Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Membership Meeting of 1 2 **The Heinlein Society** 3 A 501(c)(3) charitable and educational corporation 4 Conducted as a phone-in teleconference via 5 FreeConferenceCall.com 6 Sunday, September 7, 2014, 1:00 PM PDT / 4:00 PM EDT 7 8 Pursuant to written notice, the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Membership Meeting of The Heinlein 9 Society was held on Sunday, 7 September 2014, 1:00 PM PDT / 4:00 PM EDT, as a phone-in 10 teleconference via FreeConferenceCall.com. This meeting was the Society's first attempt to 11 12 conduct its mandated Annual General Membership Meeting electronically, as permitted by 13 the change of Bylaws, rather than a physically-attended meeting at one geographic location 14 during the World Science Fiction Convention. 15 16 **Directors present:** Michael Sheffield (President and Chairman of the Board of Directors) 17 18 Keith Kato (Vice President-Secretary) 19 John Tilden (Treasurer) 20 Deb Houdek Rule 21 Geo Rule 22 23 **Committee Chairs present:** 24 Blood Drives (John Hodges) 25 Bylaws & Social Activities (Keith Kato) Education & Heinlein Award Liaison (Geo Rule) 26 27 Electoral (Betsey Wilcox) 28 Heinlein For Heroes (C. Herbert Gilliland) 29 Newsletter (Deb Houdek Rule) 30 Scholarship (Michael Sheffield) 31 32 Other Members and additional Persons Present: An eventual total of 10 members (with late 33 arrivals), including Directors, officers, and general members, were present. There were no visitors at 34 the Annual Meeting. 35 36 **Proceedings:** This meeting was conducted pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, of the Bylaws of The Heinlein 37 38 Society, ratified by the Board of Directors on 14 April 2014, as amended. The viewgraph briefing 39 for the Annual Meeting is appended; the Agenda is on page 2. 40 41 **Order of Business:** 42 At 4:15 PM, EDT, President Michael Sheffield called the meeting to order. At this moment, there was a lack of quorum (5 Directors, 3 general members). 43 44

Kato seconded the motion, which carried 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Michael Sheffield moved that the meeting become a Committee of the Whole. Keith

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47 48 (a) As a Committee of the Whole, the Agenda for the Annual Meeting was technically waived. 49 50 (b) The Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting of 1 September 2013 were distributed with the 51 Notice of Meeting. 52 53 Treasurer John Tilden moved to accept the Minutes as written. Mr. Sheffield asked 54 if there were any objections to the Minutes as submitted. With no objections, the 55 Minutes were accepted by Acclimation. 56 57 Mr. Sheffield asked for a moment of silence for William H. "Bill" Patterson, Jr., founder of (c) 58 The Heinlein Society with Virginia Heinlein, and first President of the Society, who passed 59 away on 21 April 2014. 60 61 (d) Mr. John Tilden then discussed his Treasurer's report, page 9 of the briefing, noting the total 62 income of \$19,120.87, and expenses of \$17,581.57, and larger dollar items that entered into 63 both totals. 64 65 Mr. Kato then discussed the Vice President-Secretary's report, page 10 of the briefing. Each of (e) 66 the bullet points on page 10 were covered with respect to the change in Bylaws, the re-named 67 Society's Academic Prize for Bill Patterson, and his adventures waving the Society's banner at 68 the 2014 World Science Fiction Convention in London. 69 70 Mr. Sheffield then discussed his President's report, page 11 of the briefing. He discussed the (f) 71 Society's Mission Statement, the Society's increased support for Balticon's Heinlein Award, 72 outreach efforts to the science fiction fan community at various science fiction conventions, 73 and possible homes for public viewing of three paintings owned by the Heinleins. 74 75 Mr. Sheffield then announced, as per page 12, that the three candidates for the Society's Board (g) 76 of Directors had won election: Dr. Jerry Pournelle, John Tilden, and John Seltzer. 77 78 (h) Mr. Sheffield spoke to page 13 on Society's membership numbers in lieu of Committee Chair 79 John Seltzer. 80 81 (i) Blood Drive Committee Chair John Hodges spoke to page 14 on the results in the past year's 82 efforts, and the difficulties on maintaining Blood Drives at smaller science fiction conventions. 83 84 (j) Mr. Sheffield spoke to page 15, the continuation of the *Heinlein Journal*, which is affected at 85 the moment by Bill Patterson's estate still in probate. 86 87 (k) Director/Education Committee Chair Geo Rule then spoke to page 16. He discussed the 88 Education CDs, delivery now to home schoolers, moving to electronic distribution of CDs, and 89 the increase in the value of the Society's scholarships. 90 Note: At this point in the meeting, a 10<sup>th</sup> attending member arrived, but by the Bylaws no Quorum 91 92 had been established.

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- 94 Heinlein For Heroes Committee Chair Dr. C. Herbert Gilliland spoke to page 17. He discussed (1) 95 the origin and nature of the program, and milestones achieved. With the Heinlein Prize Trust 96 covering postage and shipping costs,

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98 (m) Mr. Sheffield covered page 18, activities maintaining the Society's website, for Webmaster 99 Rob Hayes.

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(n) Nominations Committee Chair Betsey Wilcox addressed pages 19-26. She discussed the difficulties in the first attempt to hold an online election, especially when Society members to do not know the names of others in the Society. She also went through the poll questions on the electronic ballot in some detail and breaking down the poll data, as shown on the various slides.

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## **Good of the Society:**

Mr. Sheffield opened discussions on Good of the Society:

- Mr. Kato spoke to page 27, and efforts listed thereon on volunteers, membership, and fundraising.
- Re: page 27, Mr. Sheffield also spoke on the Heinlein Exhibit for the Missouri legislature's Hall of Famous Missourians and his efforts to learn more about about how the Society could support fund-raising efforts.
- Re: page 27, Mr. Kato spoke about Hugo nomination efforts for Bill Patterson's volume 2 of the Heinlein Biography at the 2015 World Science Fiction Convention (Sasquan), and the Heinlein undercurrents for the newly-won 2016 Worldcon in Kansas City. For the latter, this is the same locale where Robert Heinlein was Guest of Honor for the third and final time at a Worldcon, with the same committee (Kansas City Science Fantasy Society) that helped run the Heinlein Centennial in 2007. Mr. Sheffield also noted that 2016 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Heinlein Blood Drive, run by the Heinleins themselves.
- Re: page 27, Mr. Sheffield spoke about an exo-planet naming effort, and the Society's interest in naming a system and its planets after Robert Heinlein.
  - At the point the floor was opened to any questions:
  - OMr. Rule asked Mr. Tilden about what constituted the "uncategorized" income on the budget? (Answer: Sale of Heinlein's bed.)
  - OMember Ken Walters asked about donations to the Society, and whether those are tax deductible? (Answer: Yes, 100% as a 501(c)(3).) Mr. Walters noted the donations needs of the Society were not prominent in the messages he had seen.
  - oMr. Kato asked Mr. Walters about improving the communications issues the Society has with its members. (Answer: Our approach is passive through the website and Newsletter, as opposed to active solicitations.) This answer (approximately 1:25 into the meeting recording) was deemed by Board members to be of key importance to our understanding in communicating to the membership.
  - OMember Simon John McNeilly asked via chat about supporting Blood Drives. The action item was taken to coordinate Mr. McNeilly's interest with the Blood Drive Chair, in the Detroit area.
- 135 oMr. Walters asked about using the 2016 Worldcon as a Heinlein Society-related activity. Mr. 136 Rule mused about a hybrid physical/virtual meeting in Kansas City. Mr. Kato mentioned the relative 137 lack of outreach to Heinlein fans who may be outside the normal science fiction fan community, the

138 logistical difficulties of getting people to the Worldcon site, then the scheduling difficulties at

139 Worldcon. 140 141 Valedictory: 142 President Sheffield had announced he had chosen not to run again for the Board, and was de facto stepping down as President of the Society. He said it was time to take a 143 144 break, not completely from the Society (he would still be involved in Scholarships and 145 Blood Drives). He thanked everyone for their support. Mr. Kato offered thanks on 146 behalf of the Board, and "Yea, Michael Sheffield! [from the play 1776]." Mr. Tilden 147 added that good leadership leaves the organization better than when he started. Mr. 148 Rule added that at the time Mr. Sheffield took over the Society, no one else could have 149 commanded the unanimous support of the Board at that time. 150 151 With no other business pending, 152 153 John Tilden moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Geo 154 Rule, and passed unanimously, 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. 155 156 President Sheffield adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM PDT / 5:25 PM EDT. 157 Attest: The foregoing is the true and accurate minutes of The Heinlein Society's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual 158 159 General Membership Meeting of 7 September 2014, and executed by me on 29 August 2015, Alta 160 Loma, California. 161 162 Respectfully submitted, 163 164 /s/ Keith G. Kato 165 Keith G. Kato Vice President-Secretary 166 167 The Heinlein Society 168 3553 Atlantic Avenue, #341 169 Long Beach, California 90807-5606

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172	1.	John Tilden (Director 1)
173	2.	Geo Rule (Director 2)
174	3.	Keith Kato (Director 3)
175	4.	Mike Sheffield (Director 4—achieves Director quorum)
176	5.	Betsey Wilcox
177	6.	Herb Gilliland
178	7.	Deb Houdek Rule (Director)
179	8.	John Hodges
180	AT	TENDANCE AT 1:15 PM PDT→LACK OF QUORUM
181	9.	Ken Walters
182	10.	Simon John McNeilly