

# THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY

## 24th ANNUAL MEETING OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

8 SEPTEMBER 2024

1:00 p.m. PDT /

4:00 p.m. EDT



Walters



# Agenda

- Call to Order
- Meet The Heinlein Society Board, Officers, Committee Members, Board of Advisors
- Timely Notice of Mailing
- Initial Business Items: Roll Call, Quorum, Parliamentarian
- 2023 Minutes Acceptance
- Reports of Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, President
- Committee Reports
- Election Results
- Good of the Society/Q&A Open Mic
- Virginia Edition Raffle
- Adjourn



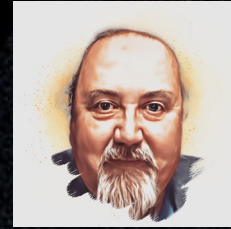


# Board of Directors



**Ken Walters**  
President

**Walt Boyes**  
Vice President



**Betsey Wilcox**  
Secretary



**Geo Rule**  
Treasurer



**Beatrice Kondo**



**Jim Dutton**



**Joel S. Davis**



**John Seltzer**



**Mike Sheffield**





# THS Committees

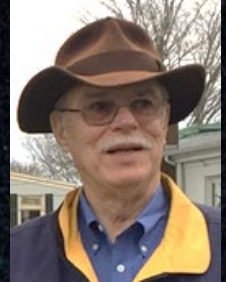


***Heinlein For Heroes***  
**John Seltzer**



***Scholarships***  
**Mike Sheffield**

***BaltiCon RAH Award  
Academic/THJ***  
**Dr. Herb Gilliland**



***Newsletter &  
Membership***  
**Jim Dutton**

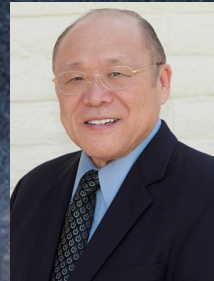


***Elections***  
**Will Hamilton**

***Social Media***  
**Teresa Robinson**



***Operations***  
**John Tilden**



***Social/WorldCon***  
**Keith Kato**

***Blood Drives***  
**Joe Smeddie -Brush**





# Business Items

- Roll Call (Walters)
- Certification of Quorum (Boyes & Walters)
- Walt Boyes is acting as the Sergeant-at-Arms
- 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes Ratified



# Timely Notice of Meeting

**Official Notice of Annual Meeting sent via newsletter notice and message on 01 August 2024, to comply with 30 days notice required by Bylaws (Article IV, Section 4)**

**Subsequent Reminder Notices sent via email, website postings**



# Treasurer's Report- Geo Rule

As of August 31, 2024

Total Assets: \$242,314.89 (+7.2% versus 2023)

Scholarship Fund (Subset): \$167,206.95 (+15.75% versus 2023)

As of August 31, 2023

Total Assets: \$225,992.19

Scholarship Fund (Subset): \$144, 453.80

Contact [Treasurer@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:Treasurer@heinleinsociety.org) if you'd like more details.



# Secretary Betsey Wilcox

- Changed new agenda and minutes for improved record keeping

Working with JT to update record keeping files on line



# Vice President- Walt Boyes

The Vice President serves as:

- Liaison to the Board of Advisors
- Liaison to SFWA, the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association
- Assists the Newsletter Editor as required
- Serves as Sergeant at Arms for the Annual Meeting



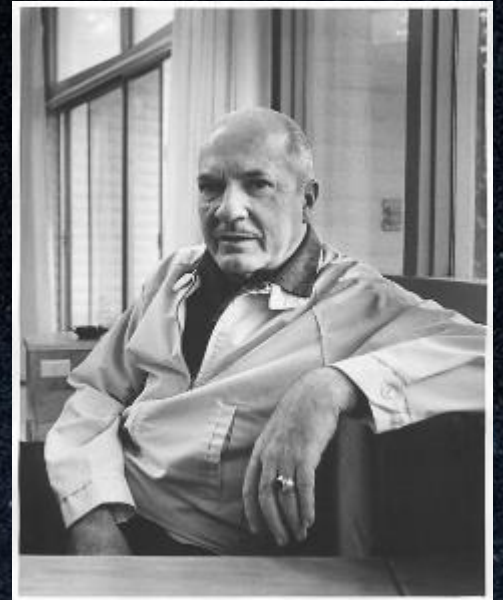
# President- Ken Walters





# Membership Services

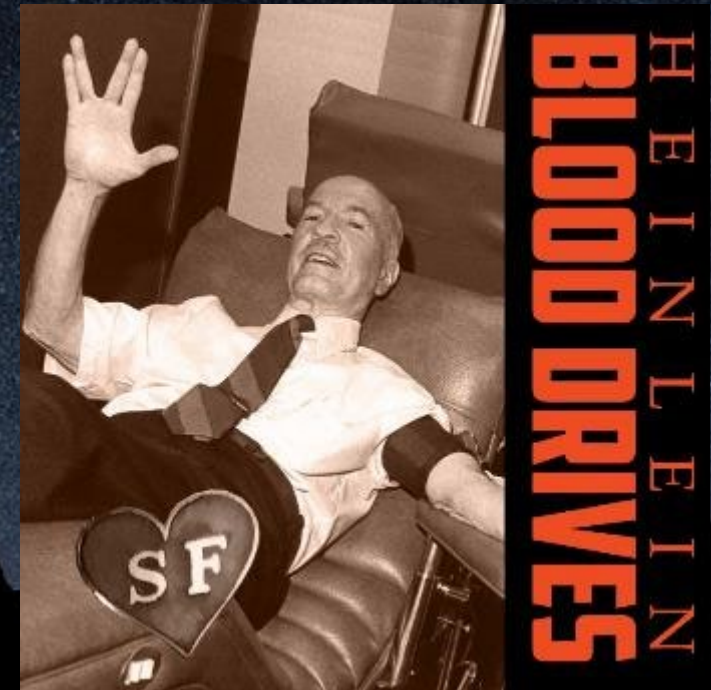
- Jim Dutton, Chair
- End FY 2024 - 805 Active Members
  - We're sustaining a gradual decrease due to an aging membership and a suspected decrease in Facebook engagement when we run ads.
- End FY 2024 - 100 Lifetime Members
  - Eleven new Lifetime Members this year
- Engaged in successful Social Media outreach through Facebook, Instagram and X. Currently more than 321,000 followers On the Facebook Heinlein Society page, and 4200+ on the Heinlein Forum page.





# Blood Drives

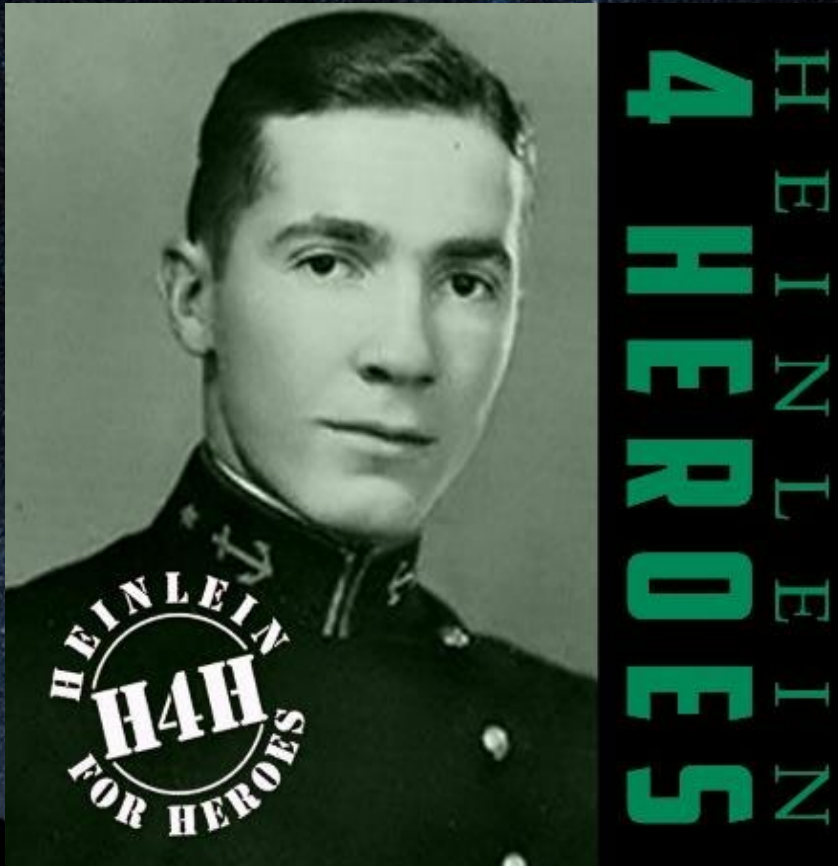
- Joe Smiddie-Brush, Chair
- Core mission of THS—Started by RAH
  - FY 2024—**4669** units of blood collected
  - End of FY 2024— **56,713** units collected through THS since the first THS drive in November 2000
- Coordinating a blood drive is easy and except for the day of the drive not very time consuming,
- A few friends help make it fun
- Contact the blood drive chair for support and guidance setting up a drive in your area
- **BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org**





# Heinlein For Heroes

- John Seltzer, Chair ; Beatrice Kondo, Co-Chair
- FY 2024: H4H shipped **7,529 books** in **390** shipments
  - Total since beginning shipping (Nov. 2013): about 51,946 **books**



- Future: Expect to maintain at least 6,000 books per year with THS providing books and HPT granting for shipping expenses
- Books (especially Heinlein) mostly cash purchases; donations of cash help!

Seltzer/Kondo



# Operations Website Management- John Tilden, Chair

Aided by members Gary Kelley and Teresa Robinson.

- Placed “Search” box visible in the footer on every page.
- Created some help files for the most common membership renewal issues. (search ‘help’—new articles start with “Account Help:”)
- Cleaned up broken links (we left old URLs but not hyperlinked).
- Cleaned up email addresses throughout site posts
- Removed several thousand inactive user accounts from our database.
- Created sublinks for sections within the two RAH FAQ pages
- Created some automation to better synchronize our MailChimp setup for newsletters and other e-mailings to the membership
- Purchased specialized WordPress security firewall services
- Worked with our webhost company to keep software updated

## Some High-Level Statistics:

- **62,270 Sessions**, 101,638 Page Views
- Desktop 59%, Mobile 36%, Tablet 3%
- #1 referral by far to the site is Facebook.
- Our most-visited page was for the Scholarship Program--**29,788** hits
- Top Ten Countries Visiting: US, Canada, UK, India, Australia, Germany, China, Russia, Netherlands, Italy.
- 15 Educator Downloads, 15 Downloads of Heinlein audio



# Scholarships – Mike Sheffield, Chairman

## 2024 Recipients (\$4,000 each)

**Gabriel Black** – Gabriel is our Robert A. Heinlein Scholarship recipient. He is majoring in Biochemistry at Western Washington University with a minor in Astronomy and will start his junior year in the fall. He also works in the undergraduate chemistry research lab at the school and plans to pursue a PhD in Astrobiology. He is a member of the National Honors Society and served as treasurer of his local chapter while tutoring elementary and middle school students.

**Elizabeth Bradshaw** – Elizabeth is this year's Dr. Yoji Kondo Scholarship winner. In the fall she will begin her junior year at Purdue University, majoring in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering. She earned a Girl Scout Gold Award by authoring the book "Your Place in Space: A Career Guide for Girls" based on interviews she did with women working in Aerospace. She donated the books to local schools and libraries. She attended Space Camp in middle school and hopes to make her way back to Mission Control after completing her degree.





# Scholarships - continued

**Maya Krolik – Maya wins this year's Virginia "Ginny" Heinlein Scholarship. In the upcoming academic year she will be a sophomore at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, majoring in Artificial Intelligence and Decision Making. In middle school she competed on her school's Science Olympiad Team and in high school served as team captain and programming lead for the First Tech Challenge competition. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers and is currently performing research on creating new chemical molecules using AI.**

**Luxanna Sands – Luxanna is the winner of the Dr. Jerry Pournelle Scholarship for this year. She begins her junior year at William Jewell College in the fall, majoring in Physics. She plans to also study Aerospace Engineering as part of her college's dual program and to pursue her master's after completing her bachelor's degree. She performs community service through food drives at her local church. She has stated that "Physics isn't just what I study, it's my life".**



# THE HEINLEIN JOURNAL

*and Academic*

- Purpose is to publish academically sound material related to Heinlein's work and life
- Published electronically
- Free to Society members upon request
- Welcomes material or ideas by new or experienced authors—send a draft or just a query
- Currently awaiting material for next issue

[www.heinleinjournal.com](http://www.heinleinjournal.com)



# Online Electoral Process

- Will Hamilton-Administrator
- “ElectionBuddy” voting system: more features; less cost
- 3 seats held by Mike Sheffield; Betsey Wilcox & Walt Boyes ran for re-election unopposed



Directors 2024-2027 Class are... the Incumbents!!!



# Good of the Society

- Work to diversify our membership
- Fundraising—always:
  - Direct donations
  - Estates
  - Grant proposals
- We always need Volunteers to work on committees, at conventions and LEAD by example
- “Ensign’s Prize” Still Available via website
- Open Q&A— Wave, or announce yourself, or ask in the Chat Window. Wait to be recognized by the Chair; you will need to make sure you’re unmuted, then you can make any or ask any questions!



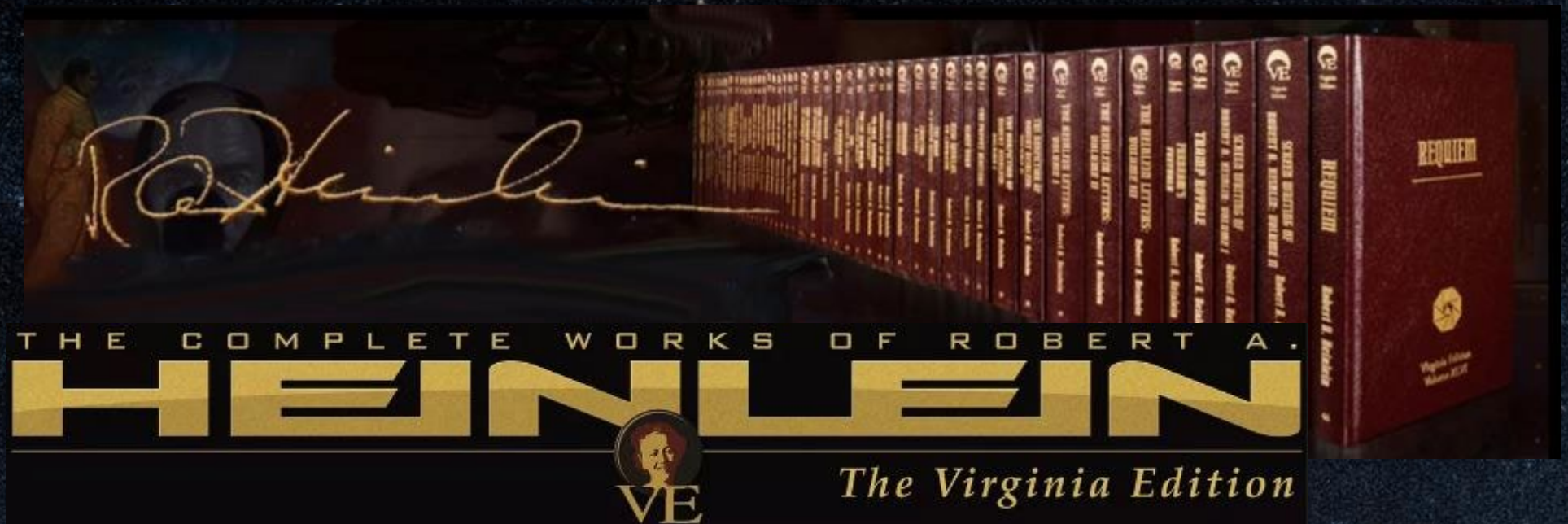


# WorldCon Ahead in 2025, 2026...

- 2025: Seattle WA
- 2026: Anaheim CA
- 2027: No bids???
- 2028: Brisbane, Australia WorldCon bid



# Virginia Edition Raffle



AND THE WINNING NUMBER IS....

Tilden