

THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY

Newsletter for October 2023

Letter from the Editor

This summer I was honored by the members to be elected to the Board of Directors for the Society. My colleagues all have MANY years of contact in fandom and otherwise, making me wish I'd been part of that scene. Alas, my life had gone in a different direction as an active tournament chess player and then active in scholastic chess programs and coaching ... plus the demands of my own business. However ... better late than never!

Although I've been a member for a few years, this year was the first time I remembered to sign in to the Annual Membership Meeting. I sort of needed to remember this time since I was elected to serve! I found the meeting interesting and fun, but I'll tell you a secret ... sign in early and stay until the meeting host closes the Zoom session afterward. Lot's of fun conversation and stories happen before and after the official meeting. My wife and I got quite a few chuckles. You can view a video of the meeting [HERE](#). Sadly, the recording only covers the offical meeting portion of the session.

Ken Walters, who previously served as Vice-President and Membership Chairman, graciously accepted the position of President for the next term. He's handing the Membership responsibilities over to me, therefore some of you may hear from me privately in that capacity in the future. So keep those dues paid on time and I won't have to wag my finger at you! ;-) Geo Rule also returned to the Board. Geo and his wife, Deb, have been very active in important work for both the Society and the Heinlein Prize Trust, and Geo is a past President.

On a sad note, [Michael Flynn](#) passed away on September 30th in his childhood home. Michael was the 2003 co-winner of the Heinlein Award (its first year) with Mrs. Heinlein. He chaired the executive selection board for the Heinlein Award for many years. He won the BSFS Compton Crook Award in 1991 as well. His passing was reported on his Facebook page by his daughter, Sara. RIP Mr. Flynn.

We have an unusually busy newsletter this month, so let's get at it ...

Jim Dutton - Newsletter Editor for The Heinlein Society

Heinlein Society Board and Committee Chairs

Our website is updated to include our [new list of Board member and Committee Chairs](#), with bios for most.

Letter from our outgoing President, John Tilden

We have had another year of wonderful financial support from you through memberships and donations and amazing work from our key volunteers running our core programs. I came onto the board of the Society in 2012 in a time of serious transition for the Society. I finished my time on the board by not running for reelection in August, and my formal officer service ended with the election of Ken Walters as the new President & Chair.

In my opinion, our most serious remaining need is to build up a larger base of key volunteers that are able to help run our core programs. Doing something new may seem daunting, but to keep our charity running we need to have able managers for tasks and other volunteers who can learn quickly and be depended upon! I know in the world of Heinlein fans out there we should be able to find a few more of you with those qualities, and we'd like to hear from you if you are interested. I am putting my words into action and remaining involved as chair of the Internet Operations committee.

I am grateful for the honor of serving as your President and Chair,

John Tilden aka "JT"

[Editor's Note: I'd just like to say it's been a pleasure in the time I've worked with JT. He's organized, knowledgable, and committed. The number of things he needed to have his fingers in, especailly--as we all are--a volunteer, seemed daunting to me. THS owes a lot to this man for his contributions and I'm sure you'll all join me in extending our gratitude.]

Letter from our incoming President, Ken Walters

Hi, This is Ken Walters, incoming President and Chairman of The Heinlein Society. I am truly honored that the Board of Directors has chosen me to lead over the next year. I have the great good fortune of following our outgoing President, John Tildan. John has accomplished so much during his tenure he hasn't left very much for me to do. Seriously, I have large shoes to fill and I am eternally grateful that John will be Chair of Operations and available to advise. I also am fortunate that we have two past presidents currently serving on the Board, Mike Sheffield and Geo Rule, to help guide my progress.

Looking forward, I would like to address issues such as our aging membership and ways to attract younger members. I would also encourage our existing members to take a more active role in volunteering their time to our many projects. Lastly, I invite all our members to feel free to contact me with suggestions on how to improve the membership experience, or on any topic of concern.

-- Ken Walters



\$750.00 for lifetime

☐ This is a gift

1

Join Now

We're pleased to announce the winner of the 2023 Virginia Edition drawing. The Heinlein Prize Trust is kind enough to donate a set each year, and the chance to win this valuable set in the drawing is a great incentive to join and keep our memberships active.

This year's winner is Heinlein Society member **Oral Caglar**, pictured here with his new set. He told us that the empty slot on the shelf is the spot for *Time Enough for Love*, currently laying on his nightstand. :-) Congratulations Oral ... you lucky dog you!

Gift memberships now available!

As one of our website updates we are now able to easily offer gift memberships for your family and friends!

Just check the "This is a gift" box and enter in a valid email address for the gift receiver. They will get an email telling them of their new membership, and will fill out their personal information. Each year for a regular or supporting membership both you and the gift receiver will receive a reminder email.

New Convention in October

Son of Silvercon (more information [HERE](#)) is a first-year convention modeled on Libertycon and BasedCon: a convention that promotes positive, pro-freedom science fiction as well as its authors and creators. Appropriately for a convention held in the state that's home to the National Test Site and the Atomic Museum, our mascot Fission-chan signals our support of nuclear power as one of the necessary factors in creating a free & prosperous future.

Our first-year guests, Maggie Hogarth, Sarah Hoyt, and Daniel Hoyt, have between them published nearly 200 books outside the traditional publishing world and are eager to share their experiences with our guests. Heinlein Society members may be interested to note that we have several panels exploring the impact of Robert Heinlein and his books on modern culture, especially [The Man Who Sold The Moon](#) and [The Notebooks of Lazarus Long](#).

Attending memberships are \$40 through September 13 and \$50 at the door; supporting memberships are \$20 if you can't make it but would like to help us out. Heinlein Society members may also like to check out our blog for information on T-shirts and the Intermountain Cookie Conspiracy.

Thank you and the Society very much for helping make our inaugural convention a success!

Kevin Trainor
Chairman, Son of Silvercon

Discussion group for the Heinlein novel "Friday"

The Heinlein Forum hosts a few of these discussions each year on Facebook. The next one begins on November 11, [HERE](#). If you're not a member of the Heinlein Forum, you'll need to apply to join the group to join this discussion: [HERE](#)



by Carlin Black, Blood Drive Chair

Organizing Blood Drives was a focus of Robert Heinlein's life, and as such is a core mission of The Heinlein Society.

For Fiscal Year 2023, our drives produced 910 units from 663 donors, not counting a quite successful drive at DragonCon. Since the first THS drive at PhilCon in November of 2000, our drives have produced 52,044 units from 49,935 donors. Each unit is estimated to save three lives. Think about that. :-)

If you know anyone who might be interested in coordinating a blood drive, have them contact BloodDriveChair@heinleinsociety.org. We will do all the work with the Blood Center to make it happen.

Reminder: all people are now eligible to donate. No more “permanent deferrals.”

When you donate, send a selfie to: blooddrivechair@heinleinsociety.org!

And we have a [Donor Wall](#) page online.

We need local blood drive coordinators for the South Bay, San Francisco and Oakland, and Marin County. Also New England Coordinators are a critical need.

Coordinators in other areas are great. And Library Blood drives may soon become a Heinlein Society program so that there will be plenty for a coordinator to do. Cons may not be the only option.

Coordinating a blood drive is relatively easy. The blood center does most of the work before the drive. Except for the days of the drive, it is not time consuming. The rewards are huge. Each Unit of blood coordinated saves 3 lives at local hospitals. Best of all, you do not need to be eligible to donate to coordinate a drive. Even those with a fear of needles can Pay it Forward by coordinating a drive.

The H4H report for AUGUST 2023 and Fiscal year FY2023 is as follows:
[H4H Report for AUGUST 2023](#)

[Cash Donations](#)
See Treasurer’s monthly report for monetary donations (if any)

[Books Donated and Received in AUGUST](#)
Martha Knowles & Ken Roy - 24 books
Baen Books - 426-SF-pbs
Barry Locklear (& Vondi Forrester) - 46 books

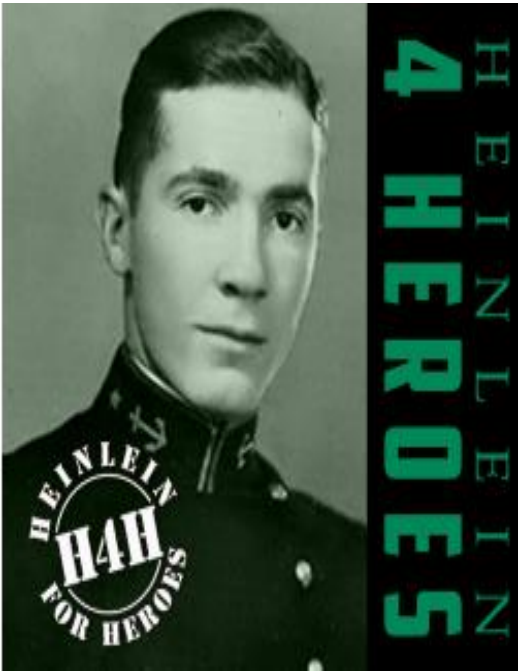
[Books purchased and received in AUGUST](#)
Geo (eBay) - .66-RAH-pbs
Seltzer (eBay) - 67-RAH-pbs

[Shipped in AUGUST](#)
26 shipments totaling **481** books

[H4H activity for Fiscal Year 2023 \(12 months – end of fiscal year\)](#)
322 Shipments totaling **6,275** books sent
Program Total since inception **44,294**

Best Regards,
Please call or text or email if you have any questions.

John Seltzer, H4H Chair
H4H@Heinleinsociety.org
Bellingham, WA
360-303-5325



"Thank you so much for all the books. It means so much to me. I look forward to reading them all. Thank you again!"

--Bailey
Bailey is a disabled veteran. Last name withheld to respect privacy.

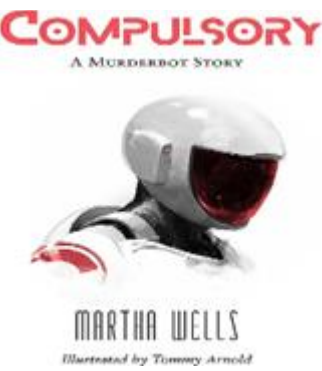
You can send us books at:
Heinlein for Heroes
c/o John Seltzer
2906 Alvarado Dr.
Bellingham, WA 98229

Go to heinleinsociety.org/h4h/ for information!

Thank you especially to the following donors! Your support helps us put a welcome escape in the hands of active military, veterans,and military families.

Martha Knowles and Ken Roy
Baen Books
Barry Locklear (assisted by Vondi Forrester)
Col Mike J Nielsen

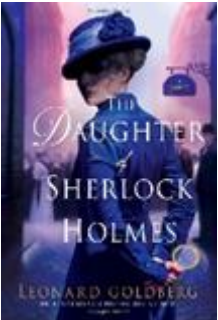
What I am Reading 15.0



Martha Wells- Compulsory; Ltd Ed, Kindle
Compulsory is a new Short-Short story in the Murderbot Series. It arrived at my house as a medium-sized poster, signed and numbered by Martha Wells from Subterranean Press. I was very excited to see it. Read the story in less than 5 minutes, then re-read it a little slower. This appears to be an early story in the Murderbot series as it is still contemplating killing humans and has just started its addiction to The Rise and Fall of Sanctuary Moon video series.

Leonard Goldberg- The Daughter of Sherlock Holmes: A Mystery (The Daughter of Sherlock Holmes Mysteries, 1-7) ; HC, PB, Kindle, Audible, CD

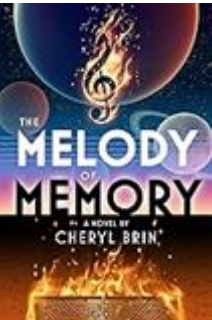
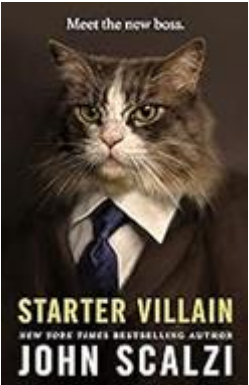
I was looking for an easy read one night and came across the first of this series “The Daughter of Sherlock Holmes”. I was very pleasantly surprised at how well written this was and how much I enjoyed getting to meet all of the characters. I enjoyed it so much that I went on a search for the rest of the books. During the search I found out that book seven had just been published and then to my shock, found out the author was doing a book signing locally the next week. Of course I went and bought number seven and got it signed! Mr. Goldberg gave a delightful talk and lives in Charleston which puts him close enough to drive down for a book signing. Now I have read them all and can recommend them with confidence.



Neal Stephenson- Snow Crash; Kindle, Audiobook, HC, PB, Mass Market
First published in 1992 by Bantam, it has taken me this long to read the book. Why, I hear you ask, did it take you so long to read it? The truth is I wasn’t ready for it in 1992. I had no interest in cyberpunk, metaverses or what was described as a dystopian story. I really had nothing to compare it to, so I skipped it. This wasn’t up my alley or in my lane and I suspect I would have hated it in 1992. In 2023, I don’t hate it at all. I understand and can follow metaverses and realized by my definition this was not a dystopian novel. Instead, it is very much a postapocalyptic novel set in a world with hope for better things to come.

John Scalzi- Starter Villain; Kindle, Audiobook, HC,

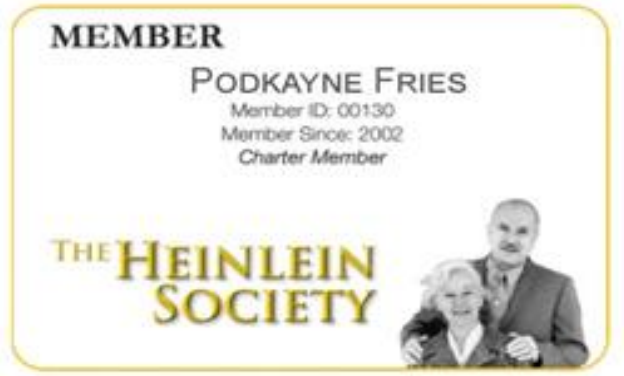
One of my favorite authors just published a new book and in less than 24 hours I devoured it. I love this book. John did a great job writing and obviously had fun creating a world where cats own homes, have portfolios to manage and type to communicate with humans, dolphins have potty mouths, and there is an entire organization ridiculously based on a James Bond villain, including the white cat. Into this mix throw a down on his luck Charlie, whose house blows up, interacts with the CIA and inherits his unknown and recently deceased uncle’s vast billions. Stir the whole thing with a stick and voilà you have Starter Villain. I had a blast reading this book and it went fast. I might have to re-read it just for fun again.



Cheryl Brin- The Melody of Memory; Kindle, PB
Yes, this is a book by the spouse of Science Fiction writer, David Brin, which is why I picked it up. In this book, The Melody of Memory, be prepared to be transported to Tyra, a troubled world plagued by cycles of collapse and darkness that have haunted its people for centuries. As civilization begins to claw its way back from the brink, a haunting question emerges—will the curse repeat itself once more? For amidst the tragic cycles, a unique technology persists—a way to tie traumatic memories to melodies and store them away in boxes. While this gift can be a blessing, it has also become a tool of repression, inhibiting humanity's growth, and ability to learn from past mistakes, for no one remembers making them, and the cycle continues. It is a cautionary tale for those who don’t remember the past being condemned to repeat it and it is also a thoughtful reflection on how humans process pain. I enjoyed it and recommend it.

Until next time,
Betsey

Membership Report



The Heinlein Society Newsletter goes out to all current and past members. If you are a past member and haven't renewed your membership for a while, please consider Heinlein Society programs like the Blood Drives and Heinlein For Heroes. If you wish to support our core programs, your membership helps to not only do that, but helps us to sustain the memory of our favorite author, and we hope yours, too.

The Heinlein Journal Needs YOU!

THE HEINLEIN JOURNAL

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!

And as Dr. Keith Kato pointed out at the Annual Meeting, don't be intimidated, your article doesn't have to be:, "The Use of the Semi-Colon in Lesser Heinlein Works". :-) [Editor's Note: Dr. Kato, that line cracked me and my wife up when you said it.]

And if you have some ideas for the types of articles you'd like to see in the Journal, let us know! We'll try to fullfill some wish lists!

Reach out to:
Herb Gilliland
Editor, The Heinlein Journal
editor@heinleinsociety.org

Copyright © 2023 Heinlein Society, All rights reserved.
Heinlein Society Monthly News and Updates for Members

Our mailing address is:

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

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).