

1. **Minutes of Meeting**
2. **The Heinlein Society, Annual Society Meeting, conducted via FreeConferenceCall**
3. Sunday, September 8, 2019, 3:00 p.m. CDT
4. Pursuant to the Board meeting of March 16, 2020 and follow-up Courtesy Notice, the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Heinlein Society was held on Sunday, September 8, 2019.
- 5.
6. **Directors Roll (present in BOLD):**
- 7.
8. **Geo Rule (President)**
9. **Herb Gilliland (Vice President and Secretary)**
10. **John Tilden (Treasurer)**
11. Joe Haldeman
12. **John Seltzer**
13. **Michael Sheffield**
14. **Betsey Wilcox**
15. **Ken Walters**
16. **Walt Boyes**
- 17.
18. **Committee Chairs Roll (present in BOLD)**
- 19.
20. Academic (**Marie Guthrie**)
21. Archives (**Deb Rule**)
22. Blood Drives (**Carlin Black**)
23. Board of Advisors Liaison (**Walt Boyes**)
24. Heinlein for Heroes (**John Seltzer**)
25. Heinlein Award Liaison (**Herb Gilliland**)
26. Education (**Geo Rule**)
27. Membership Services (**Ken Walters**)
28. Newsletter (**Walt Boyes**)
29. Online Electoral Processes (**Betsey Wilcox/Will Hamilton**)
30. Scholarship (**Michael Sheffield**)
31. Webmaster (**Rob Hays**)
32. **ALL ATTENDING:**

Ainsworth, Darlene  
Arnold Tyrus G.  
Black, Carlin J.  
Booker, Michael J.  
Boyes, Walt  
Davis, Joel S.  
Finneran, Edward  
Guthrie, Marie

Hamilton, William  
Hindle, Andrew  
Kondo, Beatrice  
Labovitz, Stuart L.  
Morgan, Tim  
Rule, Deb Houdek  
Rule, Geo  
Seltzer, John H.  
Sheffield, Mike  
Sheffield, Sharon  
Shensky, Muriel L. (Supporting)  
Tilden, John  
Walters, Kenneth  
Wilcox, Elizabeth

33.

34.

**35. Proceedings: [Note: Powerpoint slides used]**

36.

37. With seven directors present, President Rule called  
38. the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. CT, noting that we are on  
39. Timeline 3 (Neil Armstrong). He then requested a moment of  
40. silence in remembrance of two charter members who had  
41. passed away in the past year: Neil Schulman and Brad  
42. Linaweaver.  
43. President Rule then showed the photo slides of the committee  
44. Chairs and the Board of Directors. Noting the others would  
45. introduce themselves as their respective slides were shown, he  
46. asked Director Beatrice Kondo to briefly introduce herself,  
47. which she did, mentioning her father as a friend of both  
48. Heinleins.  
49. Next President Rule gave the official Notice of Meeting, and at  
50. his invitation, Director John Tilden held a rollcall of attendees,  
51. the results of which were certified as correct.  
52. The **2018 Minutes** were accepted by unanimous vote.  
53. With the next slide, Treasurer John Tilden introduced himself as  
54. a longtime fan and charter member of the Society, and  
55. presented the **Treasurer's Report**. He explained the policy of  
56. amortizing the Life Membership income over a period of years.  
57. He then pointed out that 80% of THS' expenditures were on the  
58. "big three"—scholarships, H4H, and Blood Drives. He noted  
59. that several key members donated  
60. various operating expenses that for that reason do not show up

61. in the records, and said that in general the Society  
62. was a very efficient charity. He said he expects to upgrade our  
63. accounting technology, and perhaps in the future pay for some  
64. professional services. At a query from Director Wilcox,  
65. President Rule and Treasurer Tilden briefly discussed efforts  
66. to pursue external grants for specific programs or for general  
67. operating support. President Rule then emphasized that  
68. the Society is “stronger than it’s ever been.” Treasurer Tilden  
69. concurred, while crediting Membership Chair Walters for  
70. building membership. Responding to a query, Chair Walters  
71. said lifetime members were 8% of the total membership.  
72. **Vice President-Secretary** Gilliland being absent, President  
73. Rule briefly gave his background as a retired Naval  
74. Academy English Professor whose books on the slave trade  
75. were “very fascinating if you have an interest in that sort of  
76. thing.”  
77. **President Rule** then introduced himself, noting he and his wife  
78. Deb Houdek Rule had met during online discussion of  
79. Heinlein. Surveying his year as president, he celebrated the  
80. success of Membership Chair Walters, helped by the Virginia  
81. Edition raffle, in notably increasing membership. He noted that  
82. the scholarship amounts had increased by 1/3. He pointed out  
83. the new Society non-discrimination policy. He mentioned the  
84. “very cool” Bradbury/Heinlein/Wilde event at the Dublin  
85. WorldCon. He noted the important work of Deb Houdek Rule  
86. and Eric Gignac on our website. He noted the re-launching of  
87. The Heinlein Journal under Marie Guthrie’s editorship. Then he  
88. explained the unfortunate fact that the newly heavier  
89. requirements of his employment made it impossible for him to  
90. continue as president, though he fully intended to remain  
91. actively in the Society.  
92. **The Heinlein Journal** slide being shown, Editor Marie Guthrie  
93. explained that although Bill Patterson had used issue numbers  
94. but not volume numbers, it was decided to call the issues edited  
95. by him Volume 1, with Volume 2 commencing with the  
96. present issue. She described pricing policy, with this issue being  
97. free.  
98. With the slide for **Operations**, Deb Houdek Rule introduced  
99. herself and the new THS web site. She is now an experienced  
100. web designer, has worked for The Heinlein Prize Trust for

101. years, and plans to arrange joint work with HPT and THS.

102. **Blood Drives:** Chair Black introduced himself as having

103. been recruited for the work by Mike Sheffield, and after

104. summarizing

105. the statistics and noting how immensely DragonCon

106. contributes, emphasized the need for more volunteer

107. coordinators at the various cons.

108. **Education:** Chair Geo Rule described the resources and

109. functions shown on the slide, and said that he planned to

110. continue as chair even after stepping down as Society

111. president.

112. **Ensign's Prize:** Chair Wilcox described how Ginny

113. Heinlein had obtained these pirated copies by suing the

114. publisher and then donating them to THS. She summarized

115. the success to date of selling them.

116. **Heinlein for Heroes (H4H):** Chair Seltzer described his

117. inventory and process, noting that he had shipped 4,484

118. books this fiscal year. He summarized receipt of donated

119. books by Kathy and Leon Sands, several publishers, and

120. individuals (some of whom purchase RAH books online and

121. have them sent to him). In response to a query from Director

122. Wilcox, he explained that we ship only to US forces, though

123. members of collocated allied forces could benefit

124. collaterally. President Rule interjected to urge anyone

125. downsizing to consider donating their newly surplus books.

126. **Membership Services:** Chair Walters noted the current 438

127. members was the highest number in Society history.

128. **Newsletter:** Chair Boyes said it would come out every other

129. month.

130. **Scholarships:** Chair Mike Sheffield explained that the three

131. scholarships given had this year been increased to \$2,000

132. each. He displayed slides of the congratulatory letters and

133. certificates sent to the top ten applicants. President Rule

134. remarked that the scholarship program itself had been

135. Mike's idea, and he had funded it partly with his own

136. money.

137. **Website:** Chair Deb Houdek Rule reiterated her expectation

138. to have the remodeled site "going pretty soon."

139. **Online Electoral Process:** Chair Wilcox and Will Hamilton

140. announced the results of the election, plus thanks and a

141. special invite to Joel Davis and Steve Wilson to attend the  
142. next Board meeting and continue their active interest in the  
143. Society.

144. **JUST FOR FUN:** President Rule offered a slide celebrating  
145. two special items: first, the fact that the Society's first Life  
146. Member, author **Greg Benford**, had been awarded the 2019  
147. Heinlein Award (given by a committee that is fully  
148. independent of THS); and second, the arrival of the  
149. extremely cute **Mother Thing Plushie**, based upon Eric  
150. Gignac's depiction of the Heinlein character.

151. **GOOD OF SOCIETY:** Outgoing President Rule expressed  
152. the goals for increasing membership, fundraising, and  
153. recruiting volunteers. He mentioned developing the  
154. Forrestal Lecture as a possible membership bonus, assuming  
155. HPT agrees re the copyright. Treasurer Tilden  
156. expressed the Thanks of the Society for the work  
157. done by Geo and by Deb Rule:

158.                   **"THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE."**

159. Director Boyes made it a formal motion, which was passed  
160. unanimously.

161. **QUESTION AND ANSWER:** Sharon Sheffield asked  
162. about the possibility of approaching bookstores to get their  
163. remainders, either free or very cheaply. Director Boyes said  
164. this would be very difficult because of "the fiction that  
165. remainders are destroyed books," but reminded that Baen  
166. and other publishers were already sending overstock directly  
167. to H4H.

168. Director Wilcox then suggested making an "I support H4H"  
169. poster for cooperating bookstores to display. Deb Rule  
170. said her experience suggested bookstores would have little to  
171. no desire for such a thing, but said, "If you can get enough  
172. interest, I can make posters." Treasurer Tilden recognized  
173. member Jim Morgan, who had just joined.

174. Member Joel Davis from Albuquerque  
175. said he liked the idea of people just shipping donated books  
176. to H4H. Geo Rule noted that some (e.g. he and Deb) donate  
177. cash; some buy on Ebay and have the books shipped directly  
178. to H4H in Bellingham, WA. Asking for the address,  
179. Member Davis was told it is in the newsletter.

180. **Prize Drawing:** Treasurer Tilden conducted the drawing,

181. using a random number generator program paired with the  
182. numbered membership roster. The results:  
183. Winner of a copy of Alec Nevala-Lee's book, *Astounding*  
184. was Victor Koman.  
185. Winner of a Mother Thing Plushie: Jack Kelly  
186. Winner of a complete Virginia Edition: Walter Luffman  
187. **Adjournment:** By unanimous vote, we adjourned at  
188. 4:35 p.m. CDT.  
189.  
190. Respectfully submitted,  
*/s/ C. Herbert Gilliland*  
Vice President-Secretary  
The Heinlein Society  
3553 Atlantic Avenue, #341  
Long Beach, CA 90807-5606

Attested: April 20, 2020  
Arnold, MD 21012

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