

THE
HAIKU
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XI, NUMBER 2 — MAY 1996

**SECOND 1996 HSA
NATIONAL MEETING**

All HSA members and friends are invited to attend the second 1996 national meeting of the Haiku Society of America in San Francisco, California, from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, July 13, 1996. Meet at Fort Mason, Building C, Room 205, and please bring your poems to read. After announcements and a business meeting chaired by Barbara Ressler, the program features Kazuaki Tanahashi discussing his methods in translating Mitsu Suzuki's Zen haiku in *Temple Dusk* (Parallax Press), and he will also talk about his new book of Soen haiku translations (*Shambhala*). Barry Weiss will follow with a *shakuhachi* flute performance, in which he will play music for Zen meditation and will talk about the role of this traditional instrument in awareness practice. Featured readers to follow will include Steve Sanfield, who has a new hardback book of haiku for children entitled *Snow* (Putnam), and HSA president Barbara Ressler. The meeting will conclude with a workshop led by Dee Evetts on the role of imagination and memory in haiku. Join us afterward for a no-host dinner at a nearby restaurant (please let Michael Welch know if you would like be included for the reservation at the restaurant).

For directions to Fort Mason and for San Francisco lodging information, please contact Michael Dylan Welch at (415) 571-9428; E-mail WELCHM@AOL.COM.

HSA Second National 1996 Meeting
Saturday, July 13, 1996
1:00 to 5:00 P.M.
Building C, Room 205
Fort Mason
San Francisco, California

**AMERICAN HAIKU ARCHIVE
INAUGURATION**

The California State Library invites you to the inauguration of the American Haiku Archive in Sacramento at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, July 12, 1996. The American Haiku Archive is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and promotion of all haiku and related poetry as a vital component of literature in the English language. The Archive will be established at this event as an inclusive educational and scholarly resource at the California State Library, and will

HSA
NATIONAL NEWS

make its material accessible to the general public, especially students, poets, writers, and scholars. The Archives material, primarily in English, will include books, magazines, pamphlets, recordings, letters, papers, and ephemera. It also encompasses other historical and contemporary material from around the world.

This new and extensive archive will feature the Haiku Society of America library and collections from other individual donors including Elizabeth Searle Lamb, George Swede, and others. Dr. Kevin Starr, California State Librarian, will bestow the first annual Honorary Curatorship upon Elizabeth Searle Lamb. The program begins with a short talk on the history of haiku in Japan and in the English language, and will include commendations from U.S. poet laureate Robert Hass and representatives from the Japanese Consulate, the Japan Society of Northern California, the Haiku Society of America, and other national and

international haiku organizations. The program will also include traditional *shakuhachi* music by Barry Weiss, a formal haiku reading, and a brush-painting performance entitled "The Four Seasons" by noted artist Kazuaki Tanahashi, all to be followed by a catered reception hosted by Dr. Kevin Starr and the California State Library. The public is welcome at no charge. After the reception, tours of the state capitol will be offered by the California State Capitol Historic Commission.

**American Haiku Archive
Inauguration**

**11:00 A.M., July 12, 1996
California State Library
Sacramento, California**

Contact Michael Dylan Welch at (415) 571-9428; E-mail WELCHM@AOL.COM. Sacramento is approximately a two-hour drive from the San Francisco airport, so please allow adequate travel time.

THE HSA ARCHIVES

Members or friends who wish to donate haiku or haiku-related materials to the HSA Archives at the California State Library can do so by sending them to

Gary Kurutz, Principal Librarian
Special Collections Branch
Calif. State Library at Sacramento
Library-Courts Building
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Be sure to ask for a "deed of gift" if you wish to register a deduction on your income tax for the 1996 tax year. Gary's telephone is (916) 653-0101; fax (916) 654-8777.

"Juxtaposition" will be the theme of the third 1996 HSA meeting at the Chicago Cultural Center on September 14. *Modern Haiku* editor Robert Spiess has agreed to open the program with a reading on "Juxtaposition or Internal Comparison." HSA members are invited to take part by reading and commenting on haiku that they think make particularly effective use of the technique of juxtaposition. If you would like to participate in the program, please contact Lee Gurga, 514 Pekin Street, Lincoln, IL 62656; tel. (217) 732-8731; fax (217) 732-2283; by July 31.

Special room rates of \$109.00 per night, single or double, are being offered by the Congress Hotel, 520 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago 60605; phone (800) 635-1666 and mention the HSA meeting.

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
established 1968 by
Harold G. Henderson and Leroy Kanterman
c/o Japan Society, Inc.
333 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017-2399

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| President | Barbara Ressler |
| First Vice President | Lee Gurga |
| Second Vice President | Alice Benedict |
| Secretary | Doris Heitmeyer |
| Treasurer | Raffael de Gruttola |

Questions about membership dues and all related questions as well as annual elections of officers should be addressed to
Dee Evetts
Acting Secretary, HSA
102 Forsyth Street, Apt. 18
New York, NY 10002

Haiku and other manuscript submissions, editorial correspondence, exchange copies, and new haiku books for review in *frogpond* should be sent to

Kenneth C. Leibman
Editor, *frogpond*
P.O. Box 767
Archer, FL 32618-0767
KENNETH@AFN.ORG

News and notices of events for publication in *The HSA Newsletter*, can be submitted, preferably via E-mail or on a diskette, to
Charles Trumbull
Editor, *HSA Newsletter*
1710 Asbury Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3502
TRUMBULLC@AOL.COM

A LETTER FROM DORIS

Dear fellow members of the HSA,

Thank you for your cards, prayers, and good wishes. I am much better and have been home for a few days with the help of a part-time health care aide. I am happy to say I can use my computer again, though not up to professional speed. However, I can't continue as Secretary and must formally resign at this point. Dee Evetts volunteered to keep membership records and got out the first mailing with the help of members of the Spring Street Haiku Group. I had completed the Newsletter and Information Sheet before going to the hospital.

L.A. Davidson, a former Secretary – and Vice President and Treasurer – of the HSA, was a tireless helper, picking up mail at the apartment and visiting me almost every day. She served as liaison between me and those who continued my work. Karen Sohne, Dee Evetts, Carl Patrick, Evan Mahl, and Cor van den Heuvel visited me with flowers, books, and other gifts. Charles Trumbull of Evanston, Ill., will now edit the Newsletter. I hope you will all give him your support and send him your news items.

As for what happened – the totally unexpected. A brain abscess (left side), first diagnosed as a stroke. It was operated on February 29th, and then I was put on intravenous antibiotics for 6 weeks. After the first 2 weeks I was transferred from the New York Hospital (where I used to work) to Mt. Sinai to begin physical therapy, and then to the Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged for more physical therapy. (The Jewish Home is nonsectarian as far as residents are concerned.) I think the only reason I got into the latter was that I was over 65! Most patients were older. At some of the recreational programs, I met some of the permanent residents and got a glimpse of what it is like to be elderly and dependent. In spite of the fact that J H & H is one of the best of such institutions, homelike and pleasant, the old joke applies: "Who wants to live in an institution?"

I am happy to be home again and will soon be sending haiku and tanka to the journals. I wish I could reply to everyone who wrote to me. Thank you again for your letters and cards.

Doris Heitmeyer
May 7, 1996

through drawn curtains

I see the silhouettes

of two sparrows mating

MINUTES OF THE FIRST 1996 HSA NATIONAL MEETING, WASHINGTON, D.C., SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1996

The meeting was held at the Japan Information and Cultural Center in Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. Officers present were Lee Gurga, First Vice President; Dee Evetts, Acting Secretary; and Kenneth Leibman, *frogpond* Editor. Officers not present had previously been notified by President Barbara Ressler of the agenda for the meeting and invited to send their comments. The meeting was chaired by Lee Gurga, and business was addressed as follows.

Lee formally proposed that a new HSA office be created, that of Newsletter Editor. Because this requires an amendment to the bylaws of the Society, it was agreed that this proposal be placed on the annual ballot of the membership later this year, along with the election of HSA officers and regional coordinators.

Meanwhile, to meet the immediate need caused by Doris Heitmeyer's illness and resignation, President Ressler appointed Charles Trumbull as Newsletter Editor and Dee Evetts as Acting Secretary.

Lee also proposed drawing up a set of guidelines for judges of the Merit Book Awards. It was agreed that he should proceed with this and present a draft for consideration.

A suggestion that the HSA might set up a home page on the World Wide Web was briefly discussed. It was agreed that the President should appoint a person or group to research this possibility and report back, ideally with a draft resolution for approval by the Executive Committee.

A substantial part of the meeting was then devoted to Ken Leibman's report, as circulated to all officers. In this he described his editorial philosophy and practice as *frogpond* Editor, along with some of the joys and woes of editorship. He proceeded to outline ways in which the

SECRETARY'S REPORT

burden of this very demanding job could be eased. In response, the Committee affirmed that the Editor has complete discretion with regard to page layout, the grouping of haiku by theme or seasonal reference, the number of poems chosen for publication, and so forth.

The idea of appointing an assistant editor was discussed and identified as a strong possibility for the future of *frogpond*. Subject to the Treasurer's approval, it was agreed that a mailing service could be used for sending out the journal. A similar policy had already been adopted for the *HSA Newsletter*, beginning with this issue. The change will save the officers concerned at least a week of extra work each year.

More controversially, and with mixed feelings, the Executive Committee voted to allow the number of issues of *frogpond* to be reduced from four to three annually. The size of each issue of the journal would increase accordingly. Reactions to this change are invited from members.

The following proposals were also raised, and tabled for further discussion:

- create an HSA Service Award to recognize outstanding service by members of the Society
- establish a category of lifetime HSA membership
- hold another joint meeting with the Haiku International Association, this time in Japan.

GENERAL MEETING. The following members and others attended: Stephen Addiss, Carmen Sarah Alejandro, Roberta Beary, Alexius J. Burgess, Tom Clausen, Maureen Collins, Ellen Compton, Jocelyn Conway, Maryalice Cregg, Carol Dagenhardt, Bill Dennis, Dee Evetts, Nelson Fitton, Lee Giesecke, Lee Gurga, Jim Kacian, Eleanor Kerkham, Kenneth C. Leibman, Jean Leyman, Jeanne Lupton, Betty Manchester, Dorothy McLaughlin, Dave

Morrison, Marian Olson, Joan Sauer, Cor van den Heuvel, Anita Sadler Weiss, Dick Williams, Jeff Witkin, and John Yagerline.

The meeting was opened about 2:30 P.M. by Regional Coordinator Jim Kacian, who outlined the afternoon's program.

First Vice President Lee Gurga then extended a warm welcome to all present and led a round reading. Acting Secretary Dee Evetts began the business part of the meeting by forgetting to submit the Minutes of the previous meeting in Boston. (This omission will be rectified at the next meeting, in San Francisco on July 13.) Dee gave an account of Doris Heitmeyer's progress and the recent developments regarding the HSA secretaryship. This was followed by a report on the main items deliberated by the Executive Committee and a summary of the Treasurer's report.

The program continued with a talk by Eleanor Kerkham, Assistant Professor of Japanese Language and Literature at the University of Maryland. One of her special interests is Bashō's haibun. She traced for us the development of his attitude and style and spoke illuminatingly of Bashō's haiku in the context of his prose writings. She revealed a far more complex relationship than most of those listening were previously aware of, referring to his "eccentric and whimsical way of presenting the traditional forms of poetic preoccupation."

Prof. Stephen Addiss of the University of Richmond, Virginia, followed with a presentation, using slides, on the subject of *haiga*, or "haiku painting." He delighted us with many examples of this form, showing the various ways – ranging from the most obvious to the exceedingly subtle – in which image and poem can be combined or juxtaposed.

Lee Gurga concluded the first session with a brief and pithy summary of his ideas regarding the form and presentation of haiku. He urged us not to work to a formula (even one of our own devising) but to evaluate each poem individually. He also

reminded us of the role humor can play in dispelling hypocrisy and pretension while yet conveying the fullness of human experience.

After a break, which allowed for general mingling and conversation as well as enjoyment of the lavish refreshments, the meeting resumed with a traditional workshop led by Ken Leibman. Using poems submitted anonymously from the floor, he provoked lively exchanges with (and among) his listeners, focusing particularly on the richness available in haiku that permit more than one interpretation. One example was discussed at length:

piano practice
in the room above me
my father shouting

The meeting dispersed about 6:30 P.M., with a number of those not unduly pressed by travel arrangements adjourning to the nearby Kawasaki Japanese restaurant.

Special thanks are due to the Japan Information and Cultural Center, the HSA Southeast Region, Regional Coordinator Jim Kacian, the Washington-area's towpath Haiku Society, and Ellen Compton (Hospitality Committee Chairperson) for hosting and organizing this event, as well as to guest speakers Eleanor Kerkham and Stephen Admiss.

— Dee Evetts, Acting Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Raffael de Gruttola, Society Treasurer, presented his report for the first quarter of 1996 (January 1–March 31).

The main items can be summarized as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Balance Forward | \$12,729.95 |
| Income | \$7,136.86 |
| Expenses | \$1,798.33 |
| HSA Account Balance | \$18,068.48 |

OFFICERS' REPORTS

FROGPOND EDITOR'S REPORT

As reported above, the Executive Committee of HSA approved a new publication schedule for *frogpond*.

Our journal will henceforth appear three times a year, with a greater number of pages in each issue so that the total pages in the year will be no less than those in 1995. This is a reflection of the fact that the editor lives in "haiku-isolation" in north central Florida, and must perform all phases of editing and journal production (except printing) without help except for proofreading and envelope-stuffing.

It is hoped that reduction in the number of issues will give the editor some breathing space without sacrifice of quality or of format, of which

FROGPOND CONTENTS

Included in Ken Leibman's report to the HSA Executive Committee was the following content analysis of *frogpond* in 1995 and comparisons with the previous year.

SUBMISSIONS: A total of 948 submissions was received in 1995, containing

| |
|--|
| 7732 haiku |
| 245 tanka |
| 76 sequences of various lengths |
| 26 linked poems of various types |
| 74 other items, including haibun, articles, reviews, readings, reports, etc. |

| PUBLICATION IN FROGPOND | RATIO | | |
|---|-------|------|-----------|
| | 1995 | 1994 | 1995:1994 |
| Total pages | 224 | 196 | 1.14 |
| Total original haiku | 828 | 397 | 2.14 |
| Average original haiku per dedicated page | 10.8 | 7.0 | 1.54 |
| Sequences | 29 | 11 | 2.64 |
| Haibun | 13 | 3 | 3.67 |
| Linked poems | 6 | 6 | 1.00 |
| Tanka | 32 | 1 | 32.00 |
| Tanka strings | 1 | 3 | 0.33 |
| Articles, reports, readings, etc. | 26 | 14 | 1.86 |
| Reviews | 10 | 13 | .77 |
| Obits and memorials | 5 | 2 | 2.50 |

the majority of corresponding members appear to approve.

Seasonal emphases will be (1) late winter/spring; (2) summer/early autumn; (3) autumn/early Winter. Issue 1 is in the print shop as I write; I hope to mail issues 2 and 3 in August and December, and issue 1 of 1997 in April.

Submitters are requested to send no more than one batch of their best haiku (minimum of 5, maximum of 20) per issue, and no more than one sequence, haibun, renga, "reading," etc. unless the number of accompanying haiku is reduced.

As usual, please consult with me in advance about reviews and articles.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have taken the time to write me with appreciation and with constructive criticism of my efforts. It is, of course, impossible to please everyone, but I shall keep trying to give you what most seem to want.

— Ken Leibman

MISCELLANY

NOTICE FROM THE SECRETARY

Due to the recent secretarial crisis and subsequent reorganization, there will be no membership list update with this issue of *The HSA Newsletter*. All changes and additions will be included in the Annual Address List to be published in September. Please continue to send all information (including E-mail addresses) to the Acting Secretary.

HAIKU INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Haiku International Association, at its recent meeting, approved a proposal to hold a joint meeting with the Haiku Society of America in Tokyo in April 1997.

NOTICE FROM THE HSA NEWSLETTER EDITOR

For a future issue, the editors would like to augment the valuable bibliography of haiku publications in the past *HSA Newsletter* with a listing of haiku and related resources on the Internet and World Wide Web. If you have suggestions of Websites for inclusion, please contact Charles Trumbull at one of the addresses in the masthead on page 2.

CORRECTION

The list of "historic" — that is, defunct — publications included in the previous *HSA Newsletter* erroneously included *Point Judith Light*. The magazine, we are informed by Liz Fenn, is alive and very well, and we apologize to its editor, Patrick Frank, and any subscribers who may have been needlessly alarmed.

NORTHEAST METRO REGION

FIRST 1996 MEETING

The first 1996 meeting of the Northeast Metropolitan Region was held in the East Asian Lounge, Columbia University, from 2:00–5:00 P.M., Saturday, April 13. In attendance were L.A. Davidson, Chuck Easter, Bernard Lionel Einbond, Dee Evetts, Kam Holifield, John Hudak, Jim Kacian, Gertrude Morris, Karen Sohne, John Stevenson, Geri Taper, and Cor van den Heuvel. The meeting began in the traditional manner, with a round reading.

John Stevenson read a letter from Doris Heitmeyer expressing her regrets that she was unable to attend in person and explaining the illness that has resulted in more than six weeks of hospitalization. She said she hoped to return home soon with home health care and to see us all at future meetings. She also expressed particular gratitude to L.A. Davidson, Dee Evetts, Karen Sohne, Carl Patrick, and Evan Mahl.

Dee Evetts provided an up-to-date on the HSA secretarial functions, which he has volunteered to provide on an interim basis. There were announcements and discussion about the July meeting, which will feature Ion and Mihaela Codrescu, and the October meeting, which will focus on haibun and may be combined in some fashion yet to be determined with the "Jersey Shore" haiku event scheduled to take place that same weekend (see below).

Our featured poet was Jim Kacian, Southeast Regional Coordinator, visiting from Virginia. Jim began with the preface to his new book, *Presents of Mind*. This collection of haiku, his first, offers poems in five seasonal sections (including a section for New Year's Day). He recited the spring section for us. While each of the poems appears only once in the book, Jim presented them in a carefully designed pattern of interwoven repetitions. Members remarked favorably on the effect of this style of oral

presentation, citing its play on the listener's memory and mildly trance-inducing qualities.

walking in
the orchard suddenly
its plan

plum blossoms
falling in the wind
in the calm

broken fence
morning glory tendrils reach
for the missing rung

Jim then read two haibun, both of which touched upon illness and death but offered strong contrast in the relative weight of the prose and poetry in each piece. Jim's own *death-watch* (Red Moon Press, 1996) set eight poems in seven pages of text relating to the terminal illness of his father. Shiki's *A Verse Record of My Peonies* (Botan Kuroku), translated by Earl Miner, contained fourteen poems set in three pages of brief diary entries detailing visitors to the author's sickbed, recording medications and symptoms and at one point imagining a great farewell party at the end of which he might "take the compound with a good grace and quietly slip into endless sleep."

The meeting ended with a workshop offered by Dee Evetts, who described moments in his childhood and youth where he came to experience or know fully something that had previously been only a theoretical or intellectual truth. He asked us each to find a partner and share similar moments from our own lives. Ten or twelve of the haiku and senryu that resulted were then recited and discussed.

ivory piano keys
my teacher explains
the weight

— John Hudak

first lesson
on the good piano —
the coolness of the keys

— Jim Kacian

telling his dream
of the willow
he uses both his hands
— Karen Sohne

The next East Coast Metropolitan regional meeting will be held on Saturday, July 13, at the East Asian Lounge, 403 Kent Hall, Columbia University (Broadway, 116th Street subway exit). A volunteer is needed for the workshop portion of the program. Please contact John Stevenson, Regional Coordinator (518) 766-2039.

— John Stevenson

SPRING LAKE WEEKEND

An informal haiku gathering is planned at Spring Lake, New Jersey, on the weekend of October 25-27. This event will be held at the Grand Victoria Hotel, on the sea front. The cost for a double room for two nights, including breakfasts, will be approximately \$160.00. As in previous years, the event will be very loosely structured, with ample time for walking, talking, and moon-viewing, creating what one participant has described as "a delightful sense of ease."

For program information and to make suggestions, contact Dee Evetts at (212) 925-0629. For all other information (registration, accommodations, travel), please write to Jaxon Teck at 4^{1/2} Wynding Way, Rockaway, NJ 07866-1305.

NORTHEAST REGION

Hayat Abuza, Raffael de Gruttola, Tadashi and Kris Kondo, Susan Todd reading for Carol Purington, and Wally Swist read at the Neilsen Library at Smith College on March 30 at a day-long symposium held in conjunction with the exhibit, "Haiga: Takebe Socho and the Haiku-Painting Tradition," at the Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Mass. Anyone interested in a catalogue of

the show, which is quite remarkable, should send \$20.00 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling to Haiga Symposium, Smith College Museum of Art, Elm Street at Bedford Terrace, Northampton, MA 01063.

The Boston Haiku Society will be doing a reading on May 19 at 2:00 P.M. at the Kaji Aso Studio in Boston in conjunction with a Japanese festival. There will also be a demonstration of calligraphy and *sumi-e* painting and a haiga workshop by Mr. Aso. A Japanese play performed in the *nô* tradition as well as other events are scheduled.

Tadashi and Kris Kondo visited Boston during the last week of March and met with dancer Arawana Hayashi, jazz trumpeter Tiger Okoshi, composer T. Allen LeVines, and Raffael de Gruttola in conjunction with an interdisciplinary collaborative art project they presented for renku performance. During a three-day collaboration, a renku was developed together and discussed.

The Kondos hope to return later, in July or September, to pursue the idea further. The goal is to develop an international renku experience that will combine all three art forms using the renku as if it were an orchestral score. The group used the late John Cage's renku score for orchestra dedicated to Seiji Ozawa, the conductor of the Boston Symphony.

Ion and Mihaela Codrescu from Romania, editors of *Albatros*, will be visiting Boston in July for a few days on their whirlwind tour across the U.S. Raffael de Gruttola has set up a meeting at the Kaji Aso Studio for a haiku reading with them and members of the Boston Haiku Society. Ion Codrescu will exhibit his *sumi-e* drawings at the gallery for a few days.

The Codrescus will also visit Ann and Rich Youmans on Cape Cod, and Raffael is trying to make arrangements to visit Arizona Zipper in Maine and maybe climb a mountain or two in conjunction with a nature walk.

— Raffael de Gruttola

MID-ATLANTIC REGION

"TOWPATH"

"Towpath," the newly-named Washington, D.C., area haiku group, met on March 9, 1996, at the home of Nelson Fitton in Alexandria, Virginia, for its quarterly meeting. Seventeen members attended. A discussion of the haiku of Anita Virgil was the centerpiece of the meeting. The visual and symbolic aspects of her writing were noted. A host of questions arose in discussion that will again be raised directly with the poet when towpath visits Anita Virgil for their next quarterly meeting in June. Several members stayed until 6:00 for an informal haiku writing workshop.

Further information regarding towpath may be obtained directly from:

Jeff Witkin
1204 Fallsmead Way
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 762-6834 (home)
(410) 550-1586 (office)
E-mail JWITKIN@IRP.NIDA.NIH.GOV.
— Jeff Witkin

CALIFORNIA REGION

HAIKU CITY READING

Please join us for an open reading of haiku and related forms of poetry featuring local haiku poets and visiting HSA members, including Elizabeth Searle Lamb. Meet on the third floor for the reading, and please stay for socializing afterward at the Borders Books café (second floor).

— Michael Dylan Welch

Haiku City Reading
8:00 P.M., Saturday, July 13, 1996
Borders Books, 400 Post Street,
San Francisco, California

MIDWEST REGION

"CHI-KU"

Our Chicago-area haiku society settled on the name "Chi-ku" for itself and continued its monthly meetings on Sunday afternoons. Lee Gurga led a haiku workshop in February at which the group "deconstructed" a haiku and then proceeded to put it back together again.

Tadashi and Kris Kondo—just a few hours after landing at O'Hare following their trans-Pacific flight—instructed the group in the fine points of renku at the March gathering. They led Chi-ku members in the composition of a *nijūin* renku entitled "Paper Shamrocks" (it was St. Patrick's Day!), which Shokan Kondo (*i.e.*, Tadashi) began,

fine rain
paper shamrocks
in the windows

Featured at the April meeting was a round reading and critique of members' haiku.

A *ginko* at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill., was the order of business in May. Many of the group headed straight for the large Japanese garden, which occupies three islands in an artificial lake, one of them inaccessible to walkers and available only for viewing from a distance. Group members—their numbers much increased by the participation of family and friends keen to share in the festivities and fine spring weather, repaired to a nearby café to exchange their experiences and read the haiku composed during the *ginko* walk.

Summertime meetings of Chi-ku are scheduled for June 9 (another haiku workshop), July 21, and August 18 (programs to be determined), all in the small meeting room of the Evanston Library, Orrington and Church Streets, from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. New members are always welcome.
— Charles Trumbull

"HAIKU WANTED" COLUMN

HSA 1996 MEMBERS' ANTHOLOGY

The Haiku Society of America is soliciting submissions to the 1996 HSA Members' Anthology. This year's anthology will be edited by Randy Brooks and Lee Gurga.

Please submit no more than five of your best haiku for consideration in the anthology. HSA members may submit haiku previously published in *frogpond*, but we will give top preference to unpublished haiku.

Please include an SASE with your submission.

Deadline for receipt of haiku for the anthology is August 1, 1996.

Mail your submissions to:

Randy Brooks
HSA Members' Anthology
4634 Hale Drive
Decatur, IL 62526

PUTTING ON THE DOG

Ebba Story and Suzanne Friedman are currently collecting haiku and *senryū* about dogs to share with members of the Haiku Poets of Northern California through the publication of a little canine-themed chapbook. If all goes well, they hope to have the poets present their poems at a future meeting.

One poem per person will be published, although they encourage poets to submit three to four poems. Previously published poems are OK; entries will not be returned unless an SASE is enclosed. A fee donation of \$5.00 per poet is required to help with publishing costs. Poets will receive a contributor's copy.

Deadline for submissions is August 1, 1996.

Send your poems to:

Suzanne Friedman
1270 Waller, #2
San Francisco, CA 94117

CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note: Contest announcements are listed here in order of deadlines.

CANADIAN WRITER'S JOURNAL 1996 POETRY COMPETITION

Deadline: In hand by June 30, 1996.
Sponsor: Canadian Writer's Journal.
Definitions: Seeking haiku (including *senryū*) for the haiku category of the contest.

Regulations: [Not stated.]

Entry procedure: Unlimited entries. Send two copies of each poem on 3 x 5 cards, one with no identification, the other with your name and address in upper left corner. Include category ("haiku") in upper right corner on both copies.

Entry fee: [Canadian?] \$1.00 per poem; make checks (U.S. checks acceptable) payable to "Canadian Writer's Journal."

Submit entries to: CWJ 1996 Poetry Competition, Box 6618, Depot 1, Victoria, BC V8P 5N7, Canada..

Adjudication: Elizabeth St. Jacques, judge.

Awards: Cash prizes for top three winners: 40%, 25%, and 15% of total fees and support funds received.

Notification: For a list of winners, submit an SASE with first-class Canadian stamp or one IRC.

THE ANNUAL

HAROLD G. HENDERSON AWARDS

FOR BEST UNPUBLISHED HAIKU

Deadline: Postmark date July 31, 1996.
Sponsor: The Haiku Society of America.

Regulations: Limit of ten unpublished haiku, not submitted for publication or to any other contest. The contest is open to the public. 1996 HSA officers who are members of the Executive Committee will not be eligible to enter.

Entry procedure: Submit each haiku on *three* separate 3 x 5 cards, *two* with the haiku only (for anonymous judging), the third with the haiku and the author's name and address in the upper left-hand corner. Please designate as "haiku."

Entry fee: \$1.00 per haiku. Please make checks payable to "Haiku Society of America."

Submit entries to: Alice Benedict, 2579 15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.

Adjudication: The names of the judge(s) will be announced after the contest.

Awards: First prize, \$150; second prize, \$100; third prize, \$50. Winning haiku will be published in *frogpond*.

Notification: Please send an SASE if you would like a list of the winning entries.

Rights: All rights revert to authors on publication.

Correspondence: Sorry, entries cannot be returned.

Notes: These awards are made possible by Mrs. Harold G. Henderson in memory of Harold G. Henderson, who helped found the Haiku Society. Mrs. Henderson donates \$100 annually toward these awards.

**THE ANNUAL
GERALD BRADY MEMORIAL
AWARDS
FOR BEST UNPUBLISHED SENRYŪ**

Deadline: Postmark date July 31, 1996.

Sponsor: The Haiku Society of America.

Regulations: Limit of ten unpublished senryū, not submitted for publication or to any other contest. The contest is open to the public. 1996 HSA officers who are members of the Executive Committee will not be eligible to enter.

Entry procedure: Submit each senryū on *three* separate 3 x 5 cards, *two* with the haiku only (for anonymous judging), the third with the haiku and the author's name and address in the upper left-hand cor-

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ner. Please designate as "senryū."
Entry fee: \$1.00 per senryū. Please make checks payable to "Haiku Society of America."

Submit entries to: Alice Benedict, 2579 15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.

Adjudication: The names of the judge(s) will be announced after the contest.

Awards: First prize, \$100; second prize, \$75; third prize, \$50. Winning senryū will be published in *frogpond*.

Notification: Please send an SASE if you would like a list of the winning entries.

Rights: All rights revert to authors on publication.

Correspondence: Sorry, entries cannot be returned.

Notes: The Gerald Brady Memorial awards are made possible by a starter fund of \$25.00 donated by Virginia Brady Young, in memory of her brother, Gerald Brady.

**TORONTO'S
HAIKU SPLASH CONTEST**

Deadline: Postmarked before August 5, 1996.

Sponsor: [Not stated.]

Definitions: "All poems in the spirit of haiku will be welcomed by our esteemed judges."

Regulations: [Not stated.]

Entry procedure: Maximum of seven poems per contestant. Please include your full return address and phone number.

Entry fee: [Canadian?] \$1.00 per poem.

Submit entries to: Haiku Splash, 303-900 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M6J 1G6, Canada.

Adjudication: Judges are Judith Anderson-Stuart, Karen Sohne, and Marshall Hryciuk.

Awards: First-prize winner will receive [Canadian?] \$100.00. Best visual haiku wins a watercolour from the past president of the Canadian Society of Painters of

Watercolour. One entry will be selected for translation into Japanese. Selected poems will be painted on storefronts on Queen Street West. Top 40 poems will be published in *Haiku Splash/The Anthology*; each author will receive two free copies.

Notification: Contest winners will be contacted in the first week of September 1996.

Rights: [Not stated.]

Correspondence: Judges' decisions are final. No poems will be returned.

Notes: Poets are invited to come read at the Haiku Splash, 300-900 Queen Street West, Toronto, in September 1996. Media contact and festival information: (416) 535-2675.

**SEVENTH TANKA SPLENDOR
AWARD INTERNATIONAL
1996**

Deadline: In hand by September 30, 1996.

Sponsor: AHA Books.

Definitions: "Individual tanka should be in English, written in five lines containing 31 or less syllables, and without titles. ... Tanka sequences should consist of a title and three to seven tanka, each of which contains 31 or less syllables written in five lines."

Regulations: All material must not be under consideration elsewhere.

Entry procedure: Each author may submit either a group of up to ten unpublished tanka or three tanka sequences. Each tanka should be typed on two separate 3 x 5 cards; on one card write your name and address in the upper left-hand corner above the tanka, and on the other card write only one tanka (for anonymous judging). Each tanka sequence should be submitted in two copies on separate sheets of paper with your name and address in the upper left-hand corner of one copy.

Entry fee: None.

Submit entries to: Tanka Splendor Award, P.O. Box 1250, Gualala, CA

95445.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: Thirty-one tanka and three tanka sequences will be awarded publication in the book *Tanka Splendor 1996*. Each of the 34 winners will receive a copy of the book. It is possible that more than one tanka by the same author will be selected.

Notification: For a list of winners, enclose an SASE, or an SAE with one IRC.

Rights: Rights return to authors upon publication.

Correspondence: Entries cannot be returned.

**THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF
AMERICA RENKU
COMPETITION**

Deadline: Postmark date October 1, 1996.

Sponsor: The Haiku Society of America

Definitions: For the purpose of this contests, a renku may consist of 36, 20, or 12 stanzas (*kasen*, *nijūin*, and *junicho*) forms written by two or more persons, each of whom contributes a substantial number of individually-authored stanzas.

Regulations: Any particular author may appear in no more than three different renku entered. No entries will be accepted that include work by any of the judges. Entries must not have been previously published, nor contain any stanzas previously published, submitted for publication, nor entered in any other contest. Contest is open to the public. Entries must be in English.

Entry procedure: One copy, with full authorship information, stanza by stanza, must give the full name and address of all authors and indicate which is the coordinator (to whom any correspondence will be addressed). This copy must be signed by *all authors*. Three additional copies, without authors' names but marked with numbers or letters to show the sequence of authorship, must accompany the

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identified manuscript. Failure to follow this format will make it impossible to judge an entry.

Entry fee: U.S.\$15.00 must accompany manuscript. Please write checks/money orders to The Haiku Society of America.

Submit entries to: Alice Benedict, 2579 15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: Grand prize: *up to* \$150 and publication in *frogpond*. Amount of Grand Prize and additional prizes may vary, depending on the quality and number of entries. If no renku is deemed by the judges to merit the award of Grand Prize, renku awarded lesser prizes may or may not be published in *frogpond*.

Notification: Please send an SASE for a list of winning entries.

Rights: All rights revert to authors on publication.

Correspondence: Sorry, entries cannot be returned.

Notes: Prospective contestants may wish to review the "Report of the Renku Contest Committee" published in *frogpond* XIII:2 (May, 1990) for background on the contest and renku in general. For information on the two shorter forms please refer to the article "Shorter Renku" published in *frogpond* XVII: (winter, 1994). Copies of both articles may be obtained by sending an SASE to Alice Benedict, 2579 15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.

**WOODNOTES INTERNATIONAL
HAIBUN CONTEST**

Deadline: In hand by August 10, 1996.

Sponsor: *Woodnotes*.

Regulations: All haibun entries should be titled and must consist entirely of original, unpublished material. Maximum of 1,500 words per haibun (including one or more haiku).

Entry procedure: Please submit your haibun in triplicate on 8½ by 11 inch or similar paper, one copy with your name, address, and phone number, the other two copies without author identification (for anonymous judging).

Entry fee: \$6.00 per haibun (no limit on number of entries). Please make all checks or money orders payable in U.S. funds to Michael D. Welch.

Submit entries to: Michael Dylan Welch, *Woodnotes* Haibun Contest, 248 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City, CA 94404.

Adjudication: Tom Lynch and Cor van den Heuvel.

Awards: \$100.00 first prize; plus honorable mentions. All winning haibun will appear in an anthology to be published by Press Here in the autumn of 1996.

Notification: [Not stated.]

Rights: [Not stated.]

Correspondence: Include an SASE for a list of winners. To pre-order a copy of the anthology, please include \$6.00 per book.

Notes: "This is probably the first-ever English-language haibun contest, so enter today to help make history—and help support *Woodnotes* at the same time. *Woodnotes* looks forward to receiving your best haibun!"

**THE 1996 SAN FRANCISCO
INTERNATIONAL
HAIKU, SENRYŪ AND TANKA
CONTEST**

Deadline: In hand by September 24, 1996.

Sponsor: Haiku Poets of Northern California.

Regulations: Each entry must be original, unpublished, and not under any consideration elsewhere.

Entry procedure: Type or print each entry on two 3 x 5 cards. In the upper left corner of each card identify the poem as "haiku," "senryū," or "tanka." On the back side of one card only print your name, address,

and telephone number.

Entry fee: \$1.00 per poem. Make checks or money orders payable in U.S. dollars to Haiku Poets of Northern California.

Submit entries to: Sally Secor, P.O. Box 1747, Ross, CA 94957.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: A first prize of \$100.00 will be awarded in each of the three categories. Second and third prizes of \$50.00 and \$25.00 will be awarded in the Haiku category.

Notification: An SASE is required for all inquiries or to receive a list of contest winners.

Rights: All rights revert to authors after publication.

Correspondence: No entries will be returned.

THE JAMES W HACKETT HAIKU AWARD 1996

Deadline: In hand by 30 November 1996.

Sponsor: The British Haiku Society (BHS).

Definitions: "Entries should have the essential characteristics of haiku, with regard to both spirit and form, which are now commonly accepted in the English-speaking world. The winning poem will recreate a haiku experience (a 'haiku moment') in a verse which approximates to traditional haiku form (though it is recognised that the best form for some haiku is not a strict count of 5-7-5 syllables)." See also Notes, below.

Regulations: Entries must be original, in English, unpublished, and not currently under consideration for publication or entered in any other competition (BHS members please note that this includes previous publication in *Bliethe Spirit*). BHS Committee members may not enter.

Entry procedure: Up to five haiku per entrant, each on three separate cards or pieces of paper, with name and address on the back of one only, accompanied by the entry fee.

Entry fee: £2.50 or U.S.\$4.00, only in pounds sterling by cheque drawn on a U.K. bank, British Postal

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Order, International Money Order, or cash (pounds or dollars). Cheques made out to "The British Haiku Society."

Submit entries to: Hackett Award, 27 Park Street, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 7PA, England.

Adjudication: The donor of the award, James W Hackett, will himself choose the winner(s) from an anonymous short list presented to him by a British Haiku Society subcommittee.

Awards: One prize of £70; up to two further prizes of £70 each; publication of the winning (and, probably, commended) haiku in *Bliethe Spirit*. BHS and James W Hackett reserve the right not to make an award if there is no haiku entry of sufficient merit.

Notification: For notification of the winner(s), enclose an addressed envelope with appropriate UK postage or one IRC.

Rights: Except for the published haiku, copyright is retained by the author.

Correspondence: Entries cannot be returned. The British Haiku Society and Mr Hackett cannot enter into correspondence about Hackett Award decisions.

Notes: "In previous years it has been our sad experience to receive a large number of entries which, in our opinion, bear no resemblance to true haiku. This is understandable, when so much misleading information about the genre is being circulated. If you wish to check that we are thinking on the same lines, you may like to send, to the address ... above, a self-addressed envelope with appropriate UK stamp or one IRC and in return we will send you Guidelines prepared by James W Hackett, and endorsed by the Society."

THE NICHOLAS A. VIRGILIO MEMORIAL HAIKU COMPETITION FOR HIGH

SCHOOL STUDENTS

Deadline: Postmarked November 30, 1996; later entries will not be considered.

Sponsor: Founded by the Sacred Heart Church in Camden, New Jersey, and sponsored by the Nick Virgilio Haiku Association in memory of Nicholas A. Virgilio, a charter member of the Haiku Society, who passed away on January 3, 1989.

Regulations: Any student between the ages of 13 and 19 enrolled in high school (freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior) as of September 1996 may enter. Submit up to three haiku per student. All haiku must be previously unpublished, *original* work and not entered in any other contest. Please follow the guidelines carefully.

Entry procedure: Each haiku must be typed in triplicate on 3 x 5 cards. The haiku must appear on the front of each card; your name, address, age, grade level, and school (please include the school address) must appear on the back of (only) one of the cards for each haiku.

Entry fee: None.

Submit entries to: Tony Virgilio, Nick Virgilio Haiku Association, 1092 Niagara Road, Camden, NJ 08104.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: Generous cash prizes, amounts to be announced. The winning haiku and list of winners will be published in *frogpond* in 1997. The high school of each student winner will receive a one-year subscription to *frogpond*.

Notification: The list of winners will be published in *frogpond*.

Rights: All rights will remain with the authors except that winning haiku will be published in *frogpond*.

Correspondence: Please keep a copy of your haiku; sorry, entries cannot be returned. Please do not send SASEs.

CONTEST RESULTS

THE JAMES W HACKETT HAIKU AWARD 1995

The British Haiku Society has announced the winners of the 1995 James W Hackett award:

A total of 460 entries was received, from 99 entrants. This is 95 poems – 24 entrants fewer than for the 1994 award, but the quality of the best entries remained as high as ever. Although entry numbers from Eire and Australia/New Zealand, Croatia, and Germany were down, France, Greece, and Switzerland were all represented for the first time.

As might be expected, more than half the entrants and number of poems were from the United Kingdom, with the USA second. Other countries not [elsewhere here] mentioned and from which entries were received were the Netherlands, Canada, and Japan.

James W Hackett wrote that "Two haiku are so good, I wish it were possible to give them both awards." The BHS Committee agreed to honour this wish and are thus pleased to announce two prizes of £100 for 1995.

Mr Hackett indicated that if only one prize could be given, it should go to Caroline Gourlay's haiku, so that one tops our list here:

in the small gap
between quivering nettles —
a rabbit's still eye
— Caroline Gourlay, UK

between fishing rods
on the seawall a heron
stalks the bait pail
— L A Davidson, USA

Mr Hackett continued, "The following sensitive and excellent haiku are highly commended. Their order of presentation does not imply ranking":

In front of an inn
the cows in the truck waiting
for the driver's drink
— Tomislav Maretić, Croatia

breeze sways the rushes —
in a tail-switching silence
donkies softly graze
— H F Noyes, Greece

from a garbage bag
a disheveled man picks out
the least wilted rose
— L A Davidson, USA

Our old charcoal grill
Still cradling last year's cold ash —
A sudden shiver.
— Alan Maley, Singapore

Low valley fog ...
the birth steam of a new calf
in the morning light
— Gary Gay, USA

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN, PALOMAR BRANCH, 1996 INTERNATIONAL POETRY CONTEST WINNERS

Winning entries in this contest, which had divisions for haiku and free and rhymed verse, will be published in a booklet, *Showcase 1996*, available for \$6.00 in the USA, \$7.00 foreign, ppg.

Make check payable to NLAPW and mail to Barbara McDermott, 8450 El Paso, La Mesa, CA 91942, by July 1, 1996.

The top three haiku were:

First place:

how long we sat together
our teacups
empty
— Valorie Broadhurst Woerdehoff
Dubuque, Iowa

Second place:

evening walk
a sprig of daphne
for her pillow
— Kay F. Anderson
Redwood City, Calif.

Third place:

in and out of fog
the yellow line of highway
runs with the train
— Janice M. Bostok
Dungay, Australia

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Alexius J. Burgess (Alexandria, Va.), Chidori Renee Cohen (Gifu-ken, Japan), Jeanne E. Kataoka (Hemet, Calif.), Joan Iversen Goswell (Valencia, Pa. — three honorable mentions), Glenna Holloway (Naperville, Ill.), and Connie R. Meester (Dubuque, Iowa).

THE HAIKU BOOKSHELF

1995 MEMBERS' ANTHOLOGY

Jean Dubois writes that *One Breath*, the HSA 1995 Members' Anthology, is out, finally, and that the reaction runs from "beautiful" to "splendid."



The HSA members' Anthology, which was edited by Jean Dubois, Michael McNierney, and Elizabeth L. Nichols, takes its title from a haiku by Lidia Rozmus (see her *sumi-e* on this page):

one breath
one brush stroke
one

Two errors – for which the editors apologize abjectly – have come to light, however: David S. Bloch's name is misspelled; and Michael Dylan Welch was omitted entirely. Michael's haiku, as submitted to *One Breath*, reads:

dust settles
after the passing car
... the slow windmill

One Breath is available for \$7.50 postpaid (US and Canada; overseas mailing fee \$2) from Jean Dubois, P.O. Box 1430, Golden CO 80402.

A HAIKU PATH

Orders are still being taken for *A Haiku Path*. The list price for nonmembers, \$27.95; the discount price to HSA members is \$21.95 (USA); includes postage and handling. Members in Canada and other countries, please add \$2.00 per copy for extra postage. You must be a current HSA member to obtain a copy at the discount price. The book features:

- section introductions by Elizabeth Searle Lamb.
- a generous selection of articles and excerpts from the first 10 years of *frogpond*.
- prize-winning haiku and excerpts from books that won Merit Book Awards.
- memorial articles and interviews: Foster Jewell, Raymond Roseliep, and Nick Virgilio.

Please send orders to Raffael de Gruttola, Treasurer, 4 Marshall Road, Natick, MA 01760

HEIWA

Heiwa: Peace Poetry in English and Japanese. Edited by Jiro Nakano and Brien Hallett (University of Hawai'i Press, 1996). Paper, 176 pp., \$17.00 (plus \$3.00 S&H for one book), from: Order Department, University of Hawai'i Press, 2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu, HI 96822; (800) 956-2840. *Heiwa* ("Peace") offers 150 poems (haiku and tanka) on the theme of peace by 105 authors from a variety of countries, selected in an international competition.

The flier received at the HSA offered the book at a 20% discount – \$13.60. Two haiku from the book (authors' names not given):

Sand castles
becoming
sand

Wishing to be
a reliable mother —
I shall make sushi

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

c/o Charles Trumbull
1710 Asbury Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3502

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sumi-e by Lidia Rozmus