

## KULTSI

from page 13

may have to plan extra shifts and the like, but not as much as with the convention organizers.

An early start will help in another thing as well, such as getting sponsors for stuff, like the drinks, possible posters/handouts, accommodation, etc.

During the con, it's really good to get in contact with the organizers of other/next conventions; they are likely to be there, as they are advertising their own con.

One thing that was brought to my mind too late was to gather the names and addresses of all the people who even try to donate. We can send a letter to those people and notify them of the next Convention Blood Drive in their area, as well as bring them info about the society and its goals.

I received a bunch of RAH Blood Drive pins from Mike Sheffield, the Blood Drive Chair, and the text explaining how the pin came about. I redesigned the text into a folded card with "Thank You" on the first page, and the text on the third, had them printed, cut, and folded, and then I attached the pin under the text in the front.

Art McNutt put my text into the poster he designed for TorCon3, and I originally thought of having them printed in two sizes, but the time ran short, and the printing house could only deliver the smaller sizes, so I took more of those, all of twenty — and should have taken fifty, at least! Art did the same poster in shadow background in smaller size, which I printed out on our company's laser, and then had them cut in the middle, as I used a layout that gave two identical handouts on one printed page.

## Torcon3: By the numbers

By DAVID SILVER

Torcon3, the annual World SF convention began Thursday, August 28th, and continued through Monday, September 1st, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Four board members, including one board officer, four committee chairs, and several other active members attended. Keith Kato, our social activities chair, arrived earliest, on Tuesday, the 26th, to inspect the restaurant banquet facilities where the Heinlein Memorial and Awards Dinner was to be held on Friday, August 29th. Sam Kramer and myself, David Silver, arrived early on Thursday morning, with other committee chairs, board members and members arriving later in the day.

A non-member, Phil Paine, a old friend of Bill Patterson's who had planned to attend but who was caught up in a transportation mix-up, graciously met me at Pearson International in Toronto and quickly provided transportation to my downtown hotel, The Grand, a former Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters, where I had rented a suite for The Heinlein Society. We later held a small party and several business meetings there.

Phil was a life-saver for us during the Con. He'd arranged to print 3,000 black and white flyers with our advertisement made by Art McNutt announcing the Awards Dinner and the Blood Drive, and delivered them to Torcon's committee to stuff them individually in the bags Torcon gave out upon registration to attendees, so they would know of these events in time to attend despite the much delayed printing and mailing of the last progress report and souvenir program which had similar ads that were not likely to be seen by anyone before the events themselves.

I invited Phil to attend the awards dinner as our guest. I was happy to see later he did and enjoyed himself.

After a late and much needed breakfast, I took a cab to the Convention Centre, picked up my registration and went to the fan table area to set up the big Heinlein Society banner we use, laid out a few copies of the Newsletter I'd brought; and got ready to push dinner tickets. Sam Kramer met me there within thirty minutes; and we got started selling tickets until it got close to 5 p.m. when I had go moderate the first of our panels, "Heinlein's Women: Just Like the Girl that Married Dear Old Dad." Sam got a few cups of tea into me so I was able to pronounce my name despite the really bad case of jet lag I had by the time the panel began.

The panel, despite being scheduled on a Thursday which prevented both Robert James, our Education committee chair, and Deb Houdek Rule, our new website committee chair, from participating, since their flights weren't due in until later that evening, went very well, attendance filled the room, and the discussion was lively.

Larry Niven and Elizabeth Ann Hull, Fredrick Pohl's English Professor wife, made up a great attraction as our guests on the panel and together were probably the reason for the full room attendance we had, despite several other attractive panels being held in that hour. Fran Van Cleave, a Society member, several of whose recent stories have appeared in Analog, and Pat York, a teacher from Buffalo, both did wonderful jobs on the panel, keeping a good balance in their

**Continued on page 15**