HURRY FOR RETRO HUGOS

Retrospective – or “Retro” – Hugos will be awarded for 1943 at this year’s Worldcon! In essence, we have the opportunity to travel back in time and nominate Heinlein’s works for a Hugo award, which is pretty exciting. This is your reminder that nominations for the Worldcon 75 Retro Hugos close on **Friday, March 17, 2018**. **It’s not too late to submit or edit your ballots!**

The Heinlein Society reminds you which of Robert A. Heinlein’s works are eligible this year:

Opus #32, 40,000 word novella.


All this info comes from Heinlein’s Opus Card files. Please note that items may be relocated to a different category by the Hugo Awards Administrator if they are within 20% of the category boundary (such as in the case of the written fiction and dramatic presentation categories).

Thank you for your consideration!

[Click Here for Retro Hugo Nomination Instructions]

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**NEAL STEPHENSON NAMED 2018 HEINLEIN AWARD WINNER**

The Heinlein Award selection committee has chosen Neal Stephenson to be
the 2018 winner. Stephenson is an eclectic writer, working across several sub-genres of speculative fiction (usually with a noticeably “hard S-F” edge), and is prolific in technology writing as well. He’s also a consultant for Heinlein Prize (awarded by the Heinlein Prize Trust) award winner’s Jeff Bezos commercial space start-up Blue Origin.

The Heinlein Award is presented annually at Balticon, and is administered by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS) with the support of The Heinlein Society, who funds half the cost of the Award. The Heinlein Award committee is an independent committee founded by the late Yoji Kondo, Ph.D. with the blessing of the late Virginia Heinlein in 2002. It is awarded, “For outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings to inspire the human exploration of space.” A list of past winners can be found here.

Mr. Stephenson is unable to attend Balticon this year, and his award will be accepted on his behalf by his editor, Jennifer Brehl.

The Heinlein Society congratulates Mr. Stephenson on this honor.

*Photo of Neal Stephenson By Phil Konstantin.

THS OPENS 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS, HONORS KONDO AND POURNELLE

The Heinlein Society has opened applications for the 2018-2019 academic year award. Interested parties should head over to our Education Page and download
the PDF application form to be filled in and emailed.

The award has grown in value every year since its inauguration in 2012, and this year is no exception. This year’s award will be three scholarships of $1,500 each, a 20% increase over last year. One of these, “The Virginia Heinlein Memorial Award” (or “The Ginny”, as we fondly call it) is reserved for the top scoring female candidate in STEM majors as determined by the judges. For this year, the Board of Directors of The Heinlein Society has designated that the other two awards (which add “science fiction as literature” as an eligible academic pursuit) shall honor the late Yoji Kondo, Ph.D., and the late Jerry Pournelle, Ph.D., both of whom passed away in the last year. Both men were ardent proponents of STEM education, science fiction and science/tech non-fiction authors, and personal friends of Robert A. Heinlein and Virginia Heinlein. Dr. Kondo was a founding Board member of THS, and Dr. Pournelle was a long-time Board member still serving at the time of his passing (he was also interested in this award and served on the judging committee).

READ MORE HERE

Our scholarships are funded from donations by the members of THS, “Heinlein’s Children”, and “Friends of Robert and Ginny” in general. If you’d like to contribute, please visit our Donate page, page down to the “I want to Pay it Forward” section and after picking an amount, select “Education” from the dropdown box.

SANGUINE START TO THE NEW YEAR!
Blood Drives are off to a good start this year with a near record at Arisia and 42 check-ins at Pantheacon. WonderCon is also anticipating a good drive this year.

If you can get to WonderCon in Anaheim March 23, 24, or 25 drop by and donate! You don't have to go to the convention to donate.

Volunteers needed! Please check out the Heinlein Society Blood drive page on Facebook and if there is a drive anywhere near you, we need volunteers in the canteen to hand out the SF Pins and tell the story of Robert's interest in Blood Drives.

If you can help, email me at blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org so I can set you up with the coordinator of the drive. Donors are always interested and you will have a 15 minute captive audience to promote the Society!

If you would like to coordinate a blood drive at your favorite Gaming, Science Fiction, or Comic convention please contact blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org. I'll do all the hard work of working with the blood centers, but we really need a local coordinator to set up the table promote the drive and recruit volunteers to help at the table.

Keep up with Blood Drives news

OVER 17,168 BOOKS SENT!

The Heinlein For Heroes program (H4H) sends free books to troops, veterans, and military families. We send only to individuals or units that have requested SF material. Clearly many of our military men and women WANT to read good science fiction, including Heinlein. To meet that demand, our shipments go around the globe, as well as to veterans’ hospitals here at home.
Contributions keep coming in, but your help is still needed. We need gently used paperbacks—and especially Heinleins, as we include Heinlein books in every shipment.

Money contributions are used to buy books wherever we find them (book dealers, eBay) at the right price. But free is even better than cheap. Is an SF friend or neighbor downsizing? You can help them and help us!

*Here’s what some of the recipients of recent packages had to say...*

Greetings Supportive Citizens of H4H!
This is a quick note to say thank you for the books that you provided for me. I love readings, and they look very enjoyable. I am a disabled veteran, and I really appreciate the support that you provide for veterans like me.

Cindy

Thank you so much for your support and for these wonderful books. They arrived safely today. I will make sure to share these with other troops who are also avid readers. Thank you!

MSgt Luis R. Cruz, USAF, currently stationed in Azores, Portugal

Thank you for sending the box of books recently to me here in South Korea. I enjoy reading a lot. I have nearly 40 people who currently work for me on base, almost all of them are here for one year whereas I am here for 3 years. I shared some of the books with the people at work and they wanted to send their appreciation as well. I am also lucky to have my kids here with me and read to them every night. I am hoping to get
them addicted to books (and not smartphones and such). Thanks again.
Larry

Hi,
I just wanted to say thank you for the books that you sent to us. My kids are big time readers and spend a couple hours a day buried in their books. Overseas it is hard to find bookstores that have books in English, especially preteen/teen books. We go to the library every week but they still appreciate having their own copies that they can loan to their friends and reread over and over. It is amazing and heartwarming that there are so many people out there willing to donate and ship books to military families. They are so appreciated. Thank you for taking your time to put smiles on my kids faces. Thank you for caring about a family you have never met. This is an amazing program!
Thank you again.
Kim Del Duca and her cobbiers

Want to get involved? We need books! If you have new or almost-new copies of Heinlein books (or other gently loved Science Fiction) you’d like to donate, send them to us at Heinlein For Heroes, 2906 Alvarado Dr., Bellingham, WA 98229 and we’ll take care of the rest. For more information on the Heinlein For Heroes mission, check out the Heinlein For Heroes page on our website!
http://www.heinleinsociety.org/h4h/

Go to heinleinsociety.org/h4h/ for information on where to send books or money.
Triple Your “Pay It Forward” With Amazon Smile

3x your impact! From March 12-31, Amazon is tripling the donation rate on your first smile.amazon.com purchase! Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0660576 and Amazon donates to The Heinlein Society.

THS WORLDCON ACTIVITIES

The Heinlein Society’s plans for the upcoming San Jose Worldcon are slowly solidifying from conjecture to actuality. Here is what we’re planning, keeping in mind that “no plan survives first contact with the enemy.”

THSers Michael and Peter Spierig just released their latest movie, “Winchester.” For the curious, the Winchester Haunted House is about 5 miles to the west of the McEnery Convention Center, hours 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Rates for Child/Adult/Senior-Military are $20/$39/$42 for the basic Mansion tour; $20/$49/$42 for the basic Mansion tour PLUS an Explore More expanded access to the house.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FROM THE 15TH TO 19TH HERE
THS wants YOU! To be our Assistant Treasurer

Do you like numbers? Are figures, spreadsheets, adding, subtracting, and graphs all things that give your life meaning? Most importantly, *are you very good at those things* and want a chance to join us in Paying It Forward? Then volunteering with The Heinlein Society might be a great fit for you. We’re looking for someone to help John Tilden, current Baltimorean and all-around great human, with his duties as Treasurer.

TANSTAAFL, so what’s in it for you? Camaraderie, a chance to Pay It Forward, and the opportunity to make friends with some really really cool people (by which we mean us, of course!).

[Contact John](#) and bring your own slipstick!

The Heinlein Society will be at [Balticon](#), too, in Baltimore, Maryland, May 25-28. 

*Come say hello!*

Guests include: Catharine Asaro, Galen Dara, Tim Griffin, Filthy Pierre, Neil Clarke, Ada Palmer, and Larry Niven!
All permanent membership cards for those who became members on or before September 15th, 2017 have been shipped! Please contact Ken Walters at membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org if you have not received yours.