

THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY

Newsletter for April 2024

Letter from the Editor

This is a busy month for the newsletter, and now I've done a full year of them, as this is my 6th issue. I've had a good time doing it, and lots of fun working with my fellow Society members on the Board of Directors. It's a dedicated and special group of people, and I urge others to get involved.

This year is an anniversary for various years of a few Heinlein novels. **Red Planet** (on of my early Heinlein reads) turns 75 this year! Hard to believe. **The Star Beast** (my first Heinlein read) turns 70. I thought that was such a cool titled in the 4th Grade library, and I read it about the same time Star Trek premiered in September 1966. Other than maybe a juvenile Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea book, it had to be my first sci-fi read, too. **Starship Troopers** is 65, **Farnham's Freehold** is 60, and **Job** turns 40!

In the last newsletter I mentioned it's not too early to start thinking about and planning for [Balticon](#), which is unofficially a Heinlein Society gathering for anyone convenient to the schedule and venue. This year it's May 24-27 and more detail can be found under the hyperlink. I was on the fence about going, as I've never been much of a Con attendee, but last week I decided to go, so I've got my hotel reservations, parking, memberships, and a house/dog sitter all lines up. So I hope to see a lot of Heinlein Society Members there and meet you in person! I know I'll meet a few fellow members of the Board. :-)

The next book chat in [Facebook Heinlein Forum](#) kicks of on April 20th with **The Door Into Summer**. That's one of the books your Editor feels drawn to reread every few years, along with *The Rolling Stones* and *Citizen of the Galaxy*.

The Door Into Summer

To look for Cons local to you, check out. [this site](#).

In March we welcomed Teresa Robinson to the Operations Committee. Thanks for pitching in, Teresa!

Jim Dutton - Newsletter Editor for The Heinlein Society

2024 Heinlein Award



Tom Doherty, founder of TOR Books and Chair of Tom Doherty Associates, publishing under the Tor, Forge, TorDotcom, Starscape, Tor Teen, and Nightfire imprints, is the 2024 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. Doherty's work in bringing the inspiring books of hundreds of authors writing about our future in Space to public awareness.

The Heinlein Society is honor Mr. Doherty with a dinner at Balticon. Limited reservations are available for the dinner. Price and menu are still in the planning stage.

Tom has previously been awarded the Skylark award in 1993, a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2005 World Fantasy Convention, the Raymond Z. Gallun award in 2006 for outstanding contribution to science fiction, the 2007 Lariat Award, the 2009 Solstice Award from SFFWA, and 2017 brought the Thriller Legend Award from the International Thriller Writers. Obviously, the Heinlein Award puts a crown on all those other awards! ;-)

The award will be formally presented during opening ceremonies on Friday, May 24, 2024, 8:00 PM, for Balticon 58, the 58th Maryland Regional Science Fiction Convention. Balticon will take place at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore Maryland. Mr. Doherty will participate in the Balticon program across Memorial Day Weekend.

Balticon and the 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.

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/bsfsheinlein.htm

A picture of Tom Doherty provided by Tor Books can be found at http://www.bsfs.org/images/Tom_Doherty_c_Robert%20Davis.jpg

A biography of Tom Doherty provided by Tor Books can be found at <http://www.bsfs.org/images/tom-doherty-bio-f-tor.pdf>

More information about Tom Doherty can be found at <https://tdaeditorial.com/imprint/tom-doherty-associates/>

More information on Balticon can be found at www.balticon.org

To contact the Heinlein Award liaison at BSFS email: dale@bsfs.org

Tom Doherty lives in New York, New York, USA.

An Award for Bill Shatner



Los Angeles, CA
May 23-26, 2024



William Shatner will appear at the National Space Society's 2024 conference in May to accept the Robert A Heinlein Memorial Award. The award honors "those individuals who have made significant, lifetime contributions to the creation of a free space faring civilization" for his dramatic and wide reaching influence on public perceptions of space exploration and development via his decades of Star Trek experiences. Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry received the Heinlein Award in 1993.

You can learn more about the ISDC at isdc.nss.org.

Past President John (JT) Tilden reports:

Steve Wilson asked if I wanted to have a THS meet-up at Farpoint and then it turned out that they had a fan table space, so I agreed on both accounts. Today I went to the con. Teresa Robinson, the THS social media person for most of our accounts, came to the meet-up and tabled with me afterwards.

We had 8 email sign-ups and a good chunk of those were at the noon meet-up. I brought my copy of RAH's (I think freshman) high school yearbook and also one of Heinlein's 'art books' from his library that were given to us by Amy Baxter. A couple of people seemed genuinely interested and I hope they follow up with memberships or at least join the HF on FB.

Several folks approached and asked when the Heinlein Award winner would be announced--most of them were at other fan tables for the area so they had known of us at least some.



Heinlein Society Blood Drives

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.

<u>H4H Report for FEBRUARY 2024</u>	
<u>Donations</u>	
Betsy	\$50.00/monthly
<u>Books Donated in FEBRUARY</u>	
<u>Deb and Geo</u>	16-RAH + 5-SF
<u>Books purchased in FEBRUARY</u>	
Beatrice (eBay)	26-RAH
Greg Funke (used pb dealer)	52-RAH + 539-SF
Seth Steingraph (book store)	27-RAH
<u>Shipped in FEBRUARY</u>	
31 boxes	578 books
<u>H4H activity for Fiscal Year 2024 (6 months)</u>	
203 boxes	3,884 books
<u>H4H Program Total Since Inception</u>	48,238

THANK YOU, LETTERS!

Hello Heinlein 4 Heroes,

Thank you so much for including me in your book program. It meant the world to me. I received so many books and every time I received them, it made my day. It feels very good to be appreciated and this is a great cause. I'm very grateful.

*Kind regards,
N.C.*

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

John Seltzer, H4H Chair
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 Bellingham, WA
 360-303-5325



<u>H4H Report for MARCH 2024</u>	
<u>Donations</u>	
Betsy	\$50.00/monthly
<u>Books Donated in</u>	
<u>Deb and Geo</u>	32-RAH + 42-SF
<u>Books purchased in MARCH</u>	
<u>John (eBay)</u>	151-RAH
<u>Shipped in MARCH</u>	
31 boxes	602 books
<u>H4H activity for Fiscal Year 2024 (7 months)</u>	
234 boxes	4,486 books
<u>H4H Program Total Since Inception</u>	48,840 books

Membership Report

We had two members join as Life Members in February. **Vincent Loeffler and Andrea von Kaenel**, thanks for those memberships!

MEMBER

PODKAYNE FRIES

Member ID: 00130
Member Since: 2002
Charter Member

THE HEINLEIN
SOCIETY



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 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 fulfill some wish lists!

Reach out to:

Herb Gilliland

Editor, The Heinlein Journal

editor@heinleinsociety.org

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Heinlein Society Monthly News and Updates for Members

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