

# THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY



Congratulations to John Scalzi, the newest Robert A. Heinlein Award winner!



John Scalzi, novelist and internet personality, is the 2023 winner of the Robert A. Heinlein Award. 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. Scalzi's body of work of 16 novels and numerous short stories. A majority of his work features a future in space for humanity including his groundbreaking novels in the Old Man's War series and the Interdependency series.

The award will be formally presented during opening ceremonies on Friday, May 26, 2023, 8:00 PM, for Balticon 57, the 57th Maryland Regional Science Fiction Convention. Balticon will take place at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore Maryland. Mr. Scalzi 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. BSFS thanks The Heinlein Society and the family of Dr. Yoji Kondo for providing funding for this award.

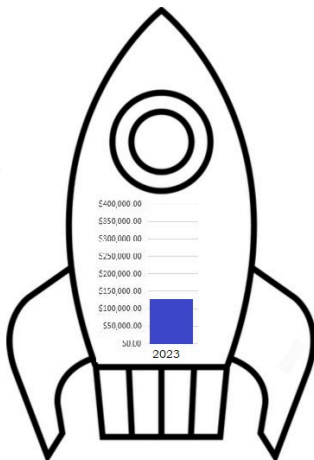
The Robert A. Heinlein Award is a sterling silver medallion bearing the image of Robert A. Heinlein, as depicted by artist Arlin Robins. The medallion is matched with a red-white-blue lanyard. In addition, the winner receives two lapel pins for use when a large medallion is impractical, and a plaque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

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

John Scalzi maintains an official website at <https://whatever.scalzi.com>

More information on Balticon can be found at [www.balticon.org](http://www.balticon.org)

John Scalzi lives in Bradford, Ohio, USA.



## Scholarship Update

We are making good progress on our Scholarship Fund drive. Our financial committee has met to set our initial investment mix and has set our first goal of \$150,000 to be able to provide out scholarship funds assuming reasonable market returns.

We are currently just shy of \$118,000 (U.S.) in our fund. Can you help us get to that first goal level? Many of you are successful in your careers and are always telling us that you owe Mr. Heinlein a lot. This is a tangible way to 'pay it forward' to a new generation of engineers to be influenced by RAH and those in STEM fields that only requires you writing a check!

We have some nice donation premiums with a Heinlein connection for donations with this drive

Read more about it on our website  
(<https://www.heinleinsociety.org/scholarship-fund/> )  
and if you have any questions, contact  
[chairman@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:chairman@heinleinsociety.org).

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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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## **Member Spotlight: Jeanne Jackson of Auntie Aircraft Media**

Jeanne Jackson has recently launched a new website, <https://auntieaircraft.com>, to publicize her *Wurst Contact* series and give free, public access to *Sourdough Jeanne's Space Flight Log*, a tabular compilation of every attempted orbital or deep space launch since Sputnik 1 in 1957.

Jackson's series includes the titles *Into the Noisy Planet: It Came from the Radio Station*, *Toccata and Feud: Starship Troupers*, and *Parcel of Doom: The Kazoo of the Underworld*. These alternate-1970's-histories feature, as she describes it, "UFOs, the gods of Olympus (who are art collectors), the Grateful Dead (in mutated form--they're called the Warlocks), a struggling new college radio station, and LGBTQ themes. In writing these books, I took some inspiration (and much perspiration) from Robert Anson Heinlein, Robert Anton Wilson, and C.S. Lewis--*Wurst Contact* is, among other things, a pastiche of Lewis's *Space Trilogy*." Check out her website for more information!

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## **Blood Drive Update**

*by Carlin Black, Blood Drive Chair*



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 ribbons and a donation selfie on the [Donor Wall](#). Send a donor selfie and USPS address to [BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto: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.

Since The Heinlein Society started Paying it Forward with convention blood drives we have documented 49,266 donations and at least 50,913 units of life saving blood. Since each unit is separated into several components given to different patients, each unit of blood can potentially save three lives.

Watch this space for a new way for any member of the society to save lives in their own home town. We are piloting a Library Blood Drive program where a member can, with the help of their local blood center and a few friends, coordinate a blood drive at a local library. As you know, we are all readers and probably got started at a library. You can now Pay it Forward at your favorite library with a Heinlein Society blood drive with pins, ribbons, and other swag. Contact [BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org](mailto:BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org) for more information.

Until next month,

Carlin Black

Blood Drive Chair

**This fiscal year, we've made 78 shipments already, totaling 39,586 books distributed. Since the program's inception, we've sent 38,555 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!

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## **What I am Reading 11.0**

By Betsey Wilcox

This time I have a mixed bag of books to tell you about, starting with British cozy mysteries then progressing into older published books which are getting a re-read, a new Preston and Child book, and a new Shining Smith novel.


Heads up! The next **“Murderbot Diaries”** book from Martha Wells is scheduled for publication in November 2023.

**Richard Osman – “The Thursday Murder Club”; “The Man Who Died Twice” and “The Bullet That Missed”** Audible, HC, PB or Kindle.

This series of books was recommended to me from someone who was reading them as part of their book club. I started with “The Thursday Murder Club”

[Read the full reviews here!](#)

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



### **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).

### **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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Heinlein Society News and Updates

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