

# The Heinlein Society

July 2005

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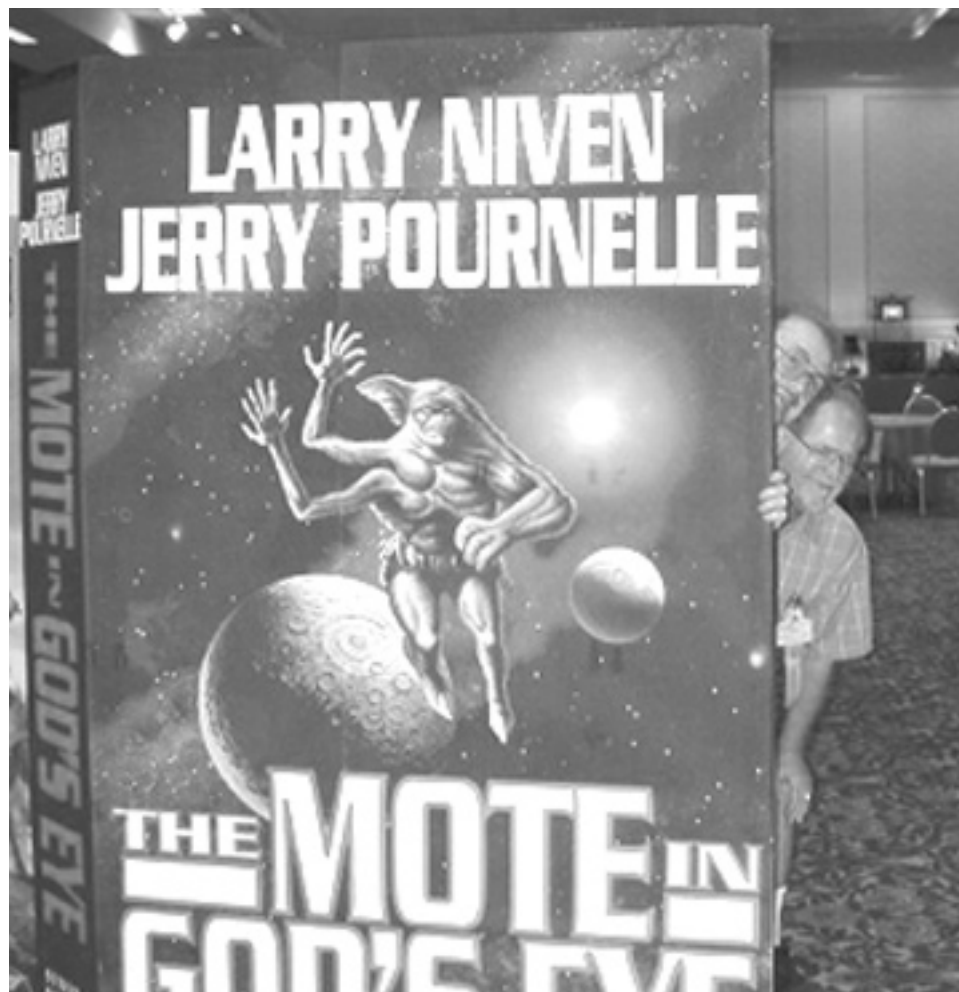
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# newsletter

## 2005 Heinlein Awards To Be Given to Niven and Pournelle In Seattle at NASFiC



Larry and Jerry peeping out from behind a huge Mote in God's Eye cutout during a promotional tour for the novel.

### Colorado Springs, CO, on a day in June 1973

There arrived in Robert Heinlein's mailbox a package containing a massive manuscript. Robert received such things with "monotonous regularity"; and if he didn't recognize the name as someone he knew, liked and trusted, he sent them back

unopened; he usually didn't even acknowledge receipt of those not yet published, hadn't read one received in six months before this one came in, and hadn't commented favorably on publication for one in 4 or 5 years. But this one was from Jerry Pournelle and Larry Niven.

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:

Pam Somers has proved to be an excellent membership services committee chair!

Please read her article of what she has planned. I personally thank Pam for coming on board and taking on this very important position.

Next, we are up to 538 registered members--more than a tenfold increase since 2001, our charter year.

We have a library committee chair! This is me dancing in glee, while I take that hat off and store it carefully in the box atop my closet, hoping I will never take it down again--except for some other use. I know Lindalee Stuckey will be the same sort of take charge and do it person Pam Somers has proved to be with Membership Services.

Ms. Lindalee Stuckey who is an educator, both a teacher and a librarian, a member

of the board of directors for the Golden Duck Awards for excellence in children's science fiction literature, and a member of Reading for the Future, the group developed to promote the use of science fiction literature in classrooms and libraries by Messrs. Brin, Bear, and Benford. Ms. Stuckey's article appears in this newsletter and we will be sending out a call for all volunteers who have come forward very generously in the past and any new members who have expressed an interest in this committee. Congratulations Lindalee, I am at your disposal.

I encourage everyone to be sure to attend the Heinlein Awards Banquet that we are co-hosting with Cascadia Con on Labor Day Weekend in Seattle if you are able. I plan to be there to make sure that this is an even bigger success than past Awards Banquets. We have some great plans relating to a special program and if all goes well it will be another one you will not want to miss.

If you wish to volunteer or discuss anything, please 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.

Dues: Need I say more?  
Bad news? There is **no** bad news.

Jane Silver, Director and Secretary-Treasurer

### The Heinlein Society Notice of Annual General Meeting And Voting Procedures

Board of Directors  
Virginia Heinlein (1916-2003)  
Charles N. Brown  
Bill Patterson  
Yoji Kondo  
Alan Milner  
Joe Haldeman  
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 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 2005 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 fourth annual general meeting. It will be held at Seattle, Washington, on Monday, September 5, 2005, at 1:00 PM, PDT, in a room as yet to be assigned by Cascadia Con programming, at the Seattle Airport Hilton Convention Center and Hotel, 17620 Pacific Highway South Seattle, Washington 98188 or at the Airport Radisson Hotel, 17001 Pacific Highway South, Seattle Washington 98188. Cascadia Con has not yet published its programming schedule with room numbers. You need not be a purchaser of Cascadia Con membership to attend the meeting. Both hotels are public venues, open to non-Cascadia Con members. Visitors who are not members of the Society 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 two of the seven directors of The Society for the two 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 William F. Patterson and Alan Milner. Either, or both, or neither, may stand for reelection, as he each may announce at or before the time of the meeting. Mr. Patterson 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 2002. Mr. Milner was elected to a three-year term in 2002. 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 Tuesday, August 30, 2005, before he departs to Seattle; 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  
June 19, 2005

**2005 Annual Heinlein Awards To Niven and Pournelle**

**Cont'd from Page One**

So he opened it and started reading. Three days later he sat down and started typing a letter of advice to them which became, first, twenty-seven pages long; and then, after revisions were made and returned, grew into a second letter and a third letter totalling 33 more pages--60 pages in all.

The published novel that resulted became a best seller, **The Mote in God's Eye (1974)**, "possibly," Robert Heinlein said, "the finest science fiction I have ever read."

It was Niven and Pournelle's first collaboration; and, as they say, the rest was history.

This year's Annual Heinlein Awards will be presented live to both Mr. Niven and Dr. Pournelle for their lifetime achievements in hard science fiction or technical writings inspiring the human exploration of space.

The Awards will be presented, in cooperation with Cascadia Con at the Society's annual banquet to be held on Sunday night at this year's 8th North America Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC), on September 4, in Seattle, Washington.

Seattle is a beautiful place in early September; the weather is usually quite balmy and warm, not hot;

Puget Sound keeps it temperate; and there's much to see including Paul Allen's new Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame, downtown Seattle, with its famous Pike Place Market and Underground, the Space Needle and monorail downtown, Children's Museum, the Seattle Art Museum and Pacific



Science Center, to name only a few.

Another attractive aspect in having our Society's Fifth Annual Memorial Robert A. Heinlein Banquet, where the Awards will be presented, as part of the convention's official program is it leaves another evening free for a less formal engagement, perhaps a private dinner in relaxed circumstances for members of The Heinlein Society in a suitable, nice place, with perhaps a specially-honored guest--yes, we're work-

Heinlein Award Medallion  
Rendition property and courtesy  
of artist Arlin Robins

ing on something special, but haven't nailed it down enough to announce, yet.

We have substantially reduced banquet dinner prices to \$45 each, no host bar, which means food is provided at cost, with the Society or Cascadia Con bearing all additional expenses associated with the banquet; and, although the dinner is black tie optional for the head table and honored guests, attire is relaxed for the balance of attendees to open the festivities to general members of the convention. Children and your own guests are welcome so long as you have tickets.

The Seiun and Golden Duck Awards will also be presented.

Altogether, attending NASFiC this year is a substantial value we highly recommend.

Reservations for the banquet may be found on our website at <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/awarddinner.html> and purchase of convention memberships are on Cascadia Con's website at [https://www.cascadiacon.org/cgi-bin/ecommerce/ac/agora.cgi?cart\\_id=3345990.15593\\_sR2Pk4&product=Membership](https://www.cascadiacon.org/cgi-bin/ecommerce/ac/agora.cgi?cart_id=3345990.15593_sR2Pk4&product=Membership)

And we'll schedule our own annual Society meeting during the convention, likely on Monday, September 5, the day after the annual banquet.

**PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!**



## Lindalee Irene Stuckey Appointed Library Committee Chair



## Heinlein Society Library Committee Report

I was born in Manitowoc, and grew up in tiny nearby Mishicot, Wisconsin, population 1400, attending Mishicot elementary and high schools; the district is over 110 square miles, south-east of Green Bay. I showed an early interest in reading, starting at age two, and was a first grader at age five because the only third grade teacher in the district found I was already reading books. By third grade I had read every book in the tiny classroom library and began to haunt the nearest public library. I quickly persuaded the children's librarian to allow me "upstairs" privileges.

In fourth grade, on a day I was done with class work, I was allowed to be the class

reporter listening to John Glenn's radio reports. That year I discovered Eleanor Cameron's Mushroom planet books and then Heinlein's **Have Space Suit--Will Travel**. Even though I had all the autographed pictures of all the current astronauts, I was devastated to hear from an eighth grade teacher that women would never be allowed to be astronauts.

Taking inspiration from Heinlein, I read many science fiction books. This was a great help on later SAT vocabulary scores. I became the librarian for my high school as a freshman because the library clerk said, "You are smart, so you can do the reference work." It led to me becoming a professional librarian and teacher.

However throughout high

school and later in college, I discovered a great amount of prejudice by librarians and teachers about science fiction. This always bothered me. I met my second husband in 1983, and he took me to the World Fantasy Convention. I discovered a lot of people who enjoyed reading SF and fantasy as much as I did. Eventually I joined other fans working at SF conventions and helped to start DuckKon and the Golden Duck Award for Excellence in Children's SF.

**[Editor's Note:** The Golden Duck Awards inaugurated in 1992 consist of three cash prizes annually for excellence in children's SF literature for picture books, books for middle grades (the Eleanor Cameron Award), and books for young adults (the Hal Clement Award), with occasional special awards; and they are funded by a charitable corporation that also sponsors a regional Science Fiction convention every spring, called "DuckKon" in DuPage County, Illinois, the western suburbs of Chicago. Ms. Stuckey is a director of the Golden Duck Awards. See, <http://www.goldenduck.org/>

The Golden Duck Awards, this year, will be presented at Cascadia Con, during our annual Robert A. Heinlein Memorial Award Banquet on Sunday evening, September 4, at the Seattle Airport Hilton Convention Center.]

In my first Newsletter column as Library Committee Chair let me pose a problem that we can use your help to solve.

## THE "ACCELERATED READER" MENACE

Let me explain. Education has periods of innovation that gradually swing here and there. Teaching reading has gone through such a



swing. The whole language concept of reading library books has taken over from the textbooks you may recall from your schooling that contained snippets extracted from novels and plays and short stories. Teachers have to deal with this. In recent years, another swing has taken place from library floating collections to Accelerated Reader-controlled school libraries and reading. "AR" is a program developed by a corporation, Renaissance Learning, Inc., called "RenLearn," which has contracts nationally with more than 55,000 schools; and, whether they approve or not, teachers and librarians have to deal with it.

Let me explain the process. A student is tested on his reading ability. The student then goes to the library to find a book close to his score. He is only allowed to read books that have Accelerated Reading tests during the school day and must read an AR book for 30 minutes each night. He writes a summary and defines one vocabulary word for each reading session, which means two summaries and two vocabulary words each day. His teacher sets for him a reading goal of points which he earns by taking AR tests. Books are assigned points when they are given AR tests based on the number of words and the reading level of the book. Students are to read 40% nonfiction and 60% fiction.

Now that doesn't seem very restrictive until you realize the other problems. Many school libraries are **only** purchasing books that have already prepared accelerated reader quizzes. There are not as many SF books with quizzes as other genre. This means students who want to read SF books are many times told they have to put them down and find something on the AR list. I have many students who come to me with books that they want to read and ask me to write a test for them. Each school can write only 500 of their own tests.

Some school libraries may not accept donated books, and some are removing books that do not circulate, because they do not have AR quizzes.

It is essential that we find a way to get good SF books into schools with AR-approved quizzes so that future fans, engineers, and scientists have the reading material that inspire many of them to read and to deal with life.

So my question to each of you, to the Heinlein Society is this: **what can we do to overcome this problem** that teachers at 55,000 schools have to deal with?

#### **ACTION PLAN**

We can get AR quizzes prepared for suitable books and stories; a group of teachers exist who share teacher-written accelerated reader tests; we can submit them to RenLearn for approval and listing of

SF stories, including the Heinlein juveniles, among those official AR tests they sell school libraries; and, in this way, we can disseminate them to teachers to permit them to be read.

We need to purchase and send two copies for each story we prepare tests that we send to RenLearn to approve. For the Heinlein juveniles, that is only \$260.

Once we have the tests officially approved, we can make tests and books available to needy schools that can't afford to purchase these tests or books.

There are 500 or so of you out there. If you each donate \$25, with matching money from the Heinlein Trust, doubling funds, we can provide nearly 100 schools this year with a full set of Heinlein juveniles with their official AR tests.

If you have children or grandchildren who you want to read quality books that you probably read when you were a kid yourself, go get your credit card or checkbook, now. Use <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/fundraising.html> for your credit card, or mail your check to: The Heinlein Society, PO Box 1254, Venice, CA 90294-1254. Mark the check "Library Fund."

Thank you from my fellow teachers and librarians, and from Robert Heinlein.

Lindalee Stuckey  
Library Committee Chair  
[LibrariesChair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:LibrariesChair@heinleinsociety.org)





Michael Sheffield on video  
at dinner at Torcon III

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

Thus far, 2005 has been something of a mixed bag as far as blood drives are concerned.

The year started off nicely with Arisia in Boston, which runs January 21–23. John Hodges once again did a great job organizing the drive there. He also had a lot of help from Natalie Seals and her “naughty nurses”, who recruited a lot of donors and made a big show of presenting each donor with their blood drive pin. According to John they were a joy to behold and did a wonderful job. In all there were 51 donors presenting and 48 units of blood were collected. We’re already scheduled for next year and looking forward to more great things there.

Unfortunately, the drive at Chattacon in Chattanooga, Tennessee for the same weekend was cancelled the day before it was scheduled, apparently due to mechanical problems with the blood-mobile. We will try again for next year. My thanks to

David Wright for all his hard work there.

We organized two blood drives over Easter weekend (March 25–27) as well. The first was at ConDor in San Diego. 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 came through for us this year. The turnout was unfortunately somewhat smaller than we had hoped for, with 13 attendees attempting to donate and no deferrals, so 13 units collected. This is a fairly small convention with only about 300 attendees, so the percentage was better than most larger cons; but I think we can do better. Hopefully the blood bank will give us a chance to try again next year. Thanks to Mike Mahoney and Dan Brans-trom for working this one. Mike is also pursuing a blood drive for Conzilla, the 2006 Westercon, which will be in San Diego.

Also on Easter weekend we had our first blood drive at Minicon in Minneapolis. We had 24 people attempt to donate, an amazing 23 of them first time donors. 20 units of blood were collected. Although this was a little short of the goal of 35 that the blood center had, they were still satisfied enough to put us on the books for next year. Thanks to Geo and Deb Rule for running that drive.

After that came the Star Wars Celebration III in Indianapolis, April 21–24. The same folks who do Gen Con

ran this convention, and they were very enthusiastic and helpful. A new THS member, Charles Coffin, was able to put me in contact with his sister-in-law, Teresa Fields, a registered nurse, who ran things onsite. The results, however, were quite disappointing. With an attendance of about 30,000 we only got 12 donors and 9 units collected. Perhaps this is just the wrong crowd for a blood drive. If they have a Celebration IV, I don’t think we’ll bother.

We had another disappointment with Leprecon in Scottsdale, Arizona (May 6–8). This was going to be our second year there, but the United Blood Services representative that we were working with left and did not pass on the information to her successors that we were trying to set up a drive there, so it never got on the books. By the time we found out it was too late to correct the situation, as they were already booked up for the weekend. Beth Murphy, a very helpful person from UBS, will help us get things arranged for next year.

Memorial weekend was yet another two-drive weekend. First we had our third annual blood drive at Balticon, on which Pam Somers took the lead, with help from her husband Bob and J.J. Brannon, as well as David Silver, our current THS president. Balticon has been very supportive of our drives and we appreciate their enthusiasm for paying it for–





**Left to right:** Pamela Somers, Bob Preisinger and J.J. Brannon, blood drive volunteers extraordinary, relax, ready for donors to sign up at Balticon on Memorial Day weekend. All three also put long stints in at the fan table.

ward. There were 45 donors presenting, 12 of them first timers, and 32 units of blood were collected. Some wonderful prizes were raffled off to the donors, including a very nice CD donated by the Filk Guest of Honor, Justin Kare, a three-volume series of books autographed by author EE Knight, and a beautiful dinosaur litho autographed by artist Bob Eggleton. Pam is also looking into possible blood drives at some other cons in the area.

Our other drive for that weekend was at Kublacon, a

gaming convention in Burlingame, California. It was difficult to get staffing for that con, with most of the THS members in the area already having plans to attend Baycon that weekend, so I decided to work that one myself. The convention was a lot of fun and the organizers were great to work with. The Stanford Blood Center came with their bloodmobile on Sunday of the con and we had 17 donors who went through the screening process (several others who wanted to donate either

were not feeling well or had no picture ID, so they didn't make it that far). There were 4 deferrals, and 13 units of blood donated. The Stanford representative was satisfied with the results for a first time drive given that it was on a holiday weekend, and we should be doing it again next year.

Next up is Due North, the 2005 Westercon in Calgary, Alberta. We are going to try something a little different there. Canadian Blood Ser-

Cont'd on Page Eight



## Blood Drives Report, Cont'd from previous page

vices in Calgary is not set up to do remote drives, so they have offered to send a van around to ferry people to their donor center, which is about 5 minutes from the convention. The upside of this is that we can have the drive over 2 days of the con for 7 or 8 hours of the day, where a drive on site would only last 1 day for 5 or 6. I have a couple of people (Hugh Gregory and Lynda Williams) who have volunteered to help out here when they can, but both have professional obligations at the con and will only be available on a limited basis. I need to hear from anyone who is planning to attend, or might be able to, that can help staff a table and take sign ups.

We will have 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. This will be their 29th annual Robert A. Heinlein Memorial Blood Drive. We have been giving them pins for the blood donors for a couple of years now, and this year, in addition, we will have a table at the convention to promote blood donation and paying it forward with The Heinlein Society. We will also be sponsoring a cash 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 or more. The convention itself had over 87,000 attendees last year.

We are 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 and I'm looking forward to working with them.

I had hoped to have a blood drive at Interaction in Glasgow, Scotland the first weekend in August, continuing a five-year tradition of THS sponsored Worldcon blood drives. Unfortunately, the National Blood Service will not be able to accommodate this. The rules for donating blood in the UK do not allow anyone to donate unless they have been in the country for a least 28 days, so most of the attendees would be ineligible. They have offered to provide us with information pamphlets, and the convention is still willing to provide us a table if we have people to staff it. I would like to hear from any members who will be attending Interaction about their availability to help out there.

On the third weekend in August we will have our second annual blood drive at Gen Con in Indianapolis. Last year's drive was very successful, with 63 donors

presenting and 51 units of blood collected. We're looking forward to doing even better this year.

On Labor Day weekend we will have a blood drive at the Cascadia Con, the North American Science Fiction in Seattle. We are also planning for our third annual blood drive at Dragon\*Con in Atlanta. Last year the blood drive there went all 4 days of the convention and collected 162 units of blood. We expect similar results for this year.

In November, on the weekend before Thanksgiving, we will have our second annual blood drive at Gen Con in Anaheim, California. And, of course, I'm still contacting conventions, so there may be more besides these.

Once again I would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and energy helping out. Paying it forward is what we're all about, and I encourage everyone to consider getting actively involved in one or more of the committees of the society. I will be contacting members as the upcoming conventions get nearer to ask for assistance. Or you can contact me at [blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org) and volunteer.

Thanks,  
Mike Sheffield, Blood  
Drives Committee Chair

**Give the Gift of Life--  
Blood!**







## The Virginia Edition

Arthur Dula, literary executor and trustee of The Robert A. and Virginia Heinlein Prize Trust, advises us that it has selected newly-incorporated Meisha Merlin RAH, Inc., associated with Meisha Merlin Publishing, Inc., to publish The Virginia Edition, a luxury edition of forty-six titles spanning the career of Robert A. Heinlein, containing all of Heinlein's novels, short stories, non-fiction titles, the vast majority of his interviews, social commentaries, speeches and articles, and several volumes of Heinlein's letters.

It will be sold only as a set. The edition is limited to 5,000 copies, divided between a cloth bound and a full leather bound (gold gilded) edition. Printing of the first volume of The Virginia Edition, **I Will Fear No Evil**, will be set for January 2006, followed every four weeks thereafter by the next title in the series.

The cloth edition sells for \$2,200.00, the leather edi-



**Dinner with the Trustee:** From left: Arthur M. Dula, Tim and Lester Collier, Alec Iorio, and David Silver enjoy dinner while discussing the Trust's decisions and plans for the Virginia Edition. Mr. Dula was on his way to an Asia visit in early April and able to stop briefly, graciously invited a few of us to dinner that evening and informed the Society of decisions affecting its membership's ability to purchase the Virginia Edition.

tion \$3,500.00, if paid at the time your order is placed.

Time payment options are available. See, for additional details, <http://www.meishamerlin.com/RobertHeinleinTheVirginiaEdition.html>.

The Prize Trust has discussed with us two additional incentives for Heinlein Society members who desire to purchase the set. It has offered to discount its fifteen

percent royalty on each set, and contribute that royalty to The Heinlein Society. Further it will offer to pay the first year's membership dues to new members who purchase the set.

The publisher has employed Bill Patterson to write 1,000 word introductions to each volume describing what Heinlein was doing while he wrote each volume.

The Trust also suggests that The Society, using its own imprint, may wish to make MBNA affinity credit cards available to its membership to finance purchase of the Virginia Edition; and we are looking into that.

We appreciated the returns you sent to our survey in our last newsletter.

Let us know, please, of your thoughts about these items, by e-mailing secretary [@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:@heinleinsociety.org).



**Serious points? Or just "counting the ways I love you"?** To be a fly on that Marina del Rey restaurant wall might have been interesting ....





### Heinlein Society Education Committee Reports

This issue we have a scholastic or academic studies report from Lisa Edmonds, Area Chair for Heinlein Studies of the ACA/PCA.

A few "little things" first:

We didn't receive much of a response to my appeal for funds to begin long-authorized writing contests on Heinlein-related themes among middle and high school students. We need your support. DONATE! It's easy, just take your credit card in hand and go to <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/fundraising.html>. You'll find when you get there you can use a regular credit card even if you haven't a PayPal account. Your donation will be matched by the Trust.

Nor has there been much action to report on our CD-ROM project for Education panels at Cascadia Con. We haven't yet received a reply to our request to the literary trustee for permission to include a Heinlein story within that CD-ROM project and much depends on his permission. However, several of

our members are lined up to participate in teaching panels at the Thursday, one-day convention within a convention, being developed for Cascadia Con in cooperation with both Reading For the Future and the Museum of Science Fiction. We will continue supporting this project.

Now for Ms. Edmonds' report:

### "Robert A. Heinlein and the Liberal Arts and Sciences" Heinlein Scholars Shine at the National PCA/ACA Conference

By Lisa N. Edmonds  
Wichita State University  
Responding to the promise of sun, sand, and intellectual exchange (listed roughly in order of drawing power), twelve Heinlein scholars from across the nation and around the world converged on San Diego to participate in this year's National Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) conference. In its inaugural year as an autonomous Area of the PCA, the Heinlein Studies Area boasted an impressive and diverse lineup of five panels and two roundtables. This year's general theme was "Robert A. Heinlein and the Liberal Arts and Sciences," a focus that successfully encouraged panelists from a wide range of academic backgrounds. This will be a continuing emphasis of the Heinlein Studies area.

Our program included the following:

### Heinlein I: Heinlein 101

This special session was designed for both appreciative readers and those new to reading Heinlein. A variety of presenters gave short talks on a variety of subjects, including a brief biography provided by William Patterson, UC Santa Cruz Heinlein Scholar; an overview of Heinlein's major works by Dave Landry of San Diego State University; a discussion of Heinlein's later works by Rachel McGrath-Kerr of the University of Canberra, Australia; a Heinlein filmography by Chris Leslie of the CUNY Graduate Center; and a review of the Future History timeline by Lisa Edmonds of Wichita State University, Area Chair for Heinlein Studies.

### Heinlein II: Literary Theory Chair: Christopher Leslie, City University of New York Graduate Center

"Canonicity and Controversy: Heinlein's World as Myth Books," by William Patterson, UC Santa Cruz Heinlein Scholar

"Fascist Sci-Fi?: Using Reader-Response to Decode/Defuse the Conservative Environment of Heinlein's Novels," by Christopher Leslie.

"The great globe itself': Shakespearean Allusion in Heinlein's Juveniles," by Pete McCluskey, Middle Tennessee State University.

### Heinlein III: Roundtable I: Heinlein and the Canon Moderator: Bill Patterson

This open roundtable, led by UC Santa Cruz Heinlein Scholar Bill Patterson, examined current concepts of

the science fiction canon and Heinlein's place in it.

**Heinlein IV: Gender Theory**  
Chair: Christopher Brooks,  
Wichita State University

"I am Not a Woman—er,  
Human: Gender Politics in  
Heinlein's Friday," by Chris-  
topher Brooks

"Why Don't All My Girl-  
friends Want to be Heinlein  
Women?: The Subtle Strength  
of Anne, Dorcas, and Miriam  
in Stranger and a Strange  
Land," by Kelli Gardner Bell,  
Western Missouri State Col-  
lege.

"Father's Daughters:  
Sexuality in Two Works from  
Heinlein's Final Decade," by  
Dave Landry, San Diego State  
University.

**Heinlein V: Social Theory I**  
Chair: Lisa Edmonds, Wichita  
State University

"How to Build a Bet-  
ter Human: Why We Need  
(and Hate) APs, the Howard  
Families, Replicants, and the  
Khans," by Lisa Edmonds.

Special Guest Speaker:  
James Gifford, author of  
Robert A. Heinlein: A Read-  
er's Companion.

**Heinlein VI: Social Theory II**  
Chair: Robert James, West  
Los Angeles College

"Cannibals All? The Cold  
War, the Civil Rights Move-  
ment, and Robert Heinlein's  
Farnham's Freehold," by  
Robert James.

"The Man-Made Faith  
of the Man from Mars," by  
Dawn Baker, Western Mis-  
souri State College.

"Heinlein and Heroic Edu-  
cation: The Education of the  
Hero in Have Space Suit—Will  
Travel, Glory Road, and

Stranger in a Strange Land,"  
by Michael Kagan, Le Moyne  
College.

**Heinlein VII: Roundtable  
II: The Future of Heinlein  
Scholarship**

Moderator: Robert James

This open roundtable  
discussed current literary  
scholarship and criticism  
on Heinlein, as well as new  
and potential opportunities  
to support and expand the  
scope of literary discourse  
on the first Grand Master of  
Science Fiction.

Most of the papers pre-  
sented at this year's pan-  
els will be published in the  
Heinlein Journal over the  
next year. DVDs of the pan-  
els will also be available  
soon through the Heinlein  
Studies website: <http://www.rahstudies.org/>.

As planning commences for  
next year's conference in  
Atlanta, please check the  
website in July for announce-  
ments and calls for pa-  
pers. If you have questions,  
comments, or suggestions  
for topics or areas of in-  
quiry for next year's panels,  
please e-mail them to me at  
[info@rahstudies.org](mailto:info@rahstudies.org).

Details concerning the  
April 12–15, 2006, confer-  
ence at the Atlanta Marri-  
ott Marquis, 265 Peachtree  
Center Ave, Atlanta, GA  
30303, may be found at [http://www.popularculture.org/  
Index.asp](http://www.popularculture.org/Index.asp).

Please note that mem-  
bership in the ACA/PCA is  
required to attend or submit  
papers.

That concludes Ms. Ed-  
monds' report.

The Society recently con-  
tributed funds for a website  
for the Heinlein Area Studies  
for the group chaired by Ms.  
Edmonds. We expect to see  
great things web-published  
on it!

For myself and wife Deb  
Houdek Rule we've just fin-  
ished a cross-country move  
from California to Minne-  
sota, so we don't have much  
further to report on either  
Education or Website; but we  
have our reservations made  
for Cascadia Con this La-  
bor Day weekend; and we're  
looking forward to seeing all  
of you.

**Have you bought your  
tickets and made your res-  
ervations? There's no time  
like the present.**

Regards,

Geo and Deb Houdek Rule  
Education Committee  
Chair and Webmistress

Got some spare time? E-mail:  
[chairman@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:chairman@heinleinsociety.org)



"I need a couple guys what don't  
owe me no money fer a little  
routine patrol." --Bill Mauldin,  
Up Front, ©1944





# The Society's 2005 Annual Awards



**The Winner Is!** First time blood donor Tom Stidman displays his drawing prize, an illustration donated by Hugo Award Winner Bob Eggleton at Balticon. Tom was so pleased, he's volunteered to help with a blood drive at an Anime convention he'll attend later this year. On left is the Klingon used to capture donors and on right is Pam Somers, who worked hard ensuring our attendance at Balticon would be the success it was. And, yes, there will be a Blood Drive at Cascadia Con.

We're making final preparations for our annual meeting in Seattle, now. We hope all of you will attend. Here are a few details:

We have reserved the Presidential Suite at the Radisson Hotel Seattle Airport, 17001 International Boulevard (aka 17001 Pacific Highway South), Seattle (Seatac), Washington. Telephone: (206) 244-6000. We're block-booking rooms there, if you care to join us. This is the same hotel that Robert and Virginia Heinlein stayed at for the Seattle Worldcon in 1961, when he was Guest of Honor. It has been extensively remodeled, and undergone

a name change. See, <http://www.radisson.com/seattlewa/> E-mail the secretary, at [secretary@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:secretary@heinleinsociety.org), before August 1, 2005, but as soon as possible, if you wish to join us in block booking. Rooms are approximately \$90 nightly. The convention center is located at the Airport Hilton, about 300 feet south of the Radisson, or easy walking distance.

Caution: there is another Radisson hotel farther south in the Seatac area. It is called the Radisson Hotel Gateway Seatac, at 18118 International Boulevard. Do not reserve a room there unless you wish to pay regular rates.

The Awards Banquet will

be Sunday evening, September 4th, and although tickets may be available through Sunday afternoon, we'd appreciate advance reservations so we can have a good idea on settings and arrangements to tell the hotel banquet staff to provide in advance. Dinner tickets are \$45 each, a substantial reduction in price from past years.

The annual membership business meeting will be the following morning, Monday, September 5th, at a room as yet to be assigned, probably in the Hilton Convention Center. You'll have to check the program.

Please make certain you've brought



your dues current if you plan exercise right to affairs at

to your vote in our that meeting.

In between the "Con-Within-a-Con" for educators, beginning on Thursday, September 1, and our business meeting on Monday the 5th, we may be participating in as many as seven Heinlein subject matter panels, depending on schedule availability.



# Banquet, Other Events, and Meeting

We'll know closer in time to the dates of the convention and will advise you by E-mail.

Expect us to have a couple evening receptions in the Presidential Suite at the Radisson. We may also arrange a small, intimate dinner one evening for ourselves with a few people from the area who well knew Robert and Ginny's support of convention efforts in the Northwest area. We'll announce these events and the dates as time gets closer to the convention.

For entertainment at our Sunday night banquet, aside from the Awards presentations themselves--and with Jerry and Larry present, expect some surprises, anticipate the best we can offer. We're planning , if all goes well, to set up a live iSight



**Planning for Cascadia Con:** On left, new Heinlein Society Volunteer David Nasset discusses "Con-Within-a-Con" Reading For the Future SF YA programming with Heinlein Society member and RFF manager David-Glenn Anderson during a break at Norwescon. Both Rob Slater and Mr. Nasset, despite recent back surgery, each did seven panels at Norwescon, their first experience as SF convention panelists.

plans for The Heinlein Centennial Year of 2007 coming up. We've invited all attendees at NASFiC to join us at our Heinlein Awards Banquet, made substantial efforts to support the overall convention experience for all SF fans at Cascadia Con, and we've done this quite deliberately to promote acceptance of our efforts among the community to encourage the very many SF conventions throughout the world to accept the programs we will be offering to celebrate Robert Heinlein during The Heinlein Centennial Year.

We need your attendance. You should seriously consider your plans for the Labor Day weekend and, if at all possible, fit yourself in.

Cascadia Con is certainly not too expensive; registrations may be for the entire five day event, or a shorter period you select, even at the door; hotels are reasonably priced; the Seattle area delightful to visit wholly apart from a SF convention; and the overall event is a quite worthwhile experience for yourself and family.

Registration may be made on-line, here: <http://www.cascadiacon.org/> Use the link for "memberships."

Dinner tickets may be bought here: <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/awardedinner.html>

We look forward to seeing all of us support this "not a fan club" educational charity we all belong to.

## Reading for the Future

interview, the same process we used last year to award The Heinlein Award to Sir Arthur Clarke, with Ray Bradbury or Jack Williamson, or both of them, the two remaining participants in The Mañana Society that met before World War II at Robert Heinlein's Laurel Canyon home in Los Angeles to discuss their writing and hopes for the future. If not, we'll try to find something equally intriguing to present.

It's quite important that we, as a Society, do well this year in these affairs with our

## Letters

**"There comes a time when loose and easy isn't enough, when you have to be willing to obey, and do it wholeheartedly and without argument."**

**-- Dr. Cargraves from Rocket Ship Galileo, by Robert A. Heinlein**

Just before Memorial Day, something calling itself "Heinlein Centennial, Inc.," popped up with announcements hustling advance money payments and volunteers to hold what it says will be a gala affair in Kansas City on Robert Heinlein's 100th birthday weekend, July 7, 2007, two years from now. This came as a shock to your board of directors and officers, since we, the Society, have been planning to hold Centennial celebrations since 2002.

More of a shock was its source: Bill Patterson, one of our own directors, created this entity in secret, concealed its existence and then, when it appeared that The Society was about to appoint a chair to effect Centennial plans, caused his own announcements. Not surprisingly, its plans include those worked out by the Society well before September 2003, considered and then tabled when it appeared premature to make a decision only as to location, as a result of objections that made the enterprise as then suggested appear doubtful.

It boils down to Mr. Patterson wanting to have a July 7th celebration in Kansas City; but, when a majority of the board would not make a decision on venue he wanted, he bided his time and then sprung his preemption without caring about the

threat of dissipation of energy, time, and money.

We have received inquiries from members and non-members alike: Are we supporting this? Are they "fronting" for us? What's going on?

The board of directors has decided to ignore those efforts. We will go ahead with our Society's own plans. You'll hear a lot about them shortly. Expect something that creates a full year of festivities that are worthy of what the first Grandmaster of Science Fiction deserves.

There is a formal board policy statement on the right of this column. Read it as you wish. Mr. Patterson's term as director expires September 5. It is the consensus of the board to allow Mr. Patterson to complete his term. Mr. Patterson has spent five years working on a biography he promised Ginny to complete for her to read before she died. We all hope this most recent distraction and project of his will not delay its completion farther and disappoint everyone again.

The first important lesson that Robert Heinlein used Dr. Cargraves to teach his boy readers in 1947, quoted above, applies here. "Loose and easy" doesn't satisfy **any** director's duties to this Society.

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

This is a statement of policy of the board of directors of the Heinlein Society.

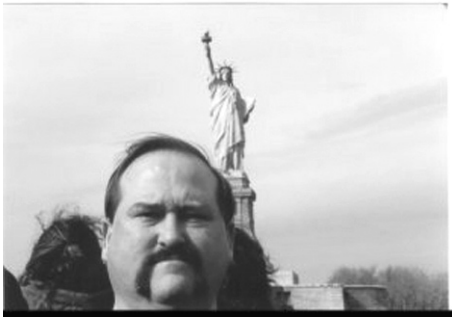
The board has come to a conclusion on its Heinlein Centennial Year program. We will publicly announce its details shortly. It will be substantially larger and contain features different from anything previously contemplated by our Centennial Committee before its past chairman resigned. It will contain some similar features previously recommended. It will last the entire year of 2007, not be merely one three-day convention at one location, and be held at multiple locations, in multiple countries, as many as our membership and friends can handle. Our position concerning an entity known as Heinlein Centennial, Inc. is simply this: we intend to treat it the same as we treat any other local SF convention, so long as it does not compete with our Centennial programs. If we offer programs to other local area or larger conventions, if it asks and does not compete with our programs, we will offer it the programs it merits based on its size and our assessments. We do not sponsor or approve other local conventions, nor do we sponsor or approve it. If individuals affiliated with it volunteer to work with us on our programs we will afford them the same opportunities consistent with our assessment of their abilities and our needs that we would afford any other volunteer. That is the end of the statement of policy of the board.

**Bob Grieve, who agreed to accept an appointment as Centennial Committee Chair this Easter, could use all the help he can get. Interested? E-mail us.**





# The Heinlein Centennial Year



Bob Grieve, visiting an old girlfriend. Later, following 9-11-01, he sadly returned representing his Washington State fire department's relief efforts to NYC.

The statement responding to some letter inquiries on the preceding page doesn't explain wholly what is occurring on the matter of the Heinlein Centennial Year. The following is from our new Centennial Committee Chair.

Greetings Fellow Heinlein Enthusiasts and Aficionados!

My name is Robert J. Grieve and I have been appointed Heinlein Centennial Committee Chair of The Heinlein Society. I will give a "brief" description of what all that is about in a wee bit but first I need to introduce myself.

I have been reading RAH for several decades and enjoy most of his works immensely. A few times I wish his editor had been firmer about a revision or two. Such is fodder for discussions. Yet my favorite is the 1991 edition of **Stranger in a Strange Land** wherein I retract my former statement and wish that the editor had originally butted out and left it alone. Conflict? Yeah, but such is life. C'est la vie.

I also have a place in my

heart for **Tunnel in the Sky**. I consider it to be RAH's best juvenile (and it is not all that juvenile if you read between the lines). SiaSL has an incredible amount of sage advice, religious logic, sound politics, and other oxymoron but TitS gives the reader a real clue on how to get along in life as well as some of the more treasured Heinleinisms. For all you skeptics: better watch out for Stobor.

In real life I am a jack-of-all-trades having had a long and broad college education culminating in a few minor degrees and certificates. I have been to nursing school, worked as an OR Tech, have over 35 years of experience in EMS (about 15 years with the fire service where I crested the wave at Lt/Firefighter/EMT), am a vampire (phlebotomist) and regularly teach BLS courses EMTA. I dabble in Protozoology, freelance writing, and semi-professional bowling. I am the proud Papa of one child with one child and husband to a green-eyed vixen. I like producing SF/F conventions, genealogy, writing fiction, and reading lots of books.

Now for the 100th year of Heinlein: what we are planning is a year long traveling show that will bring the master to as many conventions as we can possibly entice. What we will be trying to bring to a con near you might include:

- An Art Show Exhibit

complete with RAH book cover artwork

- A museum quality display of artifacts and paraphernalia pertaining to the life of RAH

- Display tables for dispensing the word of RAH and encouraging new membership in THS

- RAH focused programming paneled by Heinlein knowledgeable pros and THS members

- Contests, raffles, and other associated fund raising activities with a RAH flavor

- THS sponsored Blood Drives to pay it forward with RAH centennial twists

- RAH book donations to local schools to get students hooked on the master

- RAH oriented workshops for budding young writers

- Banquets and celebrations commemorating RAH's 100th year

And a number of other things that you (YES, that means you) come up with to help us celebrate 100 years of Heinlein. We have challenges to hurdle over between now and 2007, but I am confident that we can act as team and achieve a goodly number of suggested, and to be suggested, projects if not all of them.

It will be interesting to say the least. Suggestions? Volunteers? E-mail me at: [fire262@aol.com](mailto:fire262@aol.com) or [CentennialChair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:CentennialChair@heinleinsociety.org)

Bob Grieve, Centennial Committee Chair





Alec Iorio

### Heinlein Society Convention Coordinator's Report

Working with the Heinlein Society is NOT a "leisure-time activity." At least it hasn't been recently. There are SF/Fantasy Conventions held all over the U.S., but it appears that the spring and summer months have the greatest number of large-scale cons.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, THS was an active participant in the BaltiCon festivities. Pam Somers reported we ended up presenting two panels:

**Heinlein 101:** "All you ever wanted to know about Heinlein, but were afraid to ask."

An overview of the themes, writing techniques, literary forms and character types of Heinlein's works. The who, when, where, what and, most important, why of reading Robert A. Heinlein. General introduction to Heinlein's writing covering various zigs in his career and the groups of different works: pre-war, juveniles, Post stories, Future History, Stranger and the novels of the 60's, and the final World as Myth books; and,

**Robert A. Heinlein's "Stealth Heroes":** Maggie

Andrews, Maurice Abrams, Roderick Walker, Juan Rico, Marjorie Baldwin, and Colin Campbell. How Heinlein sought to overcome prejudice and discrimination based on gender, religion, race or national origin or color through his selection of SF protagonists.

Both panels were scheduled for Sunday late afternoon or evening and both were resoundingly successful. The Balticon people put us into two fairly small rooms and both presentations were SRO. Entirely unprompted by us, the Balticon people apologized and told David they would make sure we have larger rooms next year. Very nice to be noticed!

David Silver, Yoji Kondo, Michael Flynn, J.J. Brannon and Pam Somers presented "Heinlein 101." There was enthusiastic audience participation and the audience was packed in with shoehorns. People occupied every available seat, and stood, and sat on the floor to participate. Quite a good-sized crowd hung around afterwards to chat about the panel. J.J. Brannon arranged to have the presentation digitally preserved, audio and visually, so, perhaps shortly I'll have available a "training aid" for those of you interested in presenting panels at your local area conventions.

David Silver, Yoji Kondo, Michael Flynn, and author GOH Steven Barnes presented "Stealth Heroes." We quite literally packed even more participants into the room

than we had for the first panel, and there was a very spirited discussion about the use of race and ethnicity in early science fiction. Responding to David's point about the difference between the description of Rod Walker and the cover art of Rod Walker, Steve Barnes told a funny (and directly-on-target) story about one of his books written with a black protagonist and published with a white man illustrated on the cover. Balticon, perhaps hurried by some late minute scheduling changes, inadvertently fell down a bit on providing resources for David to project the scan of the 1968 letter from RAH. We ended up having to ask the audience to squash together to give us enough blank wall space to project it. Their cooperative attitude was a measure of their real enthusiasm. They gathered around the wall projection pointing out bits of content to each other and chattering eagerly.

Despite some omissions on the pre-event programming listing, the panels were a great success. Had we been properly pre-advertised, we'd have had them standing in the hallway to hear us. It doesn't get much better than this.

The Star Struck Sci-Fi Convention is a one-day event scheduled to be held in Sacramento, California on July 9. Bill Patterson, joined by James Gifford, author of **Robert A. Heinlein: A Reader's Companion**, will be presenting Heinlein 101.



**A Truly Well-Packed Room: "Heinlein 101" at Balticon.** Heinlein Award winning Writer Michael Flynn in the foreground discussing Heinlein. Others presenting the panel included Pam Somers (not shown as she was taking the photograph), J.J. Brannon, Dr. Yoji Kondo, and David Silver. Attendees were seated in every possible niche, including vacant spots on the floor. "Next year," they said, "Remind us to give you a LARGE room!"



We've been in very productive contact with the planners and programmers of Cascadia Con/NASFiC, which is scheduled for the Labor Day weekend (September 1 through 5). Our suggestions for panels have been approved as submitted and we're currently waiting for replies from a couple of putative panelists concerning their availability. Arguably this will be the most significant SF/Fantasy Convention held this year. THS actively encourages its membership to attend the festivities and to participate in the General Membership meeting to be held during the long

weekend, as well as in the Awards Banquet at which The Heinlein Award will be presented to both Jerry Pournelle and Larry Niven.

The executive staff of LosCon which, we remind you, is held during the Thanksgiving Day weekend in Los Angeles; has approached us. We've made our submission of panel topics. It has been received and praised. We are awaiting their final selections.

Finally, it's part of the "received wisdom" that one of the greatest resources of a volunteer organization like THS is its membership. With that in mind, we are ap-

proaching the entire membership for their assistance: What topics would you like to discuss at a convention? Who would you like to have on the panel? Whom do you think you can provide as a good panelist? What other sorts of presentations do you think would be appropriate for THS sponsorship at SF/Fantasy convention? Let us know. At your earliest convenience. My E-mail address is Alec Iorio baybus@mindspring.com.

Many thanks,  
Alec Iorio  
Convention Programming  
Coordinator





## Heinlein Society Makes Its First Visit to the Mid-West At Capricon 37 in the Chicago Area



**Arlington Heights, Illinois, Saturday, February 12, 2005.** We made our first convention visit to the mid-West with a program entitled *The Heinlein Society and The Influence of SF on Space Flight and Explorations*, aka “The Greatest Day in the History of Mankind.” After introduction of panelists, the unique Heinlein Society archive of a news program of July 20, 1969, was shown, the interview that occurred before, during and after Neil Armstrong’s moon walk, with Walter Cronkite, Robert Heinlein, and Arthur C. Clarke. Following it, panelists (from L to R: Capricon Author Guest of Honor James P. Hogan, Heinlein Society member Lt. Col. Chuck Coffin, USA, R’td., who, with his wife Linda had the honor to accompany Robert and Ginny Heinlein to two aerospace conventions, and Heinlein Society President David Silver, on the projector above, about to start the 1969 Apollo 11 interview, shown at right, discussed the past and continuing influence of SF on space flight and exploration. It was an exciting and thoughtful panel, focused in discussion of the question: “Why, oh, why, didn’t we simply continue onward?” Writer Hogan’s essays are particularly useful reading on this topic, especially his 1999 collection **Rockets, Redheads, and Revolution**. Hogan has lived in Massachusetts, Florida, and California; he now resides in Ireland. His first SF novel was **Inherit the Stars** in 1977. He keeps fairly busy, hopping between Europe and North America, stirring up controversy in his writings and appearances with rather unusual but insightful takes on orthodox and accepted scientific dogma.



Photographs above are courtesy of Dave McCarty, bid chairman of [chicagoworldcon7.org](http://chicagoworldcon7.org). Photograph at right is by David M. Silver.

If you live in the mid-west, or other areas where The Heinlein Society hasn’t yet made appearances at SF conventions, and you’d like to see us, have a talk with your local convention organizers, and let us know if they’re willing to cooperate with us and schedule a panel or two to make our trip worthwhile.

Contact Alec Iorio at [baybus@mindspring.com](mailto:baybus@mindspring.com) and let him know whom to call or write.





Flanked by Heinlein Society members Mrs. Frances Van Cleave and Lieutenant Colonel Charles Coffin, writer Guest of Honor James Hogan holds forth on “Rockets, Redheads, and Revolution” over wine after dinner. Fran drove over from Indiana and Chuck up from St. Louis to participate in the panels and blood drive at Capricon 37 in Arlington Heights, and their help was most appreciated. Among others, we recruited a new Library committee chair.

## Fourth Annual Visit to Norwescon in Seattle

Our annual visit to Seattle, for Norwescon, opened a new era in our participation in convention panelling. We had two new volunteers, David Nasset and Rob Slater, who live in the local area.

This was the fourth year The Heinlein Society has been invited by Bob or Ali Grieve to contribute to Norwescon; we were delighted to offer our services to help. Between volunteers Nasset and Slater, and David

Silver, Heinlein Society members participated in fifteen panels and two readings this year.

Nasset and Slater, who had never before participated in SF conventions as panelists so impressed Norwescon Programming Chair Ali Grieve with their wide range of SF knowledge and interests that they both are invited back to attend next year as professionals.

The panels we helped to

create were not all Heinlein-topical panels. One particularly interesting theme panel: **Legal Systems in SF**, included Robert Sawyer who set up in **Hominids**, his Hugo-winning novel, criticisms of the Anglo-American legal system; a lesser known writer, Harold Gross; and David Silver, a recovering, er, retired lawyer. It was more fun to comment on what Sawyer set up, than try to turn it into a Heinlein

Cont'd on Page Twenty

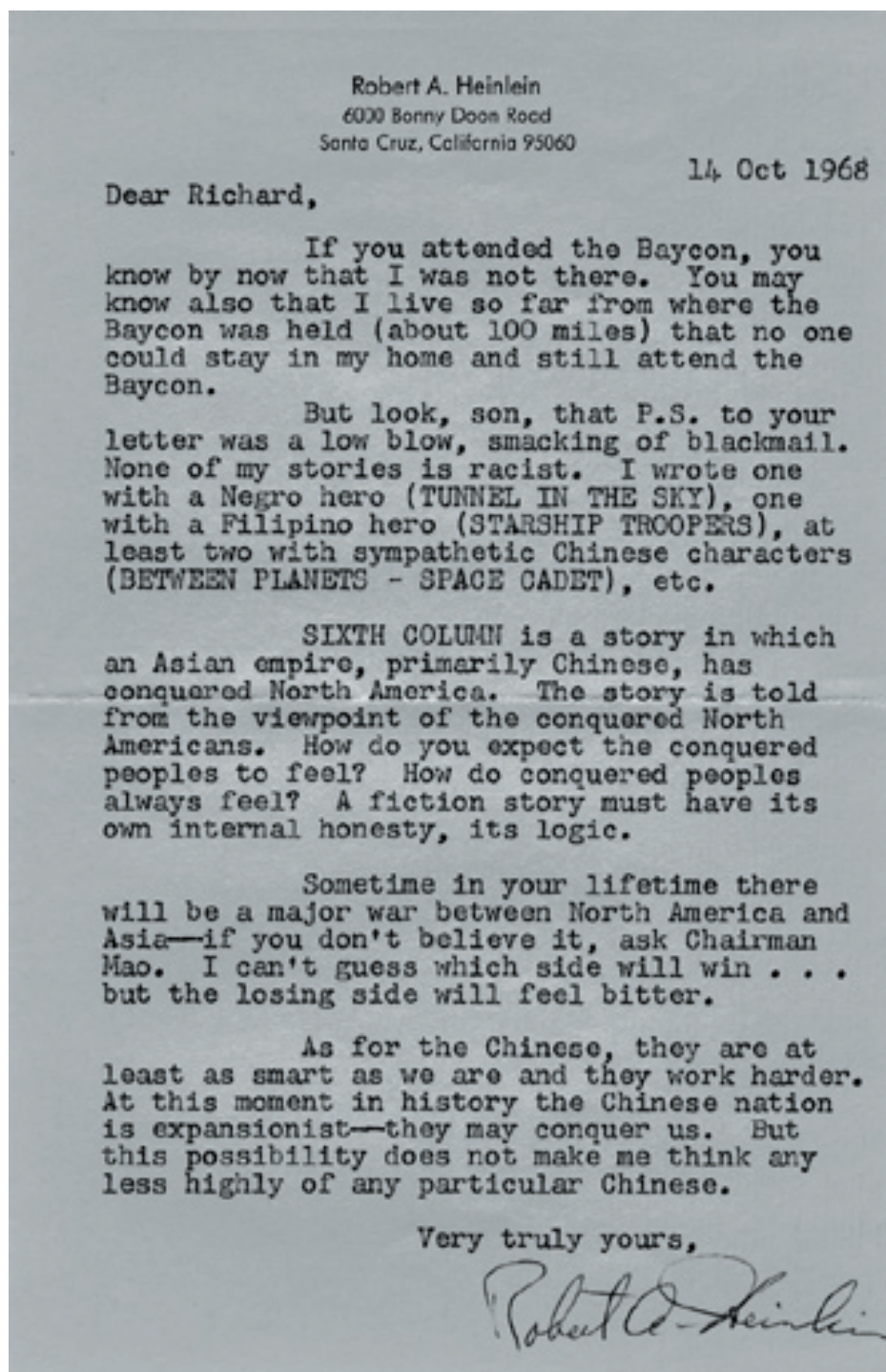




panel. Discussion points noted Stanley Schmidt's April 2005 piece in **Analog**, not so oddly, since editor Schmidt's perceptive essay carefully analyses what Mr. Sawyer set up in that so well-deserved Hugo winner.

This is what we must do in any panel for any convention to which we are invited. Work within the system; honestly do the themes the convention wishes--mention Heinlein where appropriate, but don't monopolize; and sooner, rather than later, the nice folk in programming will allow us to do "pure" Heinlein panels ourselves.

Which is what we were allowed with the new **Heinlein Stealth Heroes** panel we debuted there. Greg Bear, a very well-known author, joined us; and we displayed for the first time the letter we received from Richard Chambers who thirty-seven years ago, as an eighteen-year-old, wrote Mr. Heinlein to ask if he and a friend could stay with them during that year's World Con in Oakland, California. As he finished writing, one horrible thought occurred to Richard: his friend was ethnic Chinese--perhaps Mr. Heinlein would object--it was the height of the Vietnam War and Mao was certainly helping Uncle Ho, or it might be unwise to have a Chinese guest in the exclusive neighborhood in which the Heinleins had so recently built their home. So he added a postscript making Mr. Heinlein aware of that fact.



Robert Heinlein's October 14, 1968, letter to Richard Chambers

The Heinleins were vacation travelling and did not attend World Con that year; but Robert Heinlein very patiently replied to this unusual letter when he returned.

The response, reproduced above, contains a clear reference to Roderick Walker, a character whose color is not

altogether that clear to first-time Heinlein readers.

"I wrote one with a Negro hero (TUNNEL IN THE SKY), ...".

The panel was quite a hit; and it was equally a hit two months later when premiered on the other coast at Balticon!



*You are cordially invited ... to join the members of The Heinlein Society in cooperation with Cascadia Con, the 8th North American SF Con since 1975, for this year's presentation of The Heinlein Award for outstanding published works of science fiction and fact that inspire humanity's expansion into space.*

*Mr. Larry Niven and Dr. Jerry Pournelle have been chosen as the 2005 recipients for the body of their lifetime published works. The award will be presented at the Society's annual banquet, held at Cascadia Con, on Sunday, September 4, 2005. Mr. Niven and Dr. Pournelle will attend in person.*

*Join the members of the Heinlein Award board of judges, Greg Bear, Michael Flynn, Joe Haldeman, Yoji Kondo, Elizabeth Moon, Spider Robinson, Stanley Schmidt, Herb Gilliland and John Hill in this event honoring a great man's vision and a great lady's dedication to that cause.*

*Also featured at the evening's banquet will be presentation of the Golden Duck Awards and the Seium Awards by their respective sponsors.*

*Mr. Greg Bear will be the Toastmaster.*

*Reception begins at 6 pm sharp! No host bar. Formal attire encouraged, but not required. Black tie optional. Sunday, September 4, 2005. Dinner is served at 7 pm. Awards will commence at about 7:45 pm.*

*The Seattle Airport Hilton Hotel and Conference Center  
17620 Pacific Highway South  
Seattle, Washington 98188  
(one-quarter mile from the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport)*

*Tickets are \$45 (US) until August 28, 2005. Late reservations will be sold on-site at Cascadia Con, or at the door, but may be sold at a premium depending on available space. R.S.V.P. with payment in advance payable to:*

*The Heinlein Society  
Attn.: The Heinlein Awards Dinner  
PO Box 1254  
Venice, California USA 90294-1254  
or use the PayPal method on the website page below:*

*www.heinleinsociety.org/  
awarddinner.html*

The  
Heinlein  
Society



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

Board Of Directors  
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[1916-2003]  
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Joe Haldeman  
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-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: \_\_\_\_\_



## Membership Services by Pam Somers

Work on our upgraded member package continues apace. Our ultimate goal for new member packages is to include a membership card, a membership certificate, and a short description of each committee's activities.

Membership cards are in stasis right now. We'd like to produce a high quality plastic credit card type item; and I've found a device that works like a printer, but prints on plastic stock. However, it's expensive (\$1200-\$1400). I'm awaiting product samples before making a recommendation. In any case, it's cost-prohibitive just now unless we find someone who wants to donate one.

A Membership Certificate ("suitable for framing"!) is nearing the final development, and a phased-in mailing should begin within 30 to 60 days.

A description of why we do blood drives has been submitted for approval and I'll be following up for input from other Chairs describing their activities.

My experience over the past few months pulling together participation at Balticon, inspired another new project--an outline of a comprehensive package about "Conning a Con." Our membership base is growing large enough that we should be able to begin identifying key members in a number of places who can act as point



**Balticon Stealth Heroes Panel, L to R:** David Silver, Writer G.O.H. Steve Barnes, authors Michael Flynn and Yoji Kondo discuss Heinlein's use of women and minority lead characters long before writing fashion made their use "politically correct." Photograph by Pamela Somers

people at local cons and expand our exposure. As a starting point, I'll be working with Mike and others who already have active contacts.

Also in the works: development of a panel resource package for participants who may not be familiar with the panels we do. This will be

invaluable to key people at local cons who are as virginal as I was.

At Balticon we debuted a "Welcome to The Heinlein Society" brochure, handing it out at the fan table and at panels at which we participated. It will be available for NASFiC.



**Norwescon Legal Systems in SF Panel, L to R:** Harold Gross and Hugo Award writer Rob Sawyer discuss speculative systems of law in SF, including Sawyer's *Hominids* trilogy. David Silver, also on the panel, is missing from the photograph because he took it.



## **“Some days we have nice dinners with a trustee at the Marina, But still, a few small things ...”**

A few more words about Cascadia Con, as seriously and forcefully as I can, I urge you: please attend Cascadia Con this September. We need everyone of you to attend and help make our efforts there a success.

We always need all the help we can get on our committees. We now have a Library Committee chair, may shortly have both a full-time Education Committee chair and a full-time Scholastic or Academic Committee chair, now have a thoroughly experienced Centennial chair whose plans for The Centennial Year will be announced at Cascadia Con in Seattle, but we continue to seriously need a Newsletter editor. We need to build our working committees up in membership, with people able to help and keep the Chairs from burning out. All our committee chairs work hard to show we aren't just another “fan club.” Let me know what you can do to help on any of our committees.

About our Centennial plans: there are two points to keep in mind above all else. In the words of Charles N. Brown, editor and publisher of *Locus*, and our Society's senior director, the first is this: “Robert Heinlein deserves more than one single event in one place on one weekend,” and we should begin the year of celebration with multiple appearances beginning at least by “... Boskone in February and continue throughout to the end of the year.” The second is at least as, if not far more, important. We must not compete with the dates or locations of other, established fan events, whether they be the dates of Westercon,

a major area convention, to be held in 2007 in Portland or San Jose, on the July 7th weekend, or with the locations of major established events, such as the likely 2007 NASFiC to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, in early August, within the same state, less than one month after July 7th in Kansas City; or even with



David Silver at  
Trustee's Dinner in April

the dates of Worldcon, Nippon 2007, in Yokohama, Japan, the 2007 Labor Day weekend. Fans are planning to attend, to help present, and support all these competing events; and they should never be placed in a position where they are forced to choose between them and celebrating the Centennial of Robert Heinlein.

That was why we'd didn't approve Mr. Patterson's plans back in August 2003 when he pushed to have us approve a one-location, single weekend

event. Ginny didn't support the notion of competition with existing organizations in creating The Heinlein Society; she would be furious with one of the directors she appointed invoking a competing effort; and she didn't appoint folk such as Charles N. Brown, Dr. Yoji Kondo, or Joe Haldeman to encourage the sort of competitive egoistic nonsense than can easily enmesh this Society into fan politics, selfishness, resentments, and quickly turn us into just another fan club that accomplishes little, if anything, except ego gratification of a few people actively involved.

I hope you support our efforts to keep this Society on track, and fully support Bob Grieve in his plans to include all of our communities in celebrating The Heinlein Centennial Year. He's going to need help from all the membership, from artists, writers, the entire SF industry, from aerospace and science, and from scholars alike--from everyone interested in fully celebrating The Heinlein Centennial Year. And we need to focus everything we do to help him.

We need, especially, to focus upon fund-raising. This year, once again, the Prize Trust has announced a matching grant of up to \$15,000 for every dollar we raise. We should have no trouble, with your generosity. Dig deep and give us what you can. The usual membership application is on page 22. Pass it on to your friends.

And we'll see you in Seattle.

David M. Silver

President and Chairman

“The Lieutenant expects your names to shine!”