier this month from Lisa Turpin, a representative of the Inland Northwest Blood Center (Spokane area) about doing a blood drive next year. Beethka Hendrix, a THS member, had contacted her to set up a drive to celebrate Heinlein's centennial year. The drive will take place at one or more of their donor centers in the Northwest. We don't have exact dates set yet. I hope to encourage more THS members and Heinlein fans to take similar initiative and organize centennial tributes of this



Cover Art Concept by James Warhola from
Robert A. Heinlein's "I Will Fear No Evil"

Photo and bodyart c2006 Mark Greenawalt, www.futureclassx.com

complement of blood drive pins for the Comic-Con blood drive in San Diego (July 20-23). This is their 30th year of doing a blood drive there. They usually greatly exceed 100 donors. I've also sent blood

sort. I've E-mailed Beethka to offer my thanks and any necessary support.

Ginny Heinlein donated copies of Robert's works to donors at the two World SF Con drives that

And, Finally, More Blood Drives Committee Report

occurred after formation of THS while she was living--in Philadelphia in 2001 and San José in 2002. This year I've written to the Prize Trustee and asked him to emulate her kindness and encouragement. I hope to see you all donate at L.A. Con IV. If you cannot donate, please help out, some way.

We need people for these events and more. If you can help out, or if you know someone reliable that can, I need to hear from you soon. If there is a convention in your area that would be a good venue for a blood drive let me know. We can work together to set it up.

I never had the good fortune to meet Robert Heinlein, but I believe that he would be pleased to know that we are following the course that he laid in for us and paying it forward.

Mike Sheffield, Blood Drives Chair and Director
areopagan@earthlink.net

Convention Programming Coordinator's Report

Cont'd from Page Thirteen

a Venerian acquaintance, is there even one fan of Robert A. Heinlein who doesn't enjoy talking about her/his opinion(s) of RAH and his works and influences?

So, don't just sit there! Contact a Con near you and ask how you can participate! Offer to set up a discussion panel — if you need some assistance or suggestions, send us an email. The THS website includes a page of contact links for your convenience. We'll respond to your questions and suggestions expeditiously.

OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

The Heinlein Society has, as usual, reserved a suite for the spe-

cial use of members at the up-coming 64th World Science Fiction Convention (WorldCon) to be held in Anaheim, California during the week-end of 23 - 27 August, 2006. The exact number of the suite will be available at the Anaheim Marriott as well as at the Society's fantable once the convention begins but we know now that the suite will be at the Anaheim Marriott one of the two official hotels of the convention. In this venue, the Society is planning to enhance the WorldCon program offerings by presenting special readings from TWO new books which are of incredible Heinlein-specific interest.

On Wednesday, August 23 at 7:30 PM in the Society's suite, to celebrate the evening of the first official day of the convention, Heinlein Scholar, Bill Patterson, will be reading selections from Volume Two of his soon-to-be-published biography of Robert Heinlein. Following the reading, there will be an opportunity for a "Q and A" session with the author/reader which will be fueled by bonhomie, beverages and comestibles supplied by the Society.

On Friday, August 25, also at 7:30 PM, the Society will sponsor a reading from the opening chapters of *Variable Star* by **Robert A. Heinlein** and **Spider Robinson**. For the Heinlein fans who are not aware of this new publication, this new work is based on an outline and character notes RAH created in 1955 and put aside in favor of other projects. Following its discovery in the Heinlein Archives, the Heinlein Trust contacted Spider Robinson (a well-known Heinlein admirer and a first-class science-fiction author in his own right) and made arrangements with him to "complete the work." The announced publication

release of the book is September 19, 2006 -- just a couple of weeks following the convention. Once again, the Society will offer beverages and comestibles. The bonhomie which will be in evidence will be the provision and responsibility of the attendees.

See you there?

Pay It Forward!

Alec Iorio, Programming Coordinator

baybus@mindspring.com

Fundraising Committee Report



Alan Milner at Cascadia Con
Photograph by The Heinlein Society

SOCIETY ANNOUNCES CENTENNIAL READER COMPETITION

Robert A. Heinlein was born 99 years ago, in Butler, Missouri, on July 7, 1907.

Beginning on July 7, 2007, millions of devoted Heinlein fans will commemorate his life and works with a year-long series of events and activities at science fiction conventions and other special events around the world.

As part of this Centennial Celebration, The Heinlein Society is planning to publish a commemorative volume of Heinlein appreciations of Heinlein's life and work.

"Critical Mass: A Heinlein Centennial Reader," scheduled for release on July 7, 2007, will be

Cont'd on Page Eighteen

Fundraising Committee Report

Cont'd from Page Seventeen

compiled from essays submitted to the Society through a specially-designed website.

"Anyone can submit articles to the competition," explained Alan Milner, the Chairman of the Society's Fundraising Committee, who is coordinating the Centennial Reader project. "This isn't reserved for academics or professional writers. We want to see a real cross section of Heinlein readers responding to this opportunity."

"We are especially interested in first-person articles from people who knew Robert, or corresponded with him, as well as essays from people who never met Robert, but whose lives have been affected by Heinlein's philosophy and social commentaries."

The long-time board member also pointed out that appearing in the Centennial reader would be a real step up for aspiring writers, because the book is destined to receive wide distribution within the science fiction community.

All of the materials submitted to this competition will be posted on the Centennial Reader website, where they will be subjected to public review and comment, but only the members of the Society can vote on the submissions.

Each submission will be reviewed by a member of the Heinlein Society for appropriateness and decorum. Once submissions pass the sniff test, they will be posted on line on the CRITICAL MASS web site for public review and comment. Editorial comments will be passed along to the authors, who will be responsible for amending and resubmitting their articles in accordance with

the feedback. Editing is optional, of course, but a positive response to feedback may affect the voting. While readers will be able to "vote" for their favorite articles in a "popularity survey", the final selections will be made by the membership of The Heinlein Society, who will make their selections from the top vote getters in each category.

The public review period will end on May 1, 2007. From May 1 to June 1, when the members of the Society will read and vote on all of the articles that have been nominated by the public for inclusion in the Centennial Readers. The voting period will end on June 1, to allow us the time required to edit, proof, and prepare the volume for publication.

The Heinlein Centennial Reader will be published in three forms, as an e-book, as a hard cover book in standard library binding, and in a limited edition leather-bound version. We are experimenting with a Print On Demand system that promises a seven day turnaround period. The Reader will be offered through Amazon.com and the Society's website, but will not be available from retail stores except by special order.

All proceeds from the sales of the Centennial Reader will be applied to the charitable activities of the Society, but each of the authors will receive a complimentary copy of the Reader.

For more information on how to submit articles, please visit: <http://www.ratesifters.com/Heinlein/heinlein1.htm>

Alan Milner, Fundraising Chair and Director
sagemerlin@aol.com

**"Pay It Forward--"
Twice Would Be Fine**

Membership Service Committee Report



Pam Somers at Cascadia Con
Photograph by The Heinlein Society

Summer is well upon us and WorldCon is only weeks away!

WorldCon is the place that old members have the chance to renew acquaintances and new members have the chance to make them. For myself, I always look forward to greeting old friends and meeting new ones. The Society will (as always) open a hospitality suite on most evenings in the President's digs at the Marriott. If you're attending WorldCon this year, I certainly hope you will drop by.

We will have our usual fan table at WorldCon and again this year we are seeking volunteers to help man the table for at least a couple of hours each day. Check the program schedule and fit us in between panels! You can talk to me any evening in the hospitality suite, or Email me in advance, or sign up each morning at the fan table—or just drop by the fan table and grab a chair. Whether you can stay or not, please be sure to locate and stop by the fan table so we can give

you a Heinlein Society ribbon to add to your badge. We want folks to know who we are!

The upcoming WorldCon got me to thinking about our annual membership meeting -- and that got me to thinking about our members -- and that got me to thinking about how much of what we do is invisible to our members. I thought this might be a good time to remind our members about the activities our dues are supporting. You know about our blood drives, of course—our blood drive chairman, Mike Sheffield, gives us a report in every newsletter about blood drives held and blood drives planned. But, did you know we gift

each blood donor with a small heart-shaped pin, designed by Robert Heinlein for the earliest blood drives, as well as a “blood donor” ribbon to be attached to their convention badge? We’re proud to continue

the tradition Robert began so many years ago. Your dues help support these things.

I attended Balticon this past May, and several people stopped to talk to me about ways to have Heinlein books placed in school libraries. Many of them commented to me that they would love to see that happen, but don’t know where to begin to make it happen. Our Library Chairman, Lindalee Stuckey, has dedicated many hours to producing and assembling all the material necessary to have Robert’s books placed in school libraries. She’s always available to support

our members with practical advice to help place Robert’s works in your local school libraries and public libraries. Your dues help support this, too.

To thank our paid-up members this year, we are planning an exciting benefit to be awarded during the membership meeting at WorldCon. Every paid-up member will be entered in a drawing for one of ten signed first editions of Heinlein Board Member Jerry Pournelle and Larry Niven classics, *Lucifer’s Hammer*, *The Mote in God’s Eye*, or *Footfall* -- or for one of three signed first editions of Heinlein Board Member Joe Halde-

man’s classics *Mindbridge*, *All My Sins Remembered*, or *Buying Time*.

Most exciting ... with gracious cooperation of the Heinlein Estate, we will be awarding a facsimile of the original manuscript of Robert’s

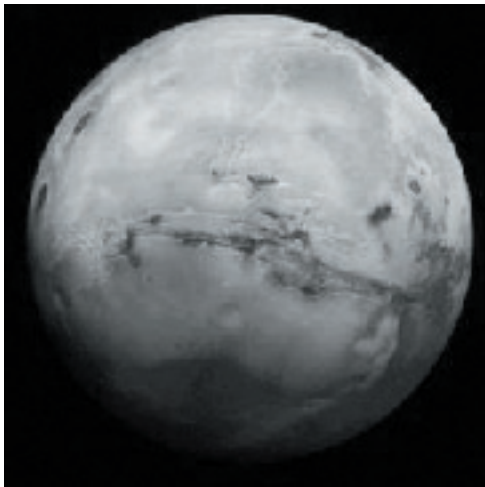
first novel, *For Us, the Living*.

To be entered in the drawing, all you need to do is be sure your 2006 dues reach us by August 15th. That’s it! If you’ve already paid your dues, you’re entered. If you haven’t yet paid your dues, don’t wait any longer. If you aren’t sure, drop us an Email and we’ll check for you.

You don’t have to attend the con to be a part of the drawing. But I hope you do – I’m looking forward to seeing you at L.A. CON IV!

Pam Somers, Membership Services Chair

IrishBet@aol.com



Library Committee Report



Lindalee Stuckey at 2005 Nebula Awards

Photograph by Keith Stokes

I am recovering from total hip replacement. The good news is I am now free of most of the pain. I am down from nine pain pills a day to one at night. So far I can handle a walker and am beginning to use a cane. I can get in and out of bed myself but I have to move every two hours which affects my sleep.

I’ve written the AR tests for the Heinlein juveniles, some are in final form, others nearly there. We’re cooperating with a project by AboutSF.com, letting them use our tests as samples for others to emulate in creating certifications of other SF books suitable for K-12 teaching. See, http://www.aboutsf.com/wiki/index.php/AR:Heinlein_AR_Tests

Thank you all for the great response to my plea for funds for this project.

I have plane tickets and a hotel reservation for WorldCon. My doctor gave me clearance to go. I have asked the airline for wheelchair assistance as O’Hare is a lot of walking. I am contacting the convention for handicapped access for events.

I am looking forward to meeting Heinlein people at WorldCon.

Lindalee Stuckey, Library Committee Chair

redunicorn@sbcglobal.net

BOOK REVIEWS

Heinlein's Children: The Juveniles

by Joseph T. Major
with an introduction by Alexei Panshin

5.5" x 8.5", 535 pp., 2006
ISBN 0-911682-34-1 Cloth,
\$25.00

"Mr. Major's study of Heinlein's juveniles emphasizes plot development and incident, considers what Heinlein was trying to do in each story and how well he succeeded, and also points out possible influences from other sources.

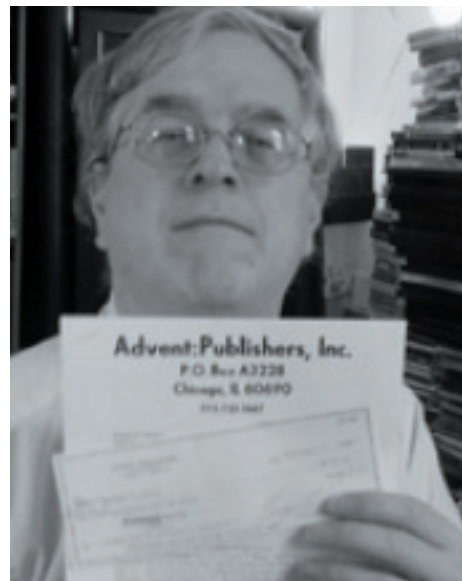
"Major does not waste the reader's time trying to 'deconstruct' stories to make political points about our own times. The closest he comes to that is in considering the controversy that exploded around Starship Troopers (1959) and why the book was denounced as militaristic and fascist by some critics (many of whom understood little about the military and even less about fascism). Scribner's published the first twelve of Heinlein's juveniles, but balked at Starship Troopers—too much red meat for young readers, apparently—so Heinlein sold the last two of his juveniles to Putnam's.

"This book is introduced by Alexei Panshin, whose own ... books ... reflect a quite different way of analyzing the works of Robert A. Heinlein."
-- from the dustjacket

I received a reviewing copy of Joe Major's hard cover printing of the series of essays he's labored over for years on all the Heinlein juveniles late last year. It's quite worthwhile. Joe is a long-time fan of SF with quite an unique viewpoint, but one that is intelligently rational and supportable, almost always. These essays, some quite entertaining, are works that I've recommended over the years to teachers considering using Heinlein

juveniles for classroom work—they contain a wealth of references to influences or subjects alluded to by Heinlein in passing, Heinlein's famous "info dumps" that make the juveniles fascinating reading for adolescents and adults alike.

Sometimes Joe is flat out wrong about what he thinks Heinlein might have been thinking on a subject referenced—for example, there's a web-published rebuttal by David Wright to some points Joe critiques about General Semantics, but his mistakes are honestly reasoned and contain his best considerations.



The new materials are chapters on *Starship Troopers* and *Podkayne of Mars*, not juveniles exactly, but marketed as such when first published, some light revisions of other chapters, and an introduction by Panshin that I actually enjoyed reading, for a change, unlike most writings by him which make me want to sneer. Panshin liked the juveniles and his recital of their influence on his youth is warm. He had to be a fan first, and he was, before he became a frustrated critic of Heinlein.

I recommend Major's work highly. You will find after reading

an essay, you will want to reread the juvenile if you've read it before and read it for the first time if you've never done so. You may order it from the usual retail purveyors or directly from the publisher, Advent:Publishers, Inc., P.O. Box A3228, Chicago, IL 60690. Advent also makes available *The Science Fiction Novel*, introduced by Basil Davenport, and *Of World Beyond*, edited by Lloyd Arthur Eschach, each of which contain important essays on SF by Robert Heinlein, and others. See, <http://www.nesfa.org/press/Books/Advent/>

David M. Silver

**At Left: Joseph Major with his first royalty check
November 29, 2002**

Photograph provided by Joe Major

Variable Star

by Robert A. Heinlein and Spider Robinson

5.5" x 8.5", 320 pp., 2006
ISBN 076531312X, Hardbound,
\$24.95.

"When Joel Johnston first met Jinny Hamilton, it seemed like a dream come true. And when she finally agreed to marry him, he felt like the luckiest man in the universe.

"There was just one small problem. He was broke. His only goal in life was to become a composer, and he knew it would take years before he was earning enough to support a family.

"But Jinny wasn't willing to wait. And when Joel asked her what they were going to do for money, she gave him a most unexpected answer. She told him that her name wasn't really Jinny Hamilton—it was Jinny Conrad, and she was the granddaughter of Richard Conrad, the wealthiest man in the solar system.

"And now that she was sure that Joel loved her for herself, not for her wealth, she revealed her family's plans for him—he would be groomed

for a place in the vast Conrad empire and sire a dynasty to carry on the family business.

“Most men would have jumped at the opportunity. But Joel Johnston wasn’t most men. To Jinny’s surprise, and even his own, he turned down her generous offer and then set off on the mother of all benders. And woke up on a colony ship heading out into space, torn between regret over his rash decision and his determination to forget Jinny and make a life for himself among the stars.

“He was on his way to succeeding when his plans—and the plans of billions of others—were shattered by a cosmic cataclysm so devastating it would take all of humanity’s strength and ingenuity just to survive.”

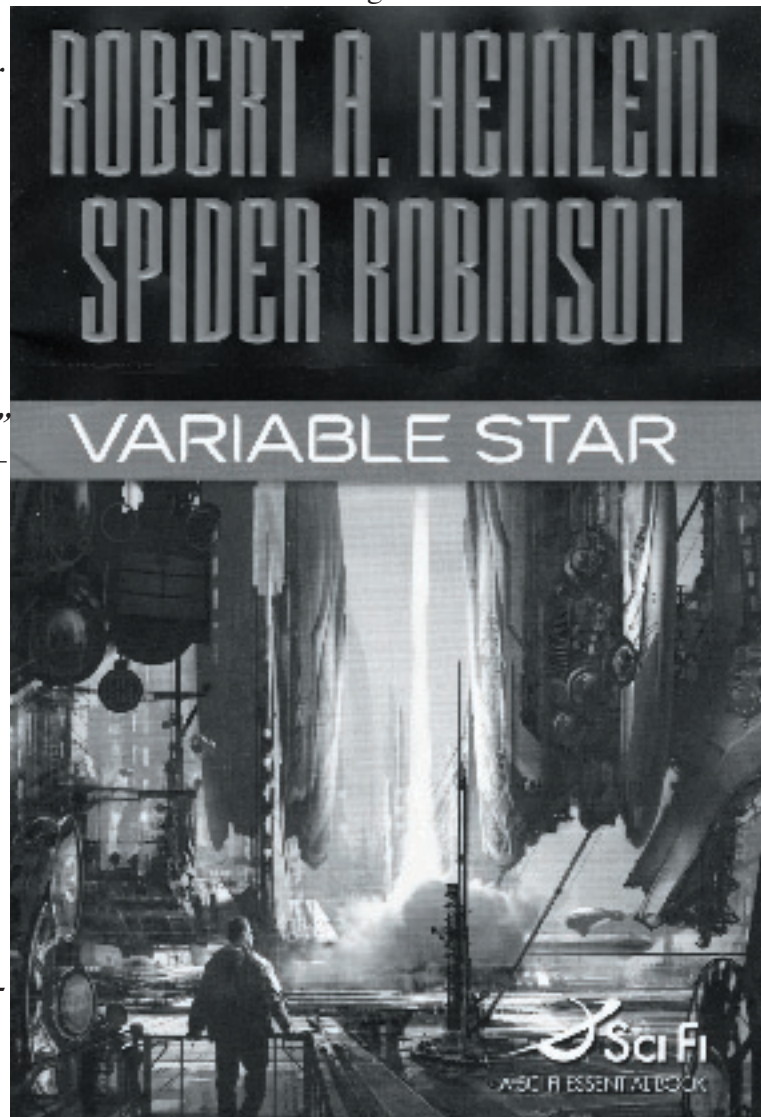
—From publisher’s promotional material.

“... Robinson ... plants both feet firmly in Heinlein territory with this mostly credible pastiche of a Heinlein young adult novel circa 1955. Working from an unfinished outline and notes, Robinson tells the coming-of-age tale of Joel Johnston, who flees a broken romance Joel and his companions demonstrate the odd mixture of innocence and sexual experimentation that Heinlein employed, But the strain of a contemporary author trying to fit his sensibility about the future (in which nonaggression is a way of life, for example) into Heinlein’s more notably militaristic mindset leaves its traces on the characters and plot, with some unexplained role reversals. Nostalgia for Heinlein’s early work may pique interest in this posthumous collaboration, but old Heinlein hands

may be disappointed that the book is incomplete, being all journey and no arrival.”

—From Publisher’s Weekly.

This is going to be a controversial novel. It is an experiment by the literary executor to determine whether today’s authors, as heavily influenced by Heinlein’s writings as his aficionados, can make Heinlein’s magic continue to work



to support the trust he set up to fund mankind’s flights into space.

Mr. Robinson earned the incredibly difficult first shot at this effort by his essays and efforts on behalf of Heinlein’s writings these past nearly two decades and more since Heinlein’s death in 1988. He suffered from critics and fair weather men the onus that every messenger

bearing bad tidings gets following his tribute to the Grand Master published in Tiger Kondo’s *Requiem* in 1992.

In 1955, Robert Heinlein created an outline of at least eight pages, together with a series of notes on the three by five pale blue cards he often used, that might have grown to become the juvenile novel

Variable Star, although originally he entitled it *The Stars Are a Clock* and then, among other possibilities, *Doctor Einstein’s Clock*, but never settled on a final title. He stopped writing the outline for some reason and, perhaps as former UC Santa Cruz Heinlein Scholar William Patterson suggests, after discussing it with Ginny Heinlein, wrote at her suggestion instead the juvenile novel about the twins Pat and Tom Bartlett that became *Time for the Stars*, a novel that addresses some, but not all, themes outlined by *Dr. Einstein’s Clock*, the abandoned outline that continued on into our future in a drawer of orphaned ideas that Ginny once told me that she kept, even after Robert’s death, reading over them occasionally.

I haven’t read enough of Robinson to be a fan, only a few of his essays including some he wrote for the *Globe and Mail*, Canada’s leading newspaper, less than a handful of the Callahan’s Saloon novels, and none of his collaborations with his wife Jeanne. The Callahan stories seem affable amusements to me, somewhat lacking in gravitas, plainly intended to express a laudable and kindly tol-

Cont’d on Page Twenty-three



A Non-Profit Corporation
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www.heinleinsociety.org

Board Of Directors
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[1916-2003]
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Joe Haldeman
Alan Milner
Jerry Pournelle
Michael Sheffield
David Wright, Sr.
Jane Silver, Secretary-Treasurer
David M. Silver, Chairman

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 persons 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-12 grades)
_____ Centennial Celebration of Robert Heinlein's Birth _____ Aerospace Outreach

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

Other Comments: _____

BOOK REVIEWS

Cont'd from page twenty-one

erance for all the forms of human eccentricity, but not every vampire, talking dog or alien merits tolerance, or even much interest.

This defect of superficiality is not present in his recently completed *Variable Star*. “*Variable Star* is the story of a young man so unlucky in love that it drove him clear out of the solar system, ... and then that turned out to be the *good* news,” Robinson said in a recent interview with SciFi.com.

There is an “arrival” to the story, contrary to the reviewer who writes for *Publisher’s Weekly*. Heinlein very often tipped the story by choosing particular names for his protagonists, and either he in his outline or Robinson in emulation of him has done so here. Read, *Book of Joel*, 3:3-5, and 4:1-21 [in 2:18 through 3:21, of the *King James Version*].*

This is not an affable juvenile Robinson has written. The outline broke off, lacking an ending, and Robinson has chosen to conclude the plot with a theme Heinlein once recounted to Robinson, telling him John Campbell talked him out of writing a novel containing it. Heinlein on other occasions mentioned that theme as major reason enough for man to seek expansion to the stars. “It is important for the human race to spread out into space for the survival of the species,” the Associated Press recently quoted astrophysicist Stephen Hawking, who echoes Heinlein’s point. “Life on Earth is at the ever-increasing risk of being wiped out by a disaster, such as sudden global warming, nuclear war, a genetically engineered virus or other dangers we have not yet thought of.”

Time for the Stars, the juvenile

novel that *Dr. Einstein’s Clock* became, after the reevaluation, in Heinlein’s typewriter in 1955, is my least favorite juvenile so far as tone is concerned. The major character development theme it displays is the most difficult to handle. There is a certain quintessential sadness to it because it concerns distancing and loss. Tom Bartlett is going to lose everything, except himself. Tom’s lesson-to-learn is to distance himself. First, from his family as the *Lewis and Clark* leaves earth, then from his telepathic twin brother as he comes to realize how he had been dominated by Pat, then more slowly from crewmates who are lost to illness and accident, then from his uncle who dies a hero because Tom cannot throw a rope far enough and whose advice has long since taken the place of that of a father who never seemed very concerned about Tom. Then comes the distancing from all his remaining mentors, and finally from the Captain of the *Elsie* herself, when Tom Bartlett commits his de facto mutiny. Heinlein was to say, under other circumstances, as Joseph Major, in his recent *Heinlein’s Children* (also reviewed this issue), points out, “the theme of the story (referring to the not-a-juvenile *Podkayne of Mars*) is that death is the only destination for all of us and the only long-range hope for any adult lies in the young--and that this double realization constitutes growing up, ceasing to be a child, and putting away childish things.” *Grumbles*, letter of March 10, 1962.

Near the end, Tom stands totally alone aggravated by the knowledge that he can never truly go home again, ever. Joel finds himself in the same situation.

Heinlein resolved that plight with

love, the same way Joe Haldeman resolves Major Mandala’s in *The Forever War*, and Heinlein again so resolved Dan Davis’ plight in *The Door Into Summer*.

I think you will appreciate the “arrival” that resolves the journey of *Variable Star* and Spider Robinson’s renewed tributes to the Grand Master in it.

Think what Clifford Russell and PeeWee would have done had the verdict of his tribunal gone the other way. There is little difference in the final analysis between Iunio, Clifford and us. “All right, take away our star—You will if you can. I guess you can. Go ahead! We’ll *make* a star! Then, someday, we’ll come back and hunt you down—all of you!”

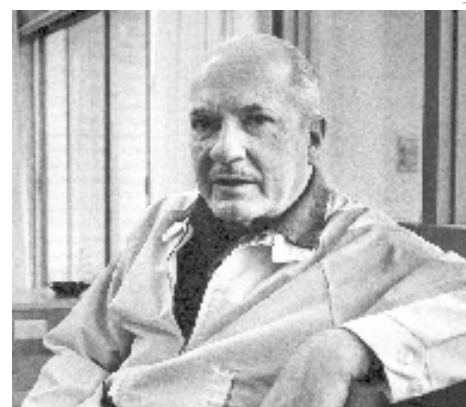
The tone of the novel is dark and challenging; but it is worth buying and reading, more than once. Robinson’s effort merits that reward.

The Prize Trust should be encouraged to look again among the drawerful of orphans Virginia Heinlein maintained to read thoughts from her deceased husband’s mind occasionally.

I recommend you buy and read *Variable Star*.

David M. Silver

[*A minor numbering difference between today’s Protestant and Catholic versions of the Bible going back to translation of the Septuagint in the 3d century B.C.E. when Greek translators combined the Hebrew Books 2 and 3.]



“Pay It Forward--”

“Two times to think, on ... a few small things ...”

I thought I'd inflict on you a photo my wife Andrea likes that she took while I was in rehab after my first heart attack last Veterans' Day. The good news was the stent they put in which allowed me to build up physically well enough that, later, when it can time for a bypass this May I managed to survive it too. I'm probably in better shape today than I've been the past several years—thanks to a handful of pills the VA's doctors insist I take twice a day to keep my heart that way. Thanks for all the good wishes. The bad news was the ugly goatee I grew—when you come out of the hospital with a month's-old beard, why waste it? But you're safe; she made me shave it off after the bypass and says I cannot grow it back until it's time to put it on for the photo on back of the book jacket of the novel I'll write one day. Real safe.

If you're retired as I am and your only “business” interest is keeping a promise to an old lady to keep a little charity going that she started to preserve the memory of her dead husband, two heart attacks gives you time to reflect how well the promise-keeping is going.

We're going to need some really substantial help this next year from old and new participants. We have quite a program for Robert Heinlein's Centennial in planning.

We're going to put on ten or so educational programs at conventions throughout the United States and Canada, and at least one elsewhere, in Japan for WorldCon, and possibly others in Asia and Europe, if, *and only if*, we get your help to do it.

We need two things: money—our dues and contributions, and

membership—you and me, to do it.

Over the next ten months, we'll make visits to various venues, SF conventions and others, such as spaceflight conventions, with a major object of arranging with them for a celebratory program after the Centennial proper begins on July 7, 2007. To do that effectively we will need local contacts from among our membership to help favorably influence and persuade chairman and programming directors that one or two ninety minute panels is little enough to celebrate the Centennial of the greatest SF writer and inspiration for space exploration of the 20th century. And, we'll need membership help the next year, 2007, to man displays and panels. Not everyone thinks a panel is an easy thing to do—but think again: if you've taught anything in your life, Sunday school, furniture refinishing, plumbing, academics, handicrafts, law, or, goodness sakes, SF writing, you can probably hold your own on a panel where you know the subject as well as you know Heinlein's writings.



David Silver doing “Rehab”

Photograph by Mrs. Andrea Silver

Expect me to be in touch, personally, at times late this and next year. I'll be looking for volunteers. We also need ongoing help

with our regular committees, and members willing to organize local groups to support all the Society does or should do in your locales.

We need help with blood drives, expanding them, and maintaining the ones we have. We need local convention programming help. Programming directors are not responsive unless there is a local demand, and that can only be created from within organizations that themselves host conventions. We need help getting Heinlein books into libraries and schools. We need help both at the K-12 and college or university levels. Your local schools and libraries to begin. And we need fundraising capabilities. We need members to help all the fine people who serve as our committee chairs. Volunteers get tired and discouraged when they must work alone. Don't let ours burn out.

Don't wait until I come find you—you might not like it when I call. Instead, drop me a note at agplusone@heinleinsociety.org, or call, any reasonable hour, at 310-346-5667. Tell me what you can do, and more important, what you'd like to do.

It's been a fascinating past six years, with this little idea of Ginny's. It can give you as much gratification as it gives me.

PAY IT FORWARD!

I'll see you at your next convention, for as long as Andrea lets me keep getting on those airplanes.

Thank you for all you can give to us, “and (always) to Ginny.”

Remember, “The Lieutenant expects ...”.

*David M. Silver
President and Chairman
“The Lieutenant expects
your names to shine!”*