

November 2021

THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY



As many holidays approach, time seems to move ever faster! Here's what The Heinlein Society has been up to.



Congratulations to R.A.H. for being inducted into the Colorado Authors Hall of Fame!

THS has a Discord Server!

Discord is a chat program much like the old "Internet Relay Chat" but with many more functions. It has been a popular addition to many conventions in the last few years. THS created its own server for use of its members. To manage the "ramp up" of the server, we are opening it up to new members in 100 user blocks. Please feel free to use the link at the bottom of this article to join the server. If the link fails to work, the current set of 100 subscriptions may have been exhausted.

If you were able to access a subscription in this batch, please introduce yourself in the “introduce-yourself” room and feel free to ask any questions or start conversations in the “general” room. As the server ramps up to speed we will be adding different themed chats as well as other features. We hope to see you soon on the server!

Please contact Discord server admin Libby Sharpe at thsdiscordacct@gmail.com regarding any issues with your invite.

Invite link: <https://discord.gg/DZQZzh9uE9>

To celebrate we will be having a live Meet 'n' Greet chat session scheduled for the Saturday after American Thanksgiving, 28 November, 2021. It will start at 4PM EST.

Hello Heinlein Society members. Are you experienced with Facebook? Have you been a page or group admin? Are you able to be politically neutral? Can you deal with a diverse group of people and remain polite? If you fit the bill, we need your help! Please contact Ken Walters at ken@heinleinsociety.org.



The Heinlein Journal Needs YOU!

The Heinlein Journal is seeking authors!

Do you have a neat Heinlein-related idea you thought you might write up in an academic manner some day? As a wise person once advised, put the seat of your pants in the chair in front of your keyboard and start! (If you have some doubts about it, you can query first and we'll talk about it! If you are unsure about the format, do not worry; we can clear that up too).

Reach out to:

Herb Gilliland, Editor, The Heinlein Journal
editor@heinleinsociety.org



WorldCon 2022!

As this Newsletter will be the last publication for 2021, a quick note regarding the 2022 Worldcon in Chicago, 1-5 September 2022 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Membership rates will rise after December 20, 2021, so you might consider getting your Attending Membership before then; see Memberships - Chicon 8. For those of you who qualify for the "First Attending Worldcon" rate of \$110, that is the lowest rate possible. You can even choose to pay off your membership over several months.

2021 Worldcon Activities

by John "JT" Tilden and Keith G. Kato

DisCon III, the 79 th World Science Fiction Convention, will be held December 15-19, 2021 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC.

See www.discon3.org for further information. In-person attendance requires documented evidence of a "final" Covid vaccination (the second shot for Moderna and Pfizer, first for Johnson & Johnson) administered no later than 1 December 2021, i.e., 14 days or more prior to Worldcon, and a photo ID. At the moment, the vaccination policy toward attending children 12 years old and younger is not set. DisCon's website should have the most recent policies. It is mandatory that all attendees to Worldcon functions be masked. At the time of this Newsletter publication, this is what we know regarding THS activities at Worldcon:

1. Wednesday December 15—Sunday December 18, 2021, Daytime Hours. We have requested a Fan Table to use as our central nexus to hand out information, ribbons, and trinkets about The Heinlein Society. An assigned table has not been confirmed, but Fan Tables are a standard occurrence at Worldcons, so we expect to get a Table, and run it every day of the con during daytime hours. We encourage all THSers at DisCon III to check with our Fan Table often for up-to-date information. We will also gladly accept and train volunteers to sit at our Table. (It's so easy even the Chairman can do it!) Please email John Tilden at chairman@heinleinsociety.org if you are attending and interested and available for Table duty.

2. Wednesday December 15, 2021, Time/Location TBA. We would like to host an in-person, members-only "Mission/Vision Discussion" combined with some pizza and salad on Wednesday, December 15, 2021; time and location TBA (evening/dinnertime) at our Fan Table. THS's Board of

Directors (many of whom will be in attendance) will solicit Member feedback on how we are doing, and what we might focus on in the near future, as long as we have enough interested members attending to warrant planning something. An RSVP to chairman@heinleinsociety.org at this point would be appreciated to let us start planning. A "Mission/Vision Discussion" has been held twice before. The Virginia Edition raffle at each recent Annual Meeting came about as a consequence of a "Mission/Vision Discussion."

3. Thursday December 16, 2021, 2:30 PM EST. For those of you attending in person, we hope you make this one a priority, as it is the only

formal program item regarding The Heinlein Society at press time. Tentatively (check the online program when the con starts): Start Time: Thursday December 16, 2021, 2:30 PM EST. Duration: 50 minutes. Room Name: Ambassador Ballroom. Session ID: 747. Title: "Meet Up: The Heinlein Society."

4. Thursday December 16, 2021, Time/Location TBA. A PARTY for THS members and invited guests is scheduled for Thursday December 16, 2021; time and location TBA at our Fan Table. At this time, we just want to get a sense of how many attending members we will have to plan appropriate for food and drink, so we would appreciate an initial RSVP to chairman@heinleinsociety.org. We are hoping to have a "Zoom station" at the party and details about how to participate will come out closer to party day; anticipate that information will be posted on our website for sure, Facebook and Discord as we can.

Now Announcing the Robert A. Heinlein Scholarship!

The board has decided for the 2022 - 2023 academic year to add one additional scholarship - to be called the Robert A. Heinlein Scholarship - to our existing three: The Virginia Heinlein Scholarship, The Dr. Jerry Pournelle Scholarship, and the Dr. Yoji Kondo Scholarship. We are also increasing the amount of each scholarship from \$3,000 to \$4,000. This will provide even more opportunities for worthy young college students.

Applications will be available for download from our website the first week of January, with a deadline for submission of April 1, 2022. Winners will be announced on July 7, 2022. Applicants must be undergraduate students in a STEM major for the year of the scholarship. The Virginia Heinlein Scholarship is available to female applicants only. The other three scholarships are available to students of any gender. These are international scholarships, so students from any country can apply, but the application must be submitted in English.

In our previous 10 years of scholarships we have awarded a total of \$39,250 to 27 winners. Here is a thank you card we recently received from one of last year's winners.

...My dive instructor has been incredible however in accomadating me and has assured me that we will get all my dive training done as soon as I'm healed, even if it means diving outside of class. Despite my ability to get in the water, I also won my schools Dr. John Dearborn Scientific Diving Scholarship and have been encouraged by my dive instructor to apply to a few scientific diving specific internships for next Summer. Wish me luck!

Thank you again immensely for helping to fund my education that is allowing me to persue my dreams of diving at University of Maine.
research

With much gratitude,

-Alexandra Ouimet

To the Heinlein Society and Sponsors,

This is Alexandra Ouimet, winner of the 2021 Dr. Jerry Pournelle Scholarship. I wanted to write you to not only thank you immensely again for the scholarship, as it allows me to pursue my focus of Marine Science as well as research diving out-of-state in Maine, but also let you know how my semester is going! Though I've moved plenty of times over the recent years for work and volunteering, my move to Maine has been a new experience for me, as I adjust to "school" life in a new place rather than 40+hr a week "work" life. I'm finding my balance though between school, my hobby of rock climbing, and now developing my own independent research project. I haven't quite come up with a topic yet but know it will be research diving related! In terms of classes, my Intro to Research diving class is both my most intensive and my favorite class! Unfortunately however, near the end of Sept. I caught COVID, and though I am no longer sick, cannot dive again until my lungs are fully recovered. (see top)

Blood Drive Update

by Carlin Black, Blood Drive Chair

Many thanks to Galaxy Press for their lovely donation of 500 copies of Battlefield Earth for Blood Drive Swag! Keep up with us here in the Newsletter and on Facebook for your opportunity to collect this swag and help us Pay It Forward!

We are encouraging frequent THS donors to inspire others to Pay It Forward with a blood donation by publishing a profile on the [Heinlein Society Blood Drives Facebook Page](#). Or just send a profile and a donation selfie to BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org for posting.

THS Donors will be recognized with an SF pin Thank You card and ribbon on the [Donor Wall](#). Send a donor selfie and USPS address to BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org for recognition swag. You can credit a Con (or not) and any THS member is eligible! Help us beef up the wall! First time donors will be featured.

*Note on donations vs. units. Double Red or Power Red donations use a machine to concentrate red cells in the donation to twice a whole blood donation. Therefore these donations count for two units.

HELP WANTED! A Facebook user to engage with new likes on the Blood Drive Page to get them more involved with the Society and Paying It Forward through donating and recruiting donors. Email BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org to learn more!



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



Getting ahead or catching up on your holiday shopping? Help us Pay It Forward by shopping at smile.amazon.com. Designate The Heinlein Society as your [recipient organization](#) and we will get a donation for each purchase, cost-free to you. Last year, THS received \$196.00 in donations through Amazon Smile!

What Am I Reading? Episode 5

Betsey Wilcox

What I am Reading 5.0

There is a lot to read these days and the books just keep on coming! I have stacks of books piling up. When I sat down to begin this column, I realized there was a little bit of a theme running through what I read, and I am just going to leave it up to you to see if it was coincidence or just what was read in this time frame.

Tamsyn Muir- "Gideon the Ninth"

Yes, I know this is not a recent publication, but it finally got to the top of my stacks. I actually enjoyed this book and hope to read the follow up book for next time. I got caught up in the author's world building and how she layered/uncovered the world in this book. It was like peeling back a big onion with layers on layers. Some smell bad and some smell good,

combined in the right way this smelled & tasted amazing, sort of like a fried peeled onion. But the end of the book left me wanting more of Gideon and unsure of how Harrow the Ninth's tale in the next book might further improve the characters and the readers understanding of all that the author intended. Guess I will have to read Harrow the Ninth and report back.

Lois McMaster Bujold - "Knot of Shadows" (Penric & Desdemona) Kindle

This is the eleventh novella in this wonderful series set in Lois McMaster Bujold's World of the Five Gods. This episode in Penric & Desdemona's journey shows a new take on the powers of the Five Gods and confronts the sundered and possession and how to rid one of being possessed. The multiple possessions and the various strategies used to rid the unlucky possessed one of possessor. Penric muses on all that he has learned about death prayers, the sundered, and possession. Desdemona puts a name to all of Penric's musing as "experimental theology", the idea of which electrified me and sent my brain spinning off into potential stories driven by this new idea of Penric's. I cannot say enough good things about my visits to the World of the Five Gods.

Nathaniel Philbrick- "Mayflower"

I bought this book hoping to find out more about my ancestors who came on the Mayflower. The beginning was exactly what I was looking for. Suddenly the book jumped 50 years forward and ran in a different direction. The remainder of the book was caught up in King Phillip's War, involving the Indian tribes of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Detailing the various tribal leaders & colonial players, how the colonists learned to change fighting tactics from the Indians and how the colonist treated Indian prisoners. I almost feel that this book was a slightly fraudulent for my purposes, but it does seem to be well researched and well written. I have Philbrick's next book "Travels with George" waiting for me because I always heard George Washington slept here; I want to see where he really laid his head.

Faith Hunter- "True Dead" Kindle

This is the 14th novel in Faith Hunter's Jane Yellowrock series and picks up from her miraculous cancer cure and how she is dealing with being the Vampire Queen and her return to New Orleans and her family there. The European vampires are still up to no good and trying to destroy everything that Jane has worked and sacrificed for. This installment deals with how Jane deals with all of the various loose threads and weaves them back into the web of her life. My favorite big cat story. Good read.

Robert Masello- "The Haunting of H. G. Wells" Kindle

This was an impulse buy and sounded too good to be true. I was completely taken in by this book and the story woven by Robert Masello around H.G. Wells and his investigation of a story written during WWI about a miraculous intervention of ghost soldiers saving a group of British soldiers who were about to be overrun by the German troops. What Mr. Wells discovers is even stranger than that fiction. I highly recommend you try this book.

Until next time,

Betsey

PS. Did anyone catch the pre-Christmas theme running through my choices?

This fiscal year, we've made 451 shipments already, totaling 706 books distributed. Since the program's inception, we've sent 35,121 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!

You can send us books at:
Heinlein for Heroes
c/o John Seltzer
2906 Alvarado Dr.
Bellingham, WA 98229

Go to heinleinsociety.org/h4h/ for information!

It's not an easy topic, but if you are an SF fan and you don't know who in your family would appreciate or understand the value of a signed book or significant collection when you are gone--the Heinlein Society will be here.

As a U.S. 501(c)3 charitable organization your estate could realize tax savings...plus your items or money will go to a cause you cared about in your lifetime as a member. If you are interested to know more about this topic, check out <https://www.heinleinsociety.org/planned-giving/>.

H4H Thank You



From John Bean, THS Member and multiple-time H4H donor:

Here's Heinlein Society member and member of Denver Hudgens VFW Post 5409 Auxiliary John Bean (left) presenting 6 copies of 'Starship Troopers' to Post Commander Shane Draper, an Afghanistan War veteran, Wed. Nov. 4th. Included in each book was info on H4H. Member Bean briefly and enthusiastically discussed Mr. Heinlein's military and science fiction career with the joint Auxiliary/Post meeting held before the regular meetings of each org. Commander Draper has seen the movie and heard how good the book is from military friends and is looking forward to reading it.



From the Soldiers of 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, I just wanted to say thank you for all of your support! Your letters and care packages made this rotation go by a lot faster. We are appreciative of everything you do for us, thank you! Please send me an email at [REDACTED] to let me know you've received this. Thank you again!

CW3 Jennifer Alexander



Operation Paperback,

Thank-you so very much for the generous shipment of books for our Soldiers.

We are so lucky to have people like you out there who care so much for others and want to see them happy. Your donation of paperback books were so well received here as it is so HOT here many individuals stay inside and read when they can.

God Bless.

V/r,

CPTY

Roger V. Yant, Jr., CPT, NEARNG
Headquarters Commandant
Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa



Hi! I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for the great books. This is such wonderful treat, especially during summer! We appreciate you!

Love,

The Reyes Family



Hey, O'P's!

Thanks so much for the awesome shipment of books! To keep myself busy over here, I set a reading challenge of 52 books this year, and it's because of you and Operation Paperback that I will reach my goal! I have told the other service members I know that are bookworms, and they can't wait for their goodies to arrive. You guys are helping out here more than you know!

God bless,
Specialist Gappell

Just wanted to let you know we recently received additional boxes and packages of books.

Thank you.

Lynn Romans

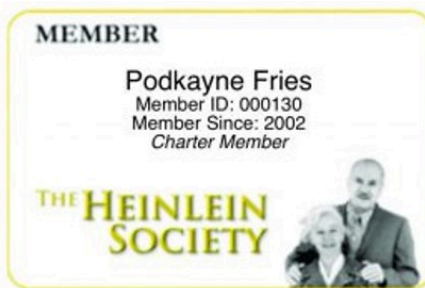
Service to Armed Forces
Kentucky Program Specialist
American Red Cross

Thank you so much for the
Shipment of books to our family.
It's been so much fun reading
through these new treasures. What
a special thing for you to share
with us.

If you had anymore comics
to share we would really enjoy
more of those. Our son has loved
to read the Pearls before Swine
one that you sent.

Thank you again!

With Gratitude,
The Cordes Family.



Questions about your membership or automatic renewal? Please contact Ken
Walters at membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org.

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Long Beach, CA 90807

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