

Secretary-treasurer's report

New members are great, but so too is paying dues

By JANE SILVER

"Good evening Mr. and Mrs. North and South America and all the ships at sea ... di dit di dit di dit dit dit. Let's go to press." — Walter Winchell.

Since my last communication with all of you, there has been a lot happening within the Heinlein Society. I've been to places I never imagined I would go and met people I never thought I would see face-to-face.

We have signed more than 50 new members largely through attendance at Torcon3, the valuable efforts of our members at the fan table and the announcement of the publication of "For Us, The Living." That is a more than 25 percent increase in total members!

We are opening new doors and enlisting a wide range of expertise to help us with the plans and goals of The Heinlein Society in conjunction with the Heinlein Prize that was announced recently. There is going to be a lot of positive activity in the next few years in which you, the members, can and should participate.

One of these areas is the fast-approaching Centennial celebration in 2007. It would seem like a long time in the future, but here we are. Can you believe it's October already? For this celebration to be as it should, a worldwide event, the planning and formulation of the theme (somewhat obvious but nonetheless required) is going forward now.

Other areas are the continuing efforts to have blood drives at as many venues as is humanly possible. Scholastic and Academic is a prime area

where we will enlist the scientific communities and encourage their involvement in the goals of The Heinlein Society.

The Library Committee Chair is vacant and in great need, wanting someone who feels strongly the desire to fill up those empty shelves with Heinlein. There is a gift, by Ginny specifically for this purpose, books languishing in storage that need to see the light of day and the turning, once again, of those pages.

Then there is Fundraising. In order for us to accomplish the goals we have set we must have the wherewithal and that is, simply put, the money. We have been gifted with a matching funds pledge by the Prize Trust of \$15,000 through the end of this year.

We ask that our membership not let this opportunity go by and that they encourage everyone they know who might be willing to contribute any amount, however small, in order to meet the full potential of this pledge.

Maureen mode: Now to an unfortunate and delicate subject. My second letter and invoice will be mailed out in the next few weeks. To be a non-recipient of my "second letter" one must be a dues paid member. We do not accept chickens, hams, pies, cobblers, or any form of barter as legal tender, sad to say and in order keep the wolf from the door.

The dreaded "third letter" wherein membership in The Heinlein Society becomes forfeit will follow The Second Letter.

The
Heinlein
Society

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<http://www.heinleinsociety.org>

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