

~~MINUTES OF THE FOURTH~~ ~~HSA NATIONAL MEETING~~

Executive Committee Meeting. The meeting was held at the Kaji Aso Studio in Boston, Mass., on Saturday, December 7, 1996. Officers present were Dee Evetts, Acting Secretary, and Raffael de Gruttola, Treasurer, who chaired the meeting. Only two of the seven HSA officers being present, issues for decision were referred back to President Barbara Ressler, for consultation with other officers.

Kenneth Leibman's announcement of his retirement as *frogpond* editor, at the end of 1997, was noted. It was proposed that the search for his successor should begin as early as possible. The respective domains of *frogpond* and the *HSA Newsletter* were then discussed. Raffael de Gruttola requested it be put on record that as Treasurer he feels strongly that the Annual Treasurer's Report belongs in *frogpond*, where it has always appeared.

A proposal that Howard Kilby be appointed Acting Regional Coordinator for the HSA South Region was approved, and referred to the President for implementation.

Morning Program. The General Meeting was preceded in the morning by a discussion, led by Dee Evetts, of the potential for memory and empathy as sources of inspiration for haiku. Members shared examples of work where they had drawn upon their own memories, or upon the reported experiences of others, as viable and valuable alternatives to immediate experience. It was agreed that "authenticity" in such cases must depend on how genuinely or intensely the poet relives such an experience.

This was followed by a visit to the

Museum of Fine Arts, 10 minutes walk from the Aso Studio, to view the Japanese print collection.

General Meeting. The meeting began after lunch, and was attended (all or in part) by: Raffael de Gruttola, Michelina de Gruttola, Hayat Abuza, Judson Evans, Lawrence Rungren, Dee Evetts, Zeke Vayman, Robert Zukowski, Ann Snodgrass, Richard St. Clair, John Bergstrom, Frederick Goodwin, and others.

A double round reading yielded these offerings:

SECRETARY'S REPORT

naval yard--
two swans nipping the nose
of the sub

— Hayat Abuza

torso of marble
archaeologists argue--
male or female

— Zeke Vayman

Dee Evetts then presented the Minutes of the previous National Meeting, as published in the *HSA Newsletter*, and these were approved. He reported the substance of the Executive Committee meeting, and gave a brief summary of the HSA election results (published in full below). Raffael de Gruttola read the quarterly Treasurer's Report.

Afternoon Program. The program began with a fascinating talk by the composer T. Allen LeVines. He described how he had long wished to compose a musical parallel to Bashō's *Oku no hosomichi* ("The Narrow Road

to the Deep North"), but had felt compelled to prepare himself by first retracing the master's steps. Being an experienced hiker as well as a musician, he was well equipped for such an enterprise. Once in Japan, however he discovered that the route of Bashō's celebrated journey is not only partly obliterated, as one might expect, but also incompletely or inaccurately recorded.

With the aid of local residents, regional planners, and others, he undertook to walk some sections of the path in an attempt to verify its location. Using slides taken along the way, LeVines shared with us something of this personal odyssey.

He concluded by outlining his proposal for nothing less than the preservation of the *Oku no hosomichi* for posterity. In his own words: "Along this path are some of the most extraordinary mountain vistas in the world. Along this path walked some of Japan's greatest philosophers, artists and writers — including the poet Matsuo Bashō, whose pilgrimage produced a literary masterpiece bearing the name of the road he walked. The goal of this proposal is to link as yet to be restored original pathways with currently preserved trails... as an unbroken chain which interconnects a vast array of Japan's scenic wonders, historic monuments, and architectural treasures."

For more information about this project, and to offer support, please contact: T. Allen LeVines, 31 Squanacock Road, Shirley, MA 01464.

The afternoon ended with a musical presentation by the Row Twelve Contemporary Music Ensemble. Carey Blyton's *After Hokusai* (settings of classical haiku) was followed by Judson Evans's reading of his haibun "Snake Dream," to "Pavane" by composer Jean Françaix. The per-

formers were Katherine Kleitz and Jennifer Chiapella on flute and Karen Henry as reader. Richard St. Clair performed his "Moon Flowers: Album of Haiku-Moments for Solo Piano." This hypnotic string of phrases was reminiscent (for this listener) of the *shakuhachi* tradition, "beads threaded on silence."

— Dee Evetts, Secretary

Evening program. Kaji Aso presented a *haiga* workshop using members' haiku from the afternoon go-around session. He gave a brief introduction to *haiga*, its origins, and practitioners. He also explained the different size, shape, and ink consistency of each brush and what they are made of. He described how good inkstones are made and why it is so important to have the right brushes and ink for *sumi-e* paintings.

In a well executed *haiga* the haiku and *sumi-e* image complement each



sumi-e by Kaji Aso, haiku by Raffael de Gruttola

other so that deeper meaning is derived from the union. The best *haiga* do not present elaborate images, but suggest shapes and forms to be completed in the viewer's imagination. Aso approaches the art of *haiga* with ritual similar to the Japanese tea ceremony.

Above is one of the *haiga* Mr. Aso completed during the evening with Raffael de Gruttola.

After the *haiga* workshop, Robert Zukowski of Panama City, Fla., the featured reader for the evening, delighted us with his haunting haiku. Robert is also a gifted storyteller, and the group of HSA members present were fascinated by his concise and interesting commentaries. Among the poems that he read were the following haiku ...

a moorhen's cry
from the moss-hung cypress shore
the drifting hyacinths

tidepool
a crab with ponderous claw
touches its reflection.

tar smell
from the railroad ties
waking copperhead

two crabs
grappling with locked claws
taken by a wave

low clouds flaming red
a cottonmouth's ripple
among cypress knees

meteor shower
the cockle shell wind chimes

... and tanka:

with nacreous combstrokes
through the waves of her hair
she watches the lightning
as distant clouds collide
above the warm sea

— Raffael de Gruttola

RESULTS OF THE ELECTION
OF HSA OFFICERS
AND
REGIONAL COORDINATORS,
1997

Of the 613 ballot papers mailed, 208 were returned (representing a response from 29.5% of members). Votes were cast as follows ("Others" indicates abstentions and write-ins):

HSA OFFICERS		
President	Lee Gurga	194
	Others	14
1st Vice President	Michael Dylan Welch	187
	Others	21
2nd Vice President	Alice Benedict	201
	Others	7
Secretary	Dee Evetts	206
	Others	2
Treasurer	Raffael de Gruttola	204
	Others	4
frogpond Editor	Kenneth C. Leibman	191
	Others	17
Newsletter Editor	Charles Trumbull	205
	Others	3

REGIONAL COORDINATORS		
Northeast (50)	Lawrence Rungren	15
	Others	1
NE Metro (123)	John Hudak	33
	Others	0
Southeast (95)	Jim Kacian	35
	Others	0
Midwest (87)	Sara Brant	22
	Others	2
Southwest (41)	Ralph Luce	24
	Others	1
California (76)	Jocelyn Conway	23
	Others	3
Northwest (45)	Cherie Hunter Day	20
	Others	2
Hawaii (7)	Darold D. Braida	6
	Others	0

The Amendment to the HSA Bylaws, creating the office of *Newsletter* Editor, received 142 votes in favor, with 64 abstentions (or oversights). This is more than the O majority needed for ratification, and the Amendment will therefore be written into the Bylaws.

My apologies to all officers and regional coordinators for neglecting to inform them personally of the election results.

— Dee Evetts, Secretary

OFFICERS'
REPORTS

FROM THE FROGPOND
EDITOR

In 1996 I received 6,955 haiku, 182 tanka, 95 sequences of various lengths, 31 linked poems of various types, 17 articles and reviews, and 51 haibun and "readings." I'll have a report on the year's publication record in the next *Newsletter*. The late autumn / early winter issue is, I am sorry to say, late; I am proofreading page proofs as I write this report.

Please note the deadlines listed in the *frogpond* submission guidelines that accompany this *Newsletter*. We try to place seasonal material in the appropriate issue. Thus, send me haiku from *last* summer's moments (up to about Indian summer) before June 1. This has the extra advantage of letting it settle; you may see the expression of a moment differently

after a while in your notebook than immediately after the heat of composition. So please don't send spring haiku in May, or summer haiku in September!

With wishes for meaningful moments,

— Ken Leibman

HSA TREASURER'S REPORT

Fourth Quarter
(Sept. 11 to Dec. 31, 1996)

Balance Forward	\$17,342.25
Income	\$21,788.29
Expenses	\$7,144.19
New Balance	\$14,644.11

— Raffael de Gruttola

JOINT MEETING

HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA &
HAIKU INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION

Final arrangements are nearing completion for the joint meeting of the Haiku Society of America and the Haiku International Association in Tokyo. The dates of the conference are April 18 and 19, 1997.

The speakers for The Haiku Society of America will be William J. Higginson, George Swede, Francine Porad, Randy Brooks, and Kiyoko Tokutomi. The speakers for HIA will represent the three major haiku organizations in Japan.

The current plan is for delegates to read three poems each at the banquet.

— Lee Gurga

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 Lee Gurga
First Vice President Michael Dylan Welch
Second Vice President Alice Benedict
Secretary Dee Evetts
Treasurer Raffael de Gruttola

Questions about membership, dues, and all related matters as well as annual election of officers should be addressed to
Dee Evetts
Secretary, HSA
P.O. Box 1179
New York, NY 10013

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*
1102 Dempster Street
Evanston, IL 60202-1211
TRUMBULLC@AOL.COM

OFFICERS' REPORTS

HSA QUARTERLY MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO

Plans are under way for the quarterly meeting of the Haiku Society of America to be held Saturday, March 22, 1997, Room D290, Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd. & Laguna St. in San Francisco, Calif.

The general meeting will begin at 12.30 P.M. and wrap up at approximately 4.30 P.M. There will be a break for socializing and dinner followed by an open reading at Borders Books. The evening reading will commence at 7:00 P.M. with those present encouraged to share their haiku and related forms of poetry.

The general session will open with the HSA business meeting followed by a presentation on the HSA's planned Website given by George Olczak. D. Claire Gallagher will then share some of her poetry with us, after which we will have a short break for refreshments. We will reconvene with a presentation by Paul O. Williams on a topic as yet to be determined, followed by Jerry Ball reading some of his haiku and other works. Fay Aoyagi will give a presentation on the haiku of Tohta Kaneko of the Modern Haiku Association (Japan). We will conclude the meeting with Ebba Story leading a discussion on the visual presentation of written haiku.

CALL FOR PAPERS

As part of the discussion on the visual presentation of haiku, we invite HSA members to send short (page or less) essays on the topic, which would be read at the meeting. An example of a poem where the shape, line breaks, or punctuation have enhanced the meaning and beauty of the poem for

HSA MEMBERSHIP LIST UPDATE

Additions and changes to the HSA Membership List 1996-97, since November 1, 1997

NEW MEMBERS:

Arena, Michael W., PO Box 332, Winooski, VT 05404
 Axelrad, Harriet, 17160 Avenida Santa Ynez, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272-2133
 Baird, Kiyomi, 140 Mountain Ave., Tall Oaks, Summit, NJ 07901
 Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306
 Barron, Joseph, 840 Willow Lake Rd., Discovery Bay, CA 94514
 Bergman, Margaret, 29 Centerview Trail, Ridge, NY 11961
 Childs, Cyril, 2/206 Waterloo Road, Lower Hutt, New Zealand
 DeWitt, Robert E., PO Box 77721, Baton Rouge, LA 70879
 Donegan, Patricia, 1-23-16 Yamato-cho, Nakano-ku, Tokyo 165, Japan
 Foard, Sheila Wood, 720-9 Tramway Lane NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122
 Gannam, Brenda J., 291 State St., Brooklyn, NY 11201
 Himmelstein, Eugene, 170 Prospect Place Apt 2C, Brooklyn, NY 11238
 Ishibashi, Yoshie, 1-23-16 Yamato-cho, Nakano-ku, Tokyo 165, Japan
 Jamison, Jane E., 1650 Koehler Drive NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
 McFarland, Teresa B., 1019 Bradford Court Apt D, Elkhart, IN 46517
 McGrorty, Michael J., 3176 North Fair Oaks, Altadena, CA 91001
 Merski, Dennis, 9305 Tannery Road, Girard, PA 16417
 Mitchell, Rosalind, 728 SW 14th Court, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 -1455
 Olczak, George, 2415 San Ramon Vly Blvd. #4-125, San Ramon, CA 94583
 Ozorio, Lillian P., 2340 Fourbanks Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
 Pirrello, Ann, 1214 Audubon Dr., Clarks Summit, PA 18411
 Porter, L., 814 Main St., West Springfield, MA 01089
 Rasey, Jean, 205 McCullough Street, Sunnybank, Brisbane 4109, Australia
 Taylor, Mary C., 19626 Damman, Harper Woods, MI 48225
 Tipton, James, 1742 DS Rd., Glade Park, CO 81523
 Trotta, Joan O., 190 West Essex Ave., Lansdowne, PA 19050
 Weinstein, Rubin, 484 K Piedmont Kings Point, Delray Beach, FL 33484
 Zolo, Z., 98-697 Kaonohi Street Apt. B, Aica, HI 96701-2426

REJOINING MEMBERS:

Bluger, Marianne, 124 Clarendon Ave., Ottawa K1Y 0R3, ON
 Geary, Pam, 1673 New Hyde Park Dr., New Hyde Park, NY 11040
 Goodman, Barry A., 895 Main St., #17, Hackensack, NJ 07601

continued

you, and a few paragraphs explaining why you feel the visual presentation is particularly effective. Please submit papers to Jocelyn Conway by E-mail or regular mail to the address below by February 28, 1997.

For questions about any of the preceding and/or further information, please contact

Jocelyn Conway, 1919 Alameda de las Pulgas #10, San Mateo, CA 94403, phone (800) 262-7161, ext. 5623. E-mail JOCONWAY@AOL.COM.

HSA WEBSITE

In a few weeks The Haiku Society of America will have a Website at the following address: [HTTP://WWW.POBOX.COM/~HSA](http://www.pobox.com/~hsa). At first this will feature simply a version of the HSA Information Sheet, and the latest *Newsletter(s)*. Various ideas and proposals for expansion are under consideration, and suggestions are welcome.

— Dee Evetts

HSA MEMBERSHIP LIST UPDATE (CONTINUED)

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Better, Cathy Drinkwater, 115 Willow Bend Dr., Apt. 2A, Owings Mills, MD 21117
 Byrd, Joan L., 2705 Montrose Ave., #11, Montrose, CA 91020-1334
 Dunphy, John J., c/o Second Reading Bookshop, 301 E Broadway, Alton, IL 62002
 Engle, Margarita, 9433 North Fowler Ave., Clovis, CA 93611-8683
 Hardenbrook, Yvonne, 1757 Willoway Cir. N, Columbus, OH 43220-7504
 LaHaye, Ross, 2363 Eastman Ave., #3, Green Bay, WI 54302
 MacPherson, Sister Mary Jane, Box 1046 LCD 1, Hamilton L8N 3R4, ON
 May, Eric, 529-7 Silver Oaks Dr., Kent, OH 44240
 Mena, Paul David, 38 Great Rd., #2, Acton, MA 01720-5604
 Olson, Robert A, 770 Broad Cove Rd., Hopkinton, NH 03229
 Pointer, David Scott, 554 Glastonbury Rd., Nashville, TN 37217-5003
 Rader, Bennett, PO Box 34, Plymouth, OH 44865
 Roth, Hal, Box 333, Vienna, MD 21869
 Ruedemann, Annabelle, PO Box 2887, Carmel, CA 93921
 Tomczak, Diane, 2815 Mier Road, Midland, MI 48642
 Warren, Elizabeth, Spruce Lane Fm, RR#8, Owen Sound N4K 5W4, ON

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

Addiss, Stephen, 3040 Middlewood Rd., Midlothian, VA 23113
 Berry, Ernest J., PO Box 272, Picton, Marlborough, New Zealand
 Castner, Richer, 617 Conkey Ave, Rochester, NY 14621-3103
 Einer, Lesley, Sage Shadow Press, 4065 E Bell Rd #430 A, Phoenix, AZ 85032
 Shaffer, Helen L., 2317 Molly Pitcher Hwy S, Chambersburg, PA 17201
 Fessler, Michael, 1-16-13-203 Hikarigaoka, Sagamihara-shi, Kanagawa-ken 229, Japan

E-MAIL CORRECTIONS, CHANGES, AND ADDITIONS:

Beary, Roberta	RBEARY@AOL.COM
Bentley, Elizabeth	WVBS@VGERNET.NET
Chula, Margaret	JHALL@TELEPORT.COM
Colón, Carlos W.	CCOLON@SMINET.SML.LIB.LA.US
Compton-Tejera, Ellen	EACOMPTON@EROLS.COM
Doty, Gene	GDOTY@UMR.EDU
Hudak, John	JHUDAK@POBOX.COM
Welch, Michael Dylan	WELCHM@AOL.COM

— Dee Evetts

NORTHEAST METRO REGION

FOURTH 1996 MEETING

The fourth 1996 meeting of the HSA Northeast Metropolitan Region was held in the East Asian Lounge, 403 Kent Hall, Columbia University, New York City (Broadway, 116th Street Subway exit), from 2:00-5:00 P.M. on Saturday,

December 7. In attendance were Mykel Board, L.A. Davidson, Chuck Easter, Bernard Lionel Einbond, Heather Harlan, Eugene Himmelstein, Kam Holifield, Yukiko Kaneda, Leroy Kanterman, Amy Losak, Pamela Miller Ness, Carl Patrick, Hiro Sato, John Stevenson, and Cor van den Heuvel.

The meeting began with a round of haiku, senryû, and tanka, followed by some announcements of coming haiku events.

In memory of Sydell Rosenberg, a charter member of the Haiku Society of America and a faithful attendant at its meetings from 1968 until family illness prevented this in recent years, a brief reading of her extensive published work was presented by the three charter members attending this meeting, L.A. Davidson, Bernard Lionel Einbond, and Leroy Kanterman.

As the sun sets,
the old fisherman sorts out
the fish he can sell

From the podium
flesh of her arms quivering
she leads the glee club.

So pale — it hardly sat
on the outstretched branch
of the winter night.

Sydell served as HSA secretary in 1975 and on two merit Book Award committees. She died suddenly October 11, 1996, at her home in Jamaica, Queens. Her daughter, Amy Losak, was present to share this moment of remembrance and appreciation with us.

**SYDELL ROSENBERG
1929-1996**

The featured speaker for this regular meeting of the Northeast Metro Region was Hiro Sato, who presented an essay he had written titled "Some Unknown Aspects of Haiku Writing In Japan."

Prepared specifically for presentation to the HSA membership, the essay touched upon contemporary practices for composing and judging haiku in Japan, some varieties of contemporary Japanese haiku which are particularly difficult to comprehend, and on the practice known as *jikai*,

"self-interpretation." His description of the group settings in which haiku are composed and judged emphasized the role of the most important person — or MIP — in the group, usually the founder. When the MIP participated anonymously, as others do, the group process is quite democratic. More often, however, the MIP stays aloof and comments or suggests revisions, which must be accepted with profound gratitude.

The second part of Hiro's essay related to the mixture of traditional and modern elements that render certain contemporary Japanese haiku

difficult to comprehend and especially difficult to translate.

Although one seldom sees a writer's "self-interpretation" published with a haiku in this country, the practice is so well accepted in Japan that there are published volumes consisting entirely of *jikai*, the writer's own explication. Hiro provided six examples from the work of Iijima Haruko (b. 1921).

The next regional meeting will be held on March 15 in the East Asian Lounge, 403 Kent Hall, Columbia University, New York City, from 2:00-5:00 P.M.

— John Stevenson / John Hudak

HAIKU ON 42ND STREET

In 1994 a selection of haiku and senryū by 26 New York area poets (past and present) was displayed for six months on the marquees of empty cinema theaters on 42nd Street at Times Square. The project caught the attention of the media, and was featured on NY1 TV, the McNeil Lehrer Newshour, and in *The New Yorker*. These poems are now available just as they appeared on the street, in the form of a 26" x 22" color poster. For more information, write to Dee Evetts, 102 Forsyth Street, New York NY 10002.

NORTHEAST REGION

THE HAIKU POETS SOCIETY OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

The Society held its October 1996 meeting in Colrain, Mass., where Carol Purington was the special guest reader. After a round reading by Hayat Abuza, Barbara Farrington, Larry Kimmel, Susan Todd, Alice Ward, and Pat Wood, the group heard Carol's haiku:

This first autumn rain —
my slicker with red berries
dry in its pockets

From pond to pale sky
a great blue heron — trailing
twilight

The mother cat
curls around the Nativity set —
Christmas Eve

Carol fielded questions ranging from form to meaning to punctuation. Carol feels that careful punctuation helps the reader, especially one unfamiliar with haiku as a form. In response to a discussion of form

and questions about when a haiku is no longer a haiku, Larry suggested that when poems may not be haiku, we can call them "haiku & other sudden lyrics!" Larry read some recent poems:

at Kate's Diner
under the plastic cake lid
— the necessary fly

after a day's debauch —
webworms crawling home
along a cherry branch

Larry politely declined to explain any of his work, quoting Yeats: "If a poet interprets a poem of his own, he limits its suggestibility." The meeting closed with Larry and Carol reading a *tan-renga* they had composed:

In the green-dusk
of the woods, the pallor
of Indian pipes . . . lk
hearing not seeing
the ruby-crowned kinglet cp

All are welcome to join our lively monthly reading and discussion series in the Northampton/Springfield, Mass., area. For information contact Larry Kimmel (413) 624-3029; E-mail: POLARIS@CROCKER.COM. Carol Purington can be reached by E-mail at CARPUR@AOL.COM.

— Hayat Abuza

SOUTHEAST REGION

TOWPATH

Towpath, the Washington area haiku group, met in September, November, and January. In addition to the usual pot-luck lunches, conversation, and workshops, discussions of subtlety in haiku, the haiku of John Wills, and the use of seasonal reference in haiku were the major topics of concern.

The next meeting of towpath will be on March 8, 1997 at 1:00 P.M. at the home of Jeff Witkin. We will discuss the haiku of Nick Virgilio. Members are invited to stay after the meeting for dinner and the first towpath *renku* party. For information, contact Jeff Witkin, 915 Grandin Ave., Rockville, MD 20851; (410) 550-1586 — day; (301) 315-2154 — evening; JWITKIN@IRP.NIDA.NIH.GOV.

NEW HAIKU SOCIETY FOR RICHMOND, VA.

In September, 1996, a poetry group was formed for central Virginia called the Richmond Haiku Workshop. Meetings are held every

two or three weeks, sometimes over lunch and sometimes in the evening. The group often gathers at the University of Richmond, where several students are now joining the workshop.

Meetings are informal; poems are brought in, and possible suggestions for improvement are discussed. Occasionally the meetings will end with the group composing a *renga* or *renku*. The members have been very enthusiastic, feeling that their eyes are being sharpened and sensibilities deepened by the exchanges of ideas.

The founders of the Workshop are Josh Hockensmith, a graduate student in poetry at Virginia Commonwealth University who was formerly the editor of the literary journal *The Messenger*, and Stephen Addiss, Tucker-Boatwright Professor at the University of Richmond, who has written and/or illustrated a number of books including *A Haiku Menagerie*, *A Haiku Garden*, *Haiga*, *Four Huts*, and *The Art of Zen*.

Some of the poems that have been discussed at the Workshop:

quick dusk!
racing the September moon
on my bicycle
— Josh Hockensmith

the fisherman
nets
a fisherman
— Stephen Addiss

October sun
outside my window
boiling grass
— Ed Stockwell

— submitted by Stephen Addis

SHENANDOAH

Jim Kacian recently gave two readings at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Sweet Briar, Va., during a four-week residency there. He also completed the score to his haiku setting, *Shenandoah*, which will be premiered in Huntsville, Ala., in March (see following item).

— Jim Kacian

HAIKU AND MUSIC: A WEEKEND RETREAT

This retreat at the Bevill Center, Huntsville Ala., March 21-23 event will provide an opportunity for up to 15 poets to have their work set to music and performed by the vocal group Vox Angelica.

Registration begins Friday evening, March 21. Saturday morning is mostly devoted to working on the poems and the music with experts from the UAH Music Department. After lunch there will be a panel discussion at which three "longpoets" will speak briefly on their relationship to "short-verse" with responses by haiku poets, musicians, and the audience. That afternoon the premiere of Jim Kacian's evocation of and homage to the river near his home, *Shenandoah: Seven Moments in the Life of a River*, a setting of seven haiku for two voices (soprano and baritone) to an accompaniment of flute, oboe, and string quartet. Participants' haiku settings will be performed at the Saturday evening concert.

Colin Blundell will speak on "Setting Haiku to Music: Problems and Approaches," on Sunday morning, before a business meeting of the HSA Southeast Region, and a haiku workshop led by Jim Kacian.

Registration must be postmarked by March 1, 1997. The registration fee for the retreat is \$25.00. Rooms at the Bevill Center cost \$53.00 a night per room, and meals are being arranged for the group at \$14.00 for supper (Friday and Saturday), \$6.00 for breakfast (Saturday and Sunday), and \$8.50 for lunch (Saturday).

The event is sponsored by the English, Music, and Foreign Language Departments of the University of Alabama in Huntsville with support from Shaver's Bookstore (Huntsville), The Haiku Society of America, and the Humanities Center of the UAH.

For more information please contact Peter Meister, Modern Foreign Languages Department, University of Alabama at Huntsville, Huntsville, AL 35899.

MIDWEST REGION

CHI-KU ACTIVITIES

In November Chi-ku gathered at the Evanston Public Library to hear Phyllis Lyons, Professor of Japanese Literature at Northwestern University, give a presentation of the origins of haiku. Beginning with the period before the 17th century, Phyllis discussed the unique tradition in Japan of considering poetry a conduit for the transfer of meaning and emotion to others. Making a point of the focus on brevity that has always been a part of the Japanese poetic tradition, Phyllis informed the group about the structure of the language, which lends itself to the five or seven syllable lines that came to make up most short Japanese verse. She finished her talk with a brief discussion of her current project, a translation of *Tengu* ("The Conceited Goblin"), which was written in 1942 by Dazai Osamu.

For Chi-ku's December meeting the group convened at the home of Margret and Charles Trumbull for a festive holiday party. Charlie and Margret put out quite an impressive spread that included seasonal delicacies and hot spiced wine. Charlie led the group in a series of round-robin style *rengay* compositions that included several seasonal links. A stimulating and relaxing time was had by all!

On January 19 Chi-ku celebrated its one-year anniversary with a record high attendance. The program featured two founding members of the group, John O'Connor and Lee Gurga, both of whom gave eloquent presentations about their special areas of interest.

John presented a plan for a state-wide haiku contest that would be put on by Chi-ku for high school and junior high students. John initially conceived the project both as a way to interface with the community and

as an opportunity to foster a meaningful discussion about the changing parameters of English language haiku with a group of educators and students. Other members of Chi-ku volunteered to work with John on a formal proposal for a competition that would be held in the spring of the 1997-98 school year.

For the remainder of the meeting, Lee Gurga gave an extremely informative talk on hokku, haiku, senryū & kyoku (see his article in the latest *Modern Haiku*). Starting from the chapter entitled "Hokku, Haiku and Senryū" from William Higginson's *The Haiku Seasons* and supplemented by Lee's correspondence with Higginson and other haiku poets, the talk defined each of the distinct forms of poetry and gave the group a meaningful historical framework for modern Japanese and English language haiku. Tracing the emergence of *haikai no renga* during Bashō's time, the discussion clarified how each type of poetry interrelated in the larger poetic framework of linked verse.

Looking ahead to the spring, we will be gathering one Sunday each month in the small meeting room of the Evanston Public Library, Evanston, Ill., from 2:00-5:00 P.M. Meetings are scheduled on February 16, March 16 (Joseph Kirschner will lead a discussion of Buson), and April 20. For the May meeting we will gather for a *ginko* at Chicago's historic Graceland Cemetery led by MaryJo Cally, adjourning for refreshments and conversation to Sara Brant's apartment nearby.

SUMI-E SHOW

Poet, painter, and HSA member Lydia Rozmus, opened her latest *sumi-e* show, One Brush Stroke, at the David Adler Cultural Center in Libertyville, Ill., on Saturday, January 18. The show will run through February 8.

Lidia has exhibited her art widely in Japan, Poland, and the U.S. Her *sumi-e* have adorned the past four issues of this newsletter.

— Sara Brant

SOUTHWEST REGION

SANTA FE AREA HAPPENINGS

The visit and readings of Ion and Mihaela Codrescu of Romania was a major haiku event in Santa Fe last summer. A week later, on August 31, at the Audubon Center, Penny Harter gave an outstanding outdoor reading, followed in the autumn by a reading sponsored by Recursos.

The new year began with a haiku lecture on January 27, 1997, by Bill Higginson at Santa Fe's La Farge Library, which coincided with the publication of his second major book in a year (!), *Haiku World: An International Poetry Almanac*.

Bill also put several of the *saijiki* (Japanese season-word guides) from his collection on display in a case near the library entrance. Also included in the exhibit were interpretative sheets and a few translations of poems not previously translated into English.

— Ralph Luce

HAIKU SOUTHWEST

All HSA members in the Southwest Region (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah) are encouraged to send haiku items of general interest, short prose writings, book reviews, and a few of their best, original haiku to the new Southwest Coordinator for publication in Volume IV of *Haiku Southwest*, which will be published as soon as sufficient material is available sometime in the spring.

Please write to:

Ralph Luce
Southwest Regional Coordinator
1723 Avenida Cristobal Colon
Santa Fe, NM 87501

CALIFORNIA REGION

The following reports from the California Region represent the efforts of the old and new Regional Coordinators, Michael Dylan Welch and Jocelyn Conway, respectively, cobbled together by the Newsletter editors.

HAIKU POETS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

A quarterly meeting of the Haiku Poets of Northern California took place on Sunday, October 27 at Nichi Bei Kai in San Francisco. James Chessing was featured reader, and Kay F. Anderson gave a short presentation on knowing poets through their work. In addition, winners of the Haiku Poets of Northern California 1996 San Francisco International Haiku, Senryu, Tanka and Rengay Contest were announced (see the names of the winners and the winning poems in the first three categories on page 13 below). Flowers for the winners present were supplied by Sally Secor, main contest organizer.

New officers were elected for 1997: president, Pat Gallagher; vice president, Ebba Story; secretary, vacant; and treasurer, Jocelyn Conway. The meeting included several rounds of haiku reading and a break for refreshments and socializing.

HPNC held its annual holiday party from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 8 at the Sausalito Cruising Club. HPNC members shared poems, potluck finger food, and a great time.

Michael Dylan Welch was a guest on public radio station KUSP in Santa Cruz, Calif., from 9:00 to 10:00 P.M. on Sunday, September 29, speaking about haiku. He was interviewed by guest host Joan Zimmerman, and read haiku by Japanese masters along with selections of his own haiku.

YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU SOCIETY

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society held a Moon Viewing Party on October 26 at member Mary Hill's garden. It was a beautiful night with the full moon's glow reflected in the poems written and shared that evening.

YTHS celebrated the holiday season with a potluck hosted by Alex and Alice Benedict at their home in San Francisco. After socializing for a time and enjoying the wonderful feast, those present settled down in the living room for rounds of reading. The spirit of the season and the warmth of friendship was felt by all.

The January meeting of the YTHS, at the Saratoga Public Library, included, among other things, a lively discussion of William Higginson's *The Haiku Seasons*. Michael Welch also shared an advance copy of *Haiku World*, which was passed around with interest.

HAIKU CITY READINGS

Michael Dylan Welch sponsored the Haiku City reading on Saturday, September 28, at Borders Books in San Francisco. The reading featured Pat Shelley, Kay F. Anderson, and David Rice reading tanka. An open reading of haiku, senryu, and tanka followed.

Borders Books hosted another Haiku City reading on November 9 featuring some of the rengay, haiku, and tanka of Garry Gay and John Thompson, including some of the rengay they have written together. A short intermission was then followed by an open reading.

The Haiku City readings take place on an irregular schedule at 7:00 P.M. at Borders Books, 400 Post Street in San Francisco (at Union Square). The date has not yet been set for the next session, but there will probably be a program on a topic yet to be determined followed by an open reading of haiku and related poetry, all hosted by Michael Dylan Welch. Everyone is welcome!

Regrettably, we also have some sad

PAT SHELLEY 1910-1996

news from California.

Pat Shelley, a wonderful poet and exceptional person, passed away December 28 after a short battle with cancer.

Pat will be dearly missed by all of us whose lives she touched.

At the opera
listening to a tenor
I never really liked
— when she put out her hand
and he took it, all was changed

Pat Shelley in Woodnotes 30



HAIKU NORTH AMERICA 1997

Greetings from the Northwest! The new year has come in like a lion with lots of hopes and dreams for the coming 12 months.

In Portland, plans for Haiku North America, which will be held at Portland State University, have kept the local organizing committee, Ce Rosenow, Margaret Chula, Cherie Hunter Day, and Connie Hutchison of Kirkland, Wash., very busy. We look forward to the opportunity to bring together local haiku poets and others from around the country as we celebrate "Innovation" in haiku, July 24-27, 1997 (see page 10). The conference will feature writing workshops, panel discussions, and readings. A brochure describing the schedule of events, hotel accommodations, and a registration form will be mailed in February.

READINGS AND WRITINGS

Ce Rosenow presented a talk "The World of English-Language Haiku" at the Oregon State Poetry Association's fall conference in October.

Margaret Chula was the writer-in-residence at Buckman School in Portland in November where she taught haiku to students in grades K-8. Her one-week residency at this arts magnet school was sponsored by PEN. She has also received an honorable mention in the Kumamoto International Haiku Competition.

Tombo Haiku Group (Lorraine E. Harr) continues to meet on the first Sunday of each month. Members include: Brad J. Wolthers, Julie Young, Cherie Davidson, and Paul Morin.

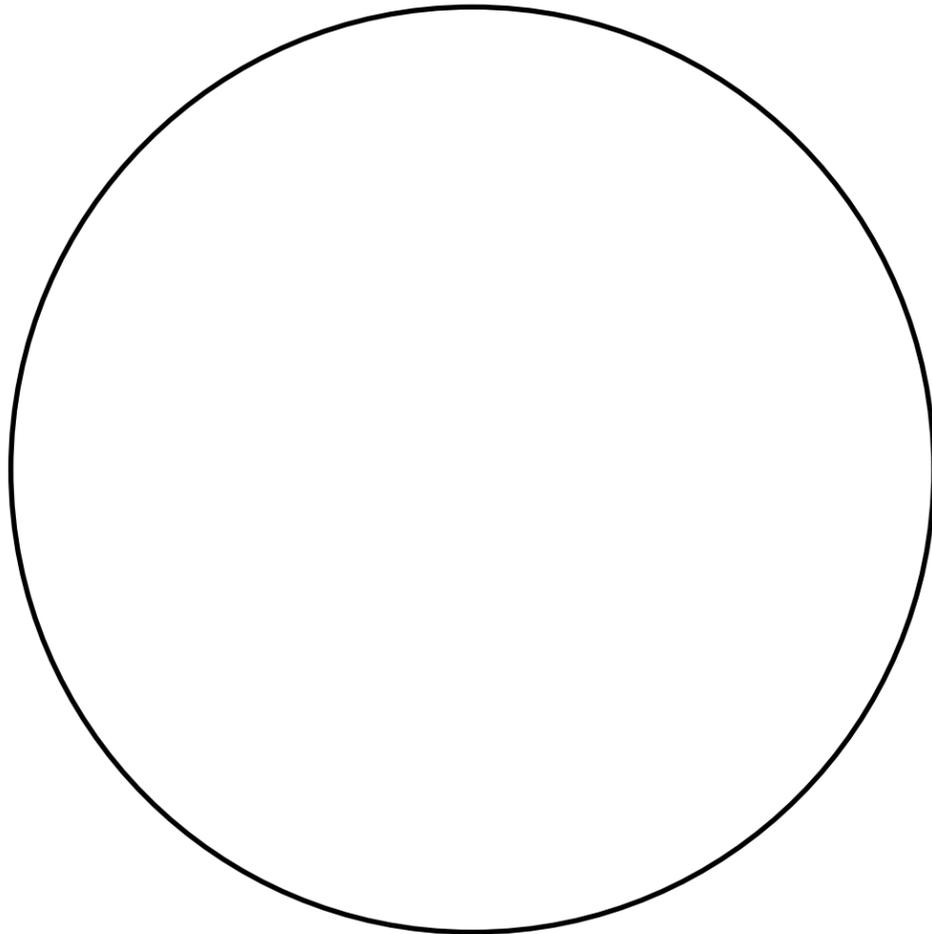
This spring, Katsura Press will publish Edith Shiffert's last book, *The Light Comes Slowly*. Shiffert's poems have a sense of compassionate understanding and now, in her late years, focus on aging and appreciation of the simple joys of being in nature.

Irving Street Press announces the publication of *dwelling* by John Martone (limited edition, signed by the author). Copies are available at \$5.00 postpaid from Irving Street Press, Inc., 3439 NE Sandy Blvd., #174, Portland, OR 97232.

Copies of *Unbroken Curve*, the Northwest Region HSA Members' Anthology 1996 (32 pages, illustrated) are available at \$7.50 postpaid from Cherie Hunter Day, 15584 NW Trakehner Way, Portland, OR 97229.

Also available are *Sunlight Through Rain: A Northwest Haiku Year*, a perfect-bound edition with unnumbered pages, edited by Robert Major and Francine Porad (\$8.00 plus \$1.25 postage and handling from Vandina Press, 6944 SE 33rd, Mercer Island, WA 98040-3324); and *A Japanese Garden Through the Seasons* by Peter Kendall, 1996 (\$7.00 postpaid from Peter Kendall, 4234 SW Shattuck Road, Portland, OR 97221).

— Cherie Hunter Day



BIENNIAL HAIKU
COMPETITION
"THE HAIKU AWARD"

Deadlines: February 15, 1997 and August 15, 1997.

Sponsor: *still*, a new quarterly journal of short verse.

Regulations: Free-form and conventional (5-7-5) previously unpublished haiku sought. All haiku must be original work and author's real name must be supplied.

Entry procedure: Participants must complete an entry form available from *still* by mail at the address below or by copying the form from the journal's World Wide Web site at [HTTP://WWW.INTO.DEMON.CO.UK](http://www.intodemon.co.uk).

Entry fee: £2 per haiku or £10 for a set of six. The first six entries are free to subscribers. Cheques, P.O., International Postal Money Orders payable to *still*. U.S. currency (no cheques, please) acceptable at current exchange rate.

Submit entries to: *still*, 49 Englands Lane, London NW3 4YD, England.

Adjudication: Haiku will be judged by the editor of *still*.

Awards: £300 to be distributed among prizes to be determined. Publication of the winning haiku and runners-up in *still*. Prize money for overseas winners will be less bank charges.

Notification: Send a SAE with two International Reply Coupons internationally for entry form, details, and competition results or see the *still* home page at: [HTTP://WWW.INTO.DEMON.CO.UK](http://www.intodemon.co.uk).

Rights: Copyright reverts to the author upon publication.

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF
AMERICAN PEN WOMEN
1997 INTERNATIONAL
POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: March 15, 1997.

Sponsor: The Palomar Branch of the

CONTESTS

Note that contest announcements are arranged in order of deadlines.

National League of American Pen Women.

Regulations: Poems must be original and unpublished. Free verse – 30-line limit; rhymed verse – 30-line limit; haiku – traditional or contemporary. Open to the public.

Entry procedure: Mail two copies, typed on one side of 8H x 11 paper, with name address, and phone number on *one* copy only; category must be typed on each. Entries will not be returned.

Entry fee: Poems \$5.00 each; haiku 3 for \$5.00; checks/money orders (U.S. funds only) payable to NLAPW.

Submit entries to: Helen J. Sherry, 11929 Caminito Corriente, San Diego, CA 92128.

Adjudication: Poetry – Kathleen Iddings; haiku – Elizabeth Searle Lamb.

Awards: \$50.00, \$25.00, \$10.00, and Honorable Mentions in each category. Winning poems will be published in a chapbook.

Notification: Winners will be notified by mail. Send an SASE or SAE with one IRC for list of winners.

Rights: All rights revert to the author upon publication.

THE ANNUAL
HAROLD G. HENDERSON
AWARDS
FOR BEST UNPUBLISHED HAIKU

Deadline: Postmark date July 31, 1997.

Sponsor: The Haiku Society of America.

Regulations: Limit of 10 unpublished haiku, not submitted for publication or to any other contest. The contest is open to the public. 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 "The 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, 1997.

Sponsor: The Haiku Society of America.

Regulations: Limit of 10 unpublished senryū, not submitted for publication or to any other contest. The contest is open to the public. 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 corner. Please designate as "senryū."

Entry fee: \$1.00 per senryū. Please make checks payable to "The 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.

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA RENKU COMPETITION

Deadline: Postmark October 1, 1997.

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*, or *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

CONTESTS

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

Entry fee: \$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* \$150.00 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

Deadline:

Sponsor:

Definitions:

Regulations:

Entry procedure:

Entry fee:

Submit entries to:

Adjudication:

Awards:

Notification:

THE NICHOLAS A. VIRGILIO MEMORIAL HAIKU COMPETITION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Notice:

The Virgilio Competition has been suspended for one year in order to shift the entry date to the middle of the school year. The contest rules and entry deadline for 1998 will appear in *frogpond* and the *HSA Newsletter* from mid-1997.

THE WINNERS

CANADIAN WRITER'S JOURNAL

1996 POETRY COMPETITION

There were 190 entries in the haiku competition, which was sponsored by an anonymous donor and judged by Elizabeth St Jacques.

Award amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars.

First (\$103.00)

Lee Gurga, Lincoln, Ill.
"morning mist"

Second (\$65.00)

ai li chia, London, England
"tin roof"

Third (\$39.00)

Kohjin Sakamoto, Kyoto, Japan
"on the tip"

Honorable Mentions

(book prizes):

H.F. Noyes, Attikis, Greece
"storm's end"

Mary Partridge, Elliot Lake, Ont.
"two miners still trapped"

Connie Meester, Dubuque, Iowa
"waking to the treadle"

THE NORTH CAROLINA HAIKU SOCIETY 1997 INTERNATIONAL HAIKU CONTEST

Contest organizers report that they received 336 entries. The judge was Peggy Willis Lyles.

First Place

Jocelyn A. Conway, San Mateo, Calif.

Autumn dusk —
walking away
from the creak of the swing

Second Place

James Chessing, San Francisco, Calif.

kite fluttering —
a young gull bends its wings
to the shape of the wind

Third Place

Alexius J. Burgess, Alexandria, Va.

late autumn —
the butterfly lands
on what's left

First Honorable Mention

Laurie W. Stoelting, Mill Valley, Calif.

seat belt tightened —
each tremor from the open road
against my chest

Second Honorable Mention
Jim Kacian, Berryville, Va.

turned earth
the shimmer where water
seeps in

Special Recognition

James Chessing, San Francisco, Calif.

we listen together.
my three-year-old and I —
wind in the pines

Kohjin Sakamoto, Kyoto, Japan

heaping up
hardly noticed in the spring sun
coffin shavings

June Moreau, Lexington, Mass.

THE WINNERS

two buttons missing
on my old coat —
twinkle in the snowman's eye

INTERNATIONAL KUSAMAKURA HAIKU COMPETITION

This competition was sponsored by the city of Kumamoto, Japan:

Sōseki-Taishou

(Grand Prize — ¥50,000)
Lee Gurga (U.S.):

corn rows
stretch to the horizon
sun on the thunderhead

Sorekara Prize

(Special Selection — ¥10,000)
Jack Cain (Canada):

In darkness
The dark river
Moving

Cor van den Heuvel (U.S.):

the coolness
a rock caught on a ledge
in the waterfall

Geraldine C. Little (U.S.):

reflecting
the swallow's swift flight
each roof tile

Byron T. Jackson (England):

Winter morning stillness
chopping wood
between the echoes

Charles P. Trumbull (U.S.):

nearly dusk ...
the shadow of her tombstone
reaches his

HAIKU POETS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 1996 SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL HAIKU, SENRYU, TANKA AND RENGAY CONTEST

The Haiku Poets of Northern California's latest omnibus contest was well subscribed.

The judges (coordinated by Sally Secor) and number of entries in each category were: haiku (vince tripi, 482), senryū (D. Claire Gallagher, 194), tanka (Kenneth Tanemura, 96), and rengay (Paul O. Williams, with Garry Gay, 34).

Winners were:

HAIKU — First Place

Helen Sherry, San Diego, Calif.

moving day
a dove-call settles
in the chimney

HAIKU — Second Place

Jim Kacian, Berryville, Va.

spring melt —
the flat-bed leaks
on the uphill

HAIKU — Third Place

Lee Gurga, Lincoln, Ill.

morning twilight ...
horse asleep in the pasture
covered with frost

HAIKU —

First Honorable Mention

Garry Gay, Santa Rosa, Calif.

Along the trail
trading one walking stick
for another

HAIKU —

Second Honorable Mention

Laurie Stoelting, Mill Valley, Calif.

back country —

in the folds of my topo map
the rise and fall of mountains

SENRYŪ — First Place

Marianna Monaco, San Francisco,

Calif.

bifocals —
the double pleasure
of seeing you again

**SENRYŪ—
First Honorable Mention**
Tom Clausen Ithaca, N.Y.

another year
stripping down for her
sweet corn

**SENRYŪ—
Second Honorable Mention**
Christopher Herold, Redwood City,
Calif.

marble hallway —
the child's scream
longer than her scream

**SENRYŪ—
Third Honorable Mention**
John Stevenson, Nassau, N.Y.

he locks down
the roller coaster
toothless grin

**SENRYŪ—
Fourth Honorable Mention**

THE WINNERS

Lee Gurga, Lincoln, Ill.

flight out of Vegas —
arms crossed
six across

TANKA — First Place
Yvonne Hardenbrook, Columbus,
Ohio

prairie grasses
all the wild horses grazing
in the noon sun
the same ones you always vowed
could not drag you from me

**TANKA —
First Honorable Mention**
Yvonne Hardenbrook, Columbus,
Ohio

you ask
what I want most
this I say
as we nightwalk
the hills of home

**TANKA —
Second Honorable Mention**

Connie Meester, Dubuque, Iowa

rose of Sharon
blooming
below her dorm window
and in the back yard
when we return without her

**TANKA —
Third Honorable Mention**
Garry Gay, Santa Rosa, Calif.

In the darkness
I see you form come to me ...
your scent moves closer
I reach to turn on a light
your kiss keeps the room dark

Prizes for *RENGAY* were: **First Place** to Carol Purington and Larry Kimmel, both of Colrain, Mass., for their "Dotted with Gnats" and **Honorable Mentions** to Ebba Story, San Francisco, Calif., and D. Claire Gallagher, Sunnyvale, Calif., for "Flow"; Lee Gurga, Lincoln, Ill., and Michael Dylan Welch, Foster City, Calif., for "UH-HUH"; and Ebba Story and Louis Morra, New York, N.Y., for "Spattered Ink."

THE HAIKU

own work or that of other poets on a fresh sheet of scribble paper, hoping the haiku, senryu and tanka poems influence the tone of the graffiti that inevitably follows. Sometimes they do; sometimes not.

Comments range from thanks for the enjoyable read to drawings and suggested revisions to the poetry. When the poems don't appear, faithful readers often jot down a note asking where they are.

Clausen has collected a 6-inch stack of papers with poems, comments and graffiti.

"It's kind of a therapeutic way to start the day," he says. Most of the poems come from books and periodicals in Clausen's office, but he pens some of them himself.

THE WINNERS

Woodnotes is pleased to announce the winners of the the Woodnotes International Haibun Contest, judged by Tom Lynch and Cor van den Heuvel.

Anita Virgil won first place and \$100.00 for her haibun, "Outer Banks." Honorable mentions, in alphabetical order by last name, were Sydney Bougy for "Blackberry Sunday: A Haibun for Spring," David Cobb for "Arrival at the Saxon Shore," and John Stevenson for "Night Trains." These and other haibun submitted for the contest (authors will be contacted soon) will appear in the contest haibun anthology, to be published by Press Here.

A further announcement will be made when the book is available, at which time all those included in it and those who preordered copies will be sent copies automatically. Many thanks to everyone who entered and helped make what was probably the first-ever English-language haibun contest a success.

— Michael Dylan Welch

EVANGELIST

After taking a class with Cornell poet and professor Phyllis Janowitz and reading about Ithaca naturalist and haiku writer Ruth Yarrow, Clausen decided to give the form a try. He had been struggling with "shabby, unpublishable" poetry and wanted to develop more concrete images that would stir emotions rather than explain them. "I was trying to simplify the poems I had been writing."

He bought "The Haiku Anthology" and sent away for as many haiku periodicals as he could find. Now, he says, he can't imagine not reading it. His view of haiku: "An expression from the universe."

If Clausen sounds a bit like a child of the love, peace and nature Hippie

"POEMS WANTED"

DASOKU

Dasoku (a snake with legs — or, in other words, something that isn't really necessary!) is, we're told, destined to become a journal of arts and letters and wants your submissions.

We received the notification for this new journal too late for inclusion in the autumn newsletter (the deadline was December 15, for inclusion in the *Dasoku* issue for January 1997), but we suppose that the editors will be looking for material for the next issue as well.

They seek haiku; senryu; renga; and Western forms of poetry and prose as well as brief essays on poetry, art, and philosophy; humor, drawings; and photographs.

Please contact

Jeanne Gugino & Marj Layman
Co-editors, *Dasoku*
c/o Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen Street
Boston, MA 02115

AMERICAN TANKA

American Tanka is an international semiannual journal devoted exclusively to single English-language tanka. Its goal is to present some of the most exquisite tanka being written today in a simple, aesthetically-pleasing journal that lets the eye focus on each individual poem.

American Tanka comprises 68–80 pages in an 8 H" x 5 H" format, perfect-bound, with a glossy cover. Original black-and-white drawings gently complement the poems, which are printed one per page. Subscriptions are \$16.00 within the U.S., or \$20.00 international.

We are currently accepting submissions for the spring 1997 issue. Send up to five unpublished tanka and an SASE by February 28, 1997, to

Laura Maffei, Editor
American Tanka
P.O. Box 49046
Austin, TX 78765

The following article by Jay Tokasz appeared the *On Campus* section of The Ithaca (N.Y.) Journal of September 7, 1996. Thanks to The Ithaca Journal and HSA member Tom Clausen himself for permission to reprint the article here, and to HSA member Ruth Yarrow for calling it to our attention.

HAIKU GRAFFITI A TRADITION IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Among the millions of words and thoughts to be found in college and university libraries, students seem unable to resist adding their own — on desks, chairs, even pipe insulation.

The graffiti show up just about everywhere, and don't come very close to rivaling Shakespeare or Austen for literary genius.

"It's an epidemic," says Tom Clausen, a student supervisor in the circulation department of Cornell University's Mann Library.

A custodian became so sick of it in the elevator of the Mann Library stacks he decided to post a sheet of paper daily to corral students' written frustrations.

Funny thing is it worked. The quality of the scribbles left a little to be desired, though.

Clausen set out to make it better. Six years later, his daily postings of haiku and other short poems have become a tradition in the little stack elevator.

Each morning, Clausen puts his

THE HAIKU BOOKSHELF

RED MOON ANTHOLOGY

Red Moon Press announces that 1996 *Red Moon Anthology*, which purports to publish the year's best haiku and haiku-related writing in English, is nearing completion.

This project incorporates the work of 10 editors from around the world. From the 50 or so publications that include English-language haiku, nearly 800 nominations from more than 500 different poets have been considered for this compilation.

For more information, and to inquire about a prior-to-publication discount price, contact Red Moon Press at Route 2, Box 3977, Berryville, VA 22611.

— Jim Kacian

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

c/o Charles Trumbull
1102 Dempster Street
Evanston, IL 60202-1211



sumi-e by Lidia Rozmus

CYBERTRY, PART II

Werner Reichhold has sent information about his latest work, entitled *Cybertry, Part II* and completed in December 1996. The collection of electronic works included haibun by Werner alone or with Jane Reichhold, literary portraits, and plays. You can reach *Cybertry, Part II* through the AHA! Poetry Website on the Internet at [HTTP://WWW.FAXIMUM.COM/AHA.D/CYBK2.HTM](http://www.faximum.com/AHA.D/CYBK2.HTM).

1995 MEMBERS' ANTHOLOGY

One Breath, the HSA 1995 Members' Anthology, edited by Jean Dubois, Michael McNierney, and Elizabeth L. Nichols, is available for \$7.50 postpaid (U.S. and Canada; overseas mailing fee \$2.00) from Jean Dubois, P.O. Box 1430, Golden, CO 80402.

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

Membership dues for 1997 have already been paid by a great many Haiku Society of America members; however, many also are still owing, as of January 1.

If your name on the address label below has a "96" code above it, then we have not received your check for renewal at the date of this mailing (February 1, 1997).

Please see the second page of the Information Sheet for the amount of dues and the address to which your remittance should be sent.

— Dee Evetts

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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c/o Japan Society
333 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Established 1968 by
Harold G. Henderson and Leroy Kanterman

Compiled by:
Dee Evetts, Secretary
January 18, 1997

1997 Information Sheet

The Haiku Society of America is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1968 to promote the writing and appreciation of haiku in English. Membership is open to all readers, writers, and students of haiku. The HSA has been meeting regularly since its inception and sponsors open lectures, workshops, readings, and contests. At present the HSA has a total of 655 members around the country and overseas. The Society's journal, *frogpond*, which features work by HSA members and others, as well as articles and book reviews, is in its 20th year of publication. There is also a quarterly *Newsletter*, containing reports of the HSA national meetings and news of regional, national, and international events. An address list of the membership is mailed annually to all members.

During 1996 national meetings were held in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Chicago, and Boston. There were also numerous regional and local meetings around the country. A major event with which the HSA was closely involved was the inauguration of the American Haiku Archive at the California State Library in Sacramento.

In 1997 the quarterly National Meetings will be held as follows:

March 22	San Francisco
June 14	Chicago
September 6	New York (HSA Annual Meeting)
December 13	Washington, D.C.

Details of venues, times, and programs will appear in the *Newsletter*, as will announcements and details of HSA regional meetings. Inquiries regarding both national and regional meetings can also be addressed to the appropriate Regional Coordinator (see below).

Early in 1997 the HSA will take an historic first step into the electronic age by establishing a World Wide Web site on the Internet. At first the site will feature simply information from this sheet and the quarterly *Newsletter*, but there are various proposals and plans for expansion. Also this year there will be a haiku conference in Tokyo, hosted by the Haiku International Association and attended by a group of HSA delegates and other members.

HSA Officers 1997

PRESIDENT	Lee Gurga, 514 Pekin St., Lincoln, IL 62656
1st VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Dylan Welch, 248 Beach Park Blvd., Foster City, CA 94404 WELCHM@AOL.COM
2nd VICE PRESIDENT	Alice Benedict, 2579 – 15th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127
SECRETARY	Dee Evetts, PO Box 1179, New York, NY 10013
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(See Membership List for list of states in each Region)

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THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

c/o Japan Society, Inc., 333 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017-2399, USA

HSA Membership Dues and *frogpond* Subscription

Membership in The Haiku Society of America includes a year's subscription to the Society's literary journal, *frogpond*. There will be three issues in 1997. In addition, members receive a quarterly *Newsletter*, the annual Information Sheet, and an annual address list of HSA members.

Membership dues are \$20.00 for the U.S. and Canada, \$28.00 overseas (air mail). Please note that membership is for a calendar year, from January 1 to January 1. Members joining during the course of the year will receive all previous mailings for that year. Single issues of *frogpond* can be ordered direct from the editor (see last page for details).

Please send dues to: Dee Evetts, HSA Secretary, PO Box 1179, New York, NY 10013

Make checks payable to "The Haiku Society of America" (not "frogpond" or "HSA").

Canadian and Overseas Members: Checks in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank, or a bank with an affiliate in the U.S., are acceptable. Otherwise, please send Canadian or international postal money orders in U.S. funds. All postal money orders should be made payable to: The Haiku Society of America, c/o Raffael de Gruttola, Treasurer.

Donations

The Haiku Society of America is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. An amount donated over and above the regular membership fee is deductible for income tax purposes in the United States. The HSA depends in part on donations to keep membership dues as low as possible.

Donations are recorded in the following categories:

\$20-\$50	FRIEND	\$500-\$1000	PATRON
\$50-\$100	DONOR	over \$1000	BENEFACTOR
\$100-\$500	SPONSOR		

Haiku Society of America Awards and Contests, 1997

The Annual Harold G. Henderson Awards for best unpublished haiku

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.

1. Deadline: Postmark date July 31, 1997.
2. Entry fee: \$1.00 per haiku. Please make checks/money orders to "The Haiku Society of America" (as in dues, above).
3. Limit: 10 unpublished haiku, not submitted for publication or to any other contest.
4. 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."
5. The contest is open to the public.
6. Submit entries to Alice Benedict, 2579-15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.
7. First prize, \$150.00; second prize, \$100.00; third prize, \$50.00.
8. Winning haiku will be published in *frogpond*. All rights revert to authors on publication. Please send an SASE if you would like a list of the winning entries.
9. The names of the judge(s) will be announced after the contest.
10. Sorry, entries cannot be returned.
11. HSA officers who are members of the Executive Committee will not be eligible to enter the Henderson or Brady contests; however, regional coordinators may enter.

The Annual Gerald Brady Memorial Awards for best unpublished senryu

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.

1. Deadline: Postmark date July 31, 1997.
2. Entry fee: \$1.00 per senryu. Please make checks/money orders to "The Haiku Society of America" (as in dues, above).
3. Limit: 10 unpublished senryu, not submitted for publication or to any other contest.
4. Submit each senryu on *three* separate 3 x 5 cards, *two* with the senryu only (for anonymous judging), the third with the senryu and the author's name and address in the upper left-hand corner. Please designate as "senryu."
5. The contest is open to the public.
6. Submit entries to Alice Benedict, 2579-15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.
7. First prize, \$100.00; second prize, \$75.00; third prize, \$50.00.
8. Winning haiku will be published in *frogpond*. All rights revert to authors on publication. Please send an SASE if you would like a list of the winning entries.
9. The names of the judge(s) will be announced after the contest.
10. Sorry, entries cannot be returned.
11. HSA officers who are members of the Executive Committee will not be eligible to enter the Henderson or Brady contests; however, regional coordinators may enter.

The Haiku Society of America Renku Competition

1. Deadline: Postmark date October 1, 1997.
2. Contest is open to the public. Entries must be in English.
3. Entry fee: \$15.00 must accompany manuscript. Please write checks/money orders to "The Haiku Society of America" (as in dues, above).
4. Length, authorship, limit of entries. For the purpose of this contest, a renku may consist of 36, 20, or 12 stanzas (*kasen*, *nijūin*, or *junicho* forms) written by two or more persons, each of whom contributes a substantial number of individually-authored stanzas. 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.
5. 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 identified manuscript. Failure to follow this format will make it impossible to judge an entry.
6. Submit entries to: Alice Benedict, 2579-15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127.
7. Grand prize: up to \$150.00 and publication in *frogpond*. All rights revert to authors on publication. 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*.
8. Please send an SASE for a list of winning entries.
9. The names of the judge(s) will be announced with the winners.
10. Sorry, entries cannot be returned.
11. All HSA officers, including members of the Executive Committee, may participate in renku submitted in the competition.

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.

Museum of Haiku Literature Awards (*frogpond*, Best of Issue)

(Gift of the Museum of Haiku Literature in Tokyo)

A single best of issue haiku in each issue of *frogpond* will be awarded \$50.00. Award-winning haiku are chosen by the HSA Executive Committee from those published in each issue of *frogpond* and are announced in the following issue.

The Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition for High School Students

Founded by the Sacred Heart Church in Camden, N.J., 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.

There is no entry fee for this competition.

Please follow the guidelines carefully.

WHO? Any student between the ages of 13 and 19 enrolled in high school (freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior) as of September 1997 may enter.

WHAT? Students may submit up to three haiku each.

Each haiku must be *typed in triplicate* on 3 x 5 index 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.

WHEN?

WHERE?

WHY?

Notice:
The Virgilio Competition has been suspended for one year in order to shift the entry date to the middle of the school year. The contest rules and entry deadline for 1998 will appear in *frogpond* and the *HSA Newsletter* from mid-1997.

Generous cash prizes, amounts to be announced. The list of winners and winning haiku will be published in *frogpond*.

The high school of each student winner will receive a one-year subscription to *frogpond*.

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

The Annual Merit Book Awards for excellence in published haiku, translation, and criticism (books published in 1996)

1. Deadline: Postmark date May 31, 1997.
2. Entry fee: None.
3. Eligibility: Books must have been published in 1996. An author may submit more than one book.
4. Submit one copy of each book, noting it to be a Merit Award entry. Judges may consider books that have not been entered. Authors are urged to enter their book in order to be sure they are considered. So that no book of merit shall be overlooked, authors should contact the President some time before the deadline, to ascertain that it has been received.
5. The contest is open to the public.
6. Send books to: Lee Gurga, 514 Pekin St., Lincoln, IL 62656.
7. First Prize \$100, Second Prize \$75, Third Prize \$50.
8. The list of awards will be published in *frogpond*.
9. Books submitted will remain the property of the HSA, and will be added to the permanent HSA library collection.
10. The names of the judge(s) will be announced after the awards are decided.
11. Books published by HSA officers are eligible for this award.

frogpond Information and Guidelines

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The journal *frogpond* is an official publication of The Haiku Society of America. Its primary function is to publish the best in contemporary English-language haiku and senryu, as well as sequences, haibun, and a limited number of tanka and short linked poems, plus essays, book reviews and news of the HSA and the haiku world. The magazine, published three times a year, is copyrighted by the HSA; prior rights are retained by the authors and all rights to new material revert to the authors on publication. The journal takes no responsibility for research errors, failure to acknowledge sources, or copyright infringement in the work of its contributors, nor does it assume responsibility for the views of contributors (including its own officers) whose work is printed in *frogpond*.

Material from both members and nonmembers of the HSA is welcomed. HSA membership is not required for publication, but a familiarity with what is being used is a help in submitting work. Back issues / single issues: 1996–97, \$7.00 each U.S. / Canada, \$9.00 overseas; 1992–93, \$10.00 each U.S. / Canada, \$12.00 overseas; all others \$5.00 each U.S. / Canada, \$7.00 overseas. Cost includes mailing. Some back issues are available only in photocopied form.

frogpond uses original, unpublished haiku and senryu in a variety of styles, from “traditional” to contemporary North American, in 1–4 line, vertical, or concrete. Poems must be fresh, with clear images to express the essence of haiku — the “suchness” of the moment — without clichés and avoiding overt simile and metaphor. Titles should not be used, but brief explanatory notes indicating the meaning of unusual words or specific locales may be appended if absolutely necessary. Please query first regarding book reviews, most of which are assigned. Essays should be no longer than 1,000 words.

Submitted material must be previously unpublished, not be under consideration by another publication nor entered in a contest at the time sent nor during the time it takes to receive a response. Effort is made to respond within a month to six weeks of receipt, but during periods of issue production (between deadlines and appearance of an issue), response time may be longer.

Material may be sent at any time, but may be held for later publication for editorial reasons. Especially, clearly seasonal material will be held for the proper season of publication. Deadline dates for material intended for specific issues in 1997 will be:

Late winter / spring (February–May): February 1
Summer / early autumn (June–September): June 1
Late autumn / early winter (October–January): October 1

Send poetry in batches of 5–20 on one or two sheets of 8H" by 11" paper. Please do not send single poems. Send concrete poetry that might be difficult to typeset, as camera-ready copy. Prose should be double-spaced. Author's name and address should be at the top of each page. Any letter should be sent as a separate cover sheet, not on the same page as submitted material. Material should be sent in regular business-size (#10) envelopes, with a #9 or a folded #10 envelope, self-addressed with sufficient postage affixed for return, or with International Reply Coupons (IRCs) for foreign countries. Submissions without SASE or IRC may receive no response. Camera-ready copy may be mailed, with cardboard stiffener, in envelopes up to 7" by 9" marked “Do Not Fold.” Material may also be sent by electronic mail, with the E-mail return address clearly shown. (Include postal address, so that contributor's copy may be sent if submission is published.)