

**April 2022**

# THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY



Spring is thinking deeply about springing here in the Northern Hemisphere. Here's what The Heinlein Society has been up to!



Thanks to Ken Walters for the great photo!

## David Gerrold Wins 2022 Robert A. Heinlein Award!



David Gerrold, novelist and screenwriter, is the 2022 winner of the Robert A. Heinlein Award and will attend Balticon 56, May 27-30, 2022. The award is bestowed for outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings that inspire the human exploration of space. This award is in recognition of Mr. Gerrold's body of work, including his emphasis on young adult space travel novels and inspired creation during Star Trek screenwriting. *Hella* (2020) is his most recent YA novel about space colonization.

The award will be formally presented during opening ceremonies on Friday, May 27, 2022, 8:00 PM, for Balticon 56, the 56th Maryland Regional Science Fiction Convention. Balticon will take place at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel (virus situation allowing). Mr. Gerrold will participate in the Balticon program across Memorial Day Weekend.

Balticon and the Robert A. Heinlein Award are both managed and sponsored by The Baltimore Science Fiction Society, Inc. A grant from the Heinlein Society funds half of the costs associated with the award, and the family of the late author Dr. Yoji Kondo provides additional funding.

The Robert A. Heinlein Award is a sterling silver medallion bearing the image of Robert A. Heinlein, as depicted by artist Arlin Robbins. The medallion is matched with a red-white-blue lanyard. In addition, the winner receives two lapel pins for use when a large medallion is impractical, and a plaque describing the award for home or office wall display.

The Robert A. Heinlein Award selection committee consists of science fiction writers and was founded by Dr. Yoji Kondo, a long-time friend of Robert and Virginia Heinlein. Members of the original committee were approved by Virginia Heinlein.

Virginia Heinlein authorized multiple awards in memory of her husband. Other awards include the Heinlein Prize, which is fully funded by Virginia Heinlein's estate, and a National Space Society award for volunteer projects.

More information on the Robert A. Heinlein Award, including past winners, can be found at [www.bsfs.org/bsfshheinlein.htm](http://www.bsfs.org/bsfshheinlein.htm)

David Gerrold maintains an official website at [www.gerrold.com](http://www.gerrold.com)

A photo and biography approved by David Gerrold can be found at [www.bsfs.org/distrib/gerrold-pic.jpg](http://www.bsfs.org/distrib/gerrold-pic.jpg) and [www.bsfs.org/distrib/gerrold-bio.pdf](http://www.bsfs.org/distrib/gerrold-bio.pdf)

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### **Want To Have Dinner With David Gerrold?**

A recent tradition that the Society is happy to get back to is taking the Heinlein Award winner out to dinner during Balticon! 2022's winner David Gerrold is game and we are anticipating a Saturday dinner at someplace near to the Inner Harbor, where the convention is held. If you will be at the con, or live nearby and want to come along for this event, please let us know of your interest to our email [rsvp@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:rsvp@heinleinsociety.org) as soon as you can so we may plan appropriately. We will email you prior to the convention start with exact details. (Plan to be able to pay for your dinner, drinks, and gratuity according to large group customs.)

We are hard at work planning for program items with David during the convention so we hope to see you in Baltimore!

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### **Social Media Moderators Wanted!**

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](mailto:ken@heinleinsociety.org).



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### **Green Hills Of Earth**

Dear Heinlein Society member,

Back in December I contacted the Society regarding some music that I had written to the words of the Green Hills of Earth and a second song I wrote entitled Stranger, in a Strange Land. Mr Heinlein himself called me on the phone at that time and wanted to hear me sing the Green Hills of Earth. I did sing it for him. He said he wished that Burl Ives had had my melody at that time. He then said I was free to do anything I wanted to do with the song.

You have constructed wonderful society around his work, and that is very refreshing in today's world. I have finally been able to reach a place in my life that I could get the above two songs transferred from my test records, of a long

time ago, to a CD. I will be mailing that CD to your Long Beach office within the next week. I am so glad I can finally fulfill this promise I made, basically to myself, but also hopefully something good will come of it in your society.

I wish you well and much success in all your endeavors. Mr Heinlein's ideas were far beyond his time and much of ours. His thoughts speak to tomorrow, our tomorrow. It is a joy for me to add my contribution to the ongoing work.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michelina Foster

Editrix's note: If Ms. Foster is willing to share these songs on streaming, we'll certainly link them in the next Newsletter, so stay tuned!

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## **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](mailto:editor@heinleinsociety.org)

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## **Blood Drive Update**

*by Carlin Black, Blood Drive Chair*

Thanks to all who donated at Wondercon! We were able to collect approximately 72 units and 6 power red units for around 78 total units, which translates to 234 lives impacted by this blood drive.

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](mailto:BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org) for posting.

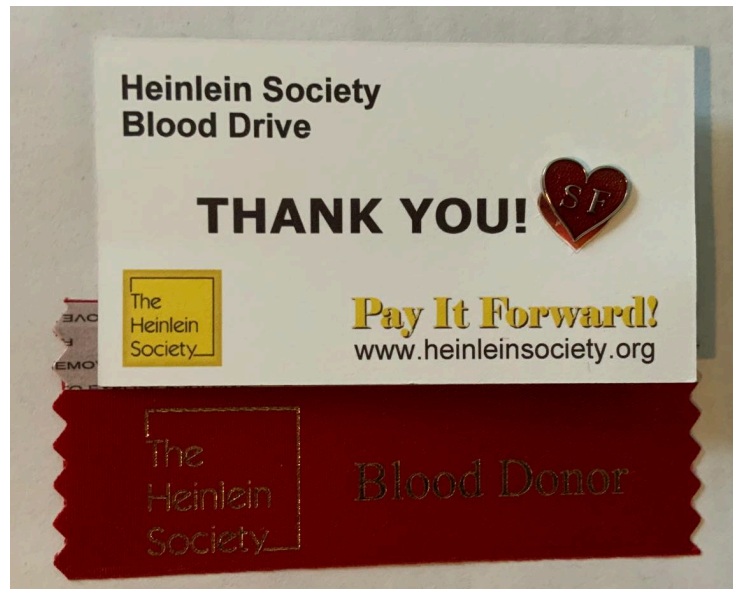
THS Donors will be recognized with an SF pin Thank You card and ribbon on the [Donor Wall](#). Send a donor selfie and USPS address to



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](mailto:BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org) to learn more!



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

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**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Getting ahead or catching up on your holiday shopping? Help us Pay It Forward by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://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!

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**This fiscal year, we've made 179 shipments already, totaling 2,987 books distributed. Since the program's inception, we've sent 37,437 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!

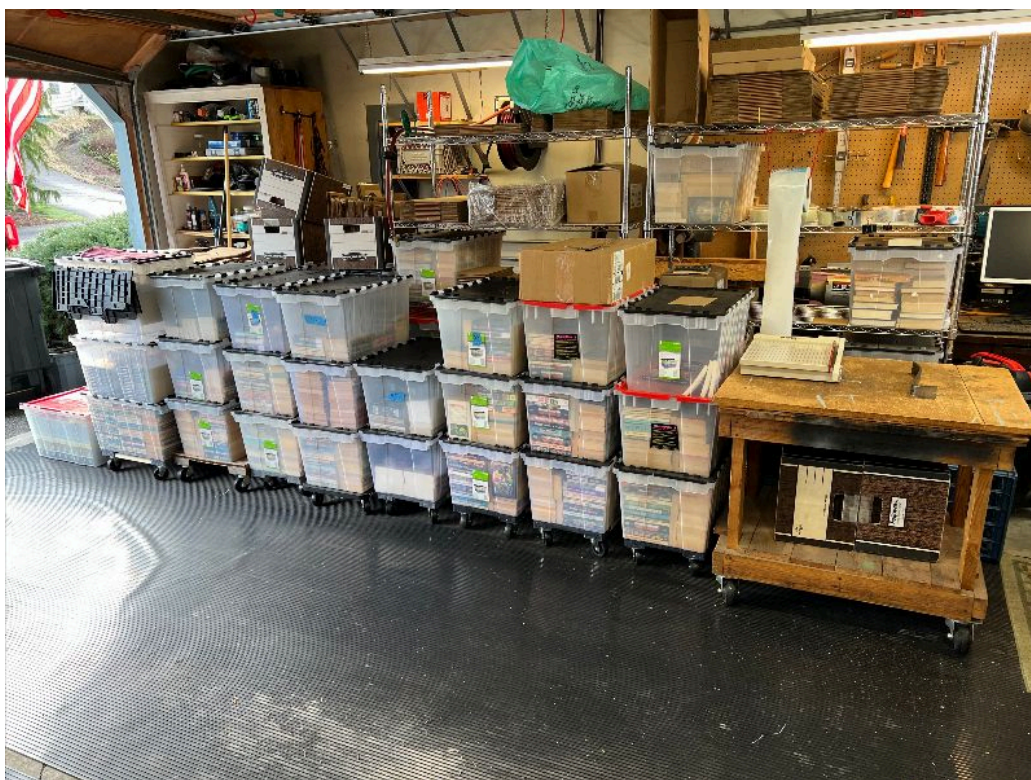
You can send us books at:  
Heinlein for Heroes  
c/o John Seltzer  
2906 Alvarado Dr.  
Bellingham, WA 98229

Go to [heinleinsociety.org/h4h/](http://heinleinsociety.org/h4h/) for information!

**A Peek Behind the Scenes**



Here's where we store books we're not quite ready to ship yet.



This is where all the magic happens.





Mass market paperbacks, anyone?





Boxes of books, all ready to ship!

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**H4H Thank You**

John & The Heinlein Society,

Thank you for the numerous Sci-Fi books. We will take them on the upcoming deployment. After we are done, we will take them to Tripler Hospital per your mission.

V/R Sharon Rice

Dear Operation Paperback,

Thank you so incredibly and very much for the books that have been sent to MKAB Air Base. We are INCREDIBLY grateful for them. When I first arrived here last summer I wrapped up about 40 of them and turned them into a Blind Date With a Book project. We had 40+ people participate. This month I am doing it again and already have had 30 books checked out! I have a total of 70 prepared so I hope plenty of people will join in the fun. When I first arrived on site, there wasn't much diversity in choice of reading material. I sent off emails and letters to Operation Paperback and some book/author groups I am involved with and soon we had science fiction, fantasy, self help, biography, classics etc. It has been just wonderful.

My Grandfather used to carry the little paperback classics in his shirt pocket when he served as a North China Marine. My husband always had books stashed in his locker on the ship when he served in the Fleet for the US Navy and in the sail locker for the team when he was an Expeditionary Sailor. Now it is my turn. I didn't have any space to bring books with me, but found a Mercedes Lackey book at a USO in Germany and brought it with me to Romania, uncertain of how much reading material would be here. Now, through the kindness and generosity of Operation Paperback Donors, I have 6 big bookshelves in three different locations here, they are all filled to the brim and overflowing. The same book is never in the same place on these shelves, they are taken, shared, swapped and set back on the shelf ready for the next reader!

I can tell you for a fact that our Servicemembers and NATO partners LOVE the books, magazines, puzzle books, note pads, DVD's and other items that have been sent. As soon as I can stock those 12 boxes of books waiting to be ready and get some space back on the shelves we will request to be added back to the care package list.

From a fellow book lover, thank you again so very much for all your support.

Very Respectfully,

Operation Paperback,  
Thank you to you and your  
volunteers for the books and  
thoughts of us while we are  
deployed. Reading is helping  
this deployment pass more  
quickly.

Best Wishes,

Beth Watson

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Many Thanks from Somalia

To the friends at Heinlein for Heroes I just want to say thanks for sending books to  
us from Operation Paperback...

There are some awesome reads in that package.

Jeremy Stockdale



MSG, USA

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Good Afternoon,

We have received the books on leadership and greatly appreciate them. They are a perfect start to our leadership and diversity library here at Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi and exactly what we were hoping for. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Operation Paperback from our Sector Leadership and Diversity Counsel.

Very Respectfully,

MST2 Thompson  
Sector Corpus Christi

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On behalf of my Soldiers,  
thank you so much for your  
generosity in donating books  
for them! It is very much  
appreciated!

- BCO/210 BSB

2BCT/ 10<sup>th</sup> M9TV DIV

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Aloha from Pearl Harbor!

I wanted to send a quick note to say "thank you" for your contribution to the mission at Operation Paperback! We just received our third box of books today, and my family and I are eager to begin

reading.

We are blessed to be beneficiaries of this program and I will continue to sing your praise to my fellow service members. Mahalo!

Very Respectfully,

MUC(SCW) Christopher W. Jerome  
Leading Chief Petty Officer  
U.S. Pacific Fleet Band

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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/>.

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Questions about your membership or automatic renewal? Please contact Ken Walters at [membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:membershiprenewal@heinleinsociety.org).

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Heinlein Society News and Updates

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Long Beach, CA 90807

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