

**From:** Heinlein Society <heinleinsociety@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:57 PM  
**To:** ROB HAYS  
**Subject:** January 2019 Heinlein Society Monthly Newsletter

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# THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY



Photo by [Yash Raut](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## Happy New Year!

You may feel like you're hibernating (unless you're lucky enough to live somewhere warm), but we've been busy! Here's what we've been up to:

## Blood Drive Updates

We kicked off the blood drive year with another successful drive at Arisia in Boston. Next up, [Pantheacon](#) in San Jose! You can see us there on February 18th and 19th. Aren't attending the con and still want to donate? [You can sign up here!](#)

In March, we'll be Paying it Forward at [Wondercon](#) on March 29th, 30th, and 31st. We're just getting started for the year, so there will be many more opportunities to donate. Watch this space for more info!

If you'd like to help at a blood drive, or organize a blood drive at your favorite convention, send us an email at [BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org).

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## There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch

...and that's even true for blood donation! Here a recounting by Susan Sackett (pictured below with Robert Heinlein) of blood donation experience:

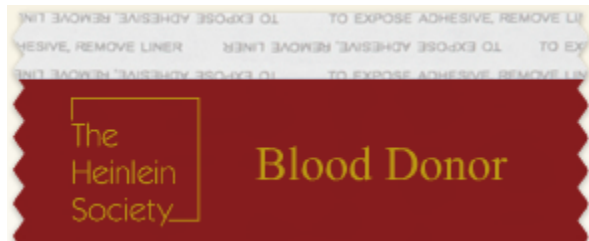
*I spoke at the Puget Sound Star Trekkers Science Fiction and Star Trek Convention II, in late January (probably the 30th) 1977 to promote the soon-to-be-released "Star Trek" movie.*

*I knew Robert Heinlein was going to be there as a special guest speaker, and I eagerly looked forward to meeting him. I found him and his wife Ginny both very charming. I was surprised and delighted when he said he'd like a copy of my book, "Letters to "Star Trek." Of course I wanted his autograph*

*too! I gave him a copy of my book, and he signed my copy of "Stranger in a Strange Land."*

*In return, I promised to give blood in his honor. (A Blood Drive was a tradition at all conventions attended by Robert, stemming from a time when donated blood had saved his life.) Imagine my surprise and delight while I was giving blood, when Robert stopped by to see me, and in appreciation for my donation, he gave me a kiss!*





Watch [The Heinlein Society Blood Drive Page on Facebook](#) for more details!

**The year may be young, but we've already made 127 shipments, totaling 1,459 books distributed. Since the program's inception, we've sent 20,607 total books to our heroes.**



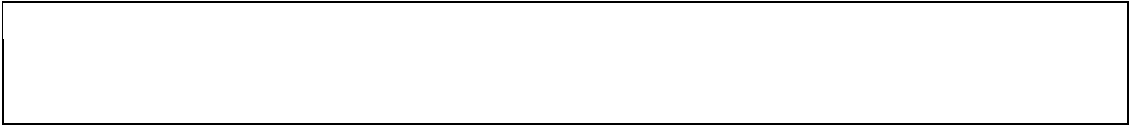
The Heinlein For Heroes program (H4H) sends free books to troops, veterans, and military families. We send only to individuals or units that have requested SF material. Clearly many of our military men and women WANT to read good science fiction, including Heinlein. To meet that demand, our shipments 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!

Go to [heinleinsociety.org/h4h/](http://heinleinsociety.org/h4h/) for information on where to send books or money.

**Here's what some of our recent care package recipients had to say:**



Team Operation Paperback

Thank you so much for the book shipment! We just got our first box in last night, and we had several Soldiers get super excited to see some fresh books up on the shelf to read. In our current location, wifi has been very limited and mail is intermittent based on the weather, so having physical books to read is a huge motivator for our guys. Keep up the great work and know that you are all very much appreciated downrange!

Thanks again!

Stephen M Young

CPT MC USA

Flight Surgeon, Diving Medical Officer



Hello,

Just wanted to notify that my box of books arrived! I'm soon taking it to the Army National Guard base in Puerto Rico for other members to enjoy. Hopefully we may even start an on base free book exchange program for military/veteran members.

This is such a great program.

Thank you so much for what you do.

Jeffrey Feliciano

To Whom It May Concern

Last week at my VA appt I picked up "Her Smoke Rose Up Forever" James Tiptree, Jr donated by this society. SF is a fave of mine and not always available. I remember reading Mr Heinlein in HS (70's). I've been hooked ever since. I've dreamed of space exploration many times. Thank you so very much to everyone involved in your endeavor to provide books and access to Mr Heinlein's writings to all us vets. I appreciate your kindness.

Sincerely,

Linda R Merlin

USA Avn Ret.



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](mailto:membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org) if you have not received yours.

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Heinlein Society Monthly News and Updates for Members

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Heinlein Society  
3553 Atlantic Avenue, #341  
Long Beach, CA 90807

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