President's letter Summer 2007

Dear Members,

It was a great pleasure to see members from all over the country at the 2nd Quarterly meeting in Portland, Oregon, the weekend of June 29th - July 1st. Maggie Chula and Ce Rosenow, of the newly-formed Oregon region, organized a stimulating and enjoyable program of readings, panels, and workshops; a delightful and informative tour of the Japanese Garden; and many wonderful opportunities for socializing. (Please see a more complete description of the event elsewhere in the *Newsletter*).

The Executive Committee met on Saturday for a productive session during which we discussed and made decisions on several important issues. After considerable discussion, we decided to cancel plans for the HSA 40th Anniversary celebration in Asilomar because of information recently received from the Asilomar Conference Center: timing (early date in September would be difficult for members who teach and/or have children beginning the school year), location (over an hour from either nearby airport), expense, and Asilomar's requirement for registration six months prior to the event with cancellation possible no later than two months prior to the event. Several of us think that it might be more practical and would involve more of the membership if we had a regional celebration at each of the four quarterly meetings, a suggestion we will make to next year's executive committee. Any region interested in hosting one of these celebrations, especially the first one in March, is encouraged to let me know as soon as possible so that I can share this information with next year's EC.

Although we have canceled plans for an elaborate conference, we are moving ahead with our 40th anniversary publication, an anthology of contest award-winning poems edited by Michael Dylan Welch. Michael is currently in discussion with an independent publisher, and we hope to have more detailed information on this soon. As previously stated, our intent is to provide a copy of this volume free to all members.

The EC also voted to fund a special letter-press edition of the 2008 members' anthology to be edited by Brenda J. Gannam and William J. Cullen, Jr. and printed by Ed Rayher of Swamp Press in Northfield, MA.

Our next agenda item was the HSA archives. While Charlie Trumbull is continuing to serve on the committee, he has decided to step down as chair. With approval of the EC, I have volunteered to assume that role, with a committee consisting of Charlie, Raffael de Gruttola, and Ce Rosenow. Other interested members are most welcome to join us.

Charlie continues to work on several important projects: a listing of all the membership records, a compilation of the Society's minutes and oth-

er key documents, and an ongoing index to *frogpond*. We are now working on designing a bookplate to include in the materials donated by the Society to the American Haiku Archives in Sacramento, official home to our archives. On the East coast, planning continues for a Virgilio archives and haiku center at Rutgers University in Camden, NJ, a project with which Raffael has been involved from its inception. In December, Raffael and members of the Virgilio Society and Rutgers will meet with the EC in New York to discuss future collaboration.

Finally, the EC passed two resolutions related to candidates applying for the position of editor of *frogpond*: 1)in order to avoid any possible conflict of interest, the EC strongly recommends that the *frogpond* editor should not edit another haiku journal either in print or online during his or her tenure as *frogpond* editor; 2) in recognition of the fact that serving as editor of *frogpond* is a huge job, the EC recommends that the editor appoint one or more assistant editors to make up an editorial team, but strongly recommends all names of potential assistant editors should be approved by the EC.

Past-president Charlie Trumbull, serving as chair of the Nominating Committee, is currently working on a slate of officers to fill vacant positions on the Executive Committee for 2008. In addition, any member may place his or her own name in nomination or nominate another member by contacting our Secretary, Lane Par-

ker. I will present the slate and all names placed in nomination at the Annual meeting in September, at which time candidates must be seconded. The ballot, which is mailed in early October, will include all names that go through this process. Please think seriously about candidates for these important offices and feel free to contact me or any of the incumbent EC members for specific information about any position.

We continue to have a vacancy for a Regional Coordinator for the Southeast Region. Anyone living in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, the US Virgin Islands, or Puerto Rico interested in serving as interim RC for 2007or running for RC for 2008, kindly contact me as soon as possible.

As we go to press, we are all saddened to hear the news of L. A. Davidson's death on July 18th in New York City. An obituary by her daughter Laura appears in *In Memoriam*.

The Third HSA Quarterly meeting, our Annual Meeting, will take place in Rochester, New York, the weekend of September 14th - 16th. Jerome Cushman and members of RAHG (Rochester Area Haiku Group) have planned an exciting program, including a reading at Barnes & Noble's Bookstore, a full-day of haiku activities on Saturday, and a gingko on Sunday morning. (Please see complete details elsewhere in the *Newsletter*). I hope to see many of you there.

With best wishes

Pamela Miller Ness In Memoriam



L. A. Davidson (1917-2007)

It is with great sadness that we must tell you Laura Agnes Davidson died just two weeks short of her 90th birthday. She was stricken by a massive stroke and heart attack at her home in New York City on July 12, 2007 and remained unconscious in hospital until the evening of July 17th when, by the terms of her living will, her request not to be maintained on life support equipment was honored and she passed away the morning of July 18th.

Born July 31st, 1917 in Roy, Montana, her parents were the last of the original homesteaders in Eastern Montana, in sight of the Judith Mountains where she was raised in the wide open spaces near Grass Range with her sister Ruth, attending a one-room schoolhouse and riding range, helping to herd cattle when not writing stories about the wild west. She learned by heart and loved to recite poetry, especially ballads so popular at the time. Marked forever by the loss of the family homestead through drought and the Depression, Agnes was frugal her entire life.

I would engrave
this bare mountain on my mind
and take it home
L.A. Davidson
bird song more and more

A dedicated student, she gained scholarships towards higher education and worked her way through college, graduating with a BA in Journalism from the University of Minnesota. She interviewed Clark Gable and Carole Lombard when they came to shoot grouse or pheasants after she had her first job as a reporter back West and always regretted losing her only copy of that article when she submitted it along with other articles in her portfolio applying for a government job in Washington DC. She remembers vividly the moment the interviewer stiffened when she answered his question about party affiliation, saying she was a Republican. Evidently that didn't sit well with a New Deal administration, though the only Republican she ever voted for was Gen. Eisenhower.

Instead she met and in 1941 married the love of her life, Ralph Kirby Davidson, a printer. Together they helped put out *The Reporter and Farmer* newspaper and had one child, Karen Ruth, born in 1943. Called up

to serve in the Pacific during the war, Kirby returned and with Agnes' encouragement, attended the University of Montana in Missoula where their second daughter, Laura Gay, was born in 1947, a year before Kirby became one of the first from Montana to receive a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University in England.

Journalism, then considered a job to which one apprenticed, was not offered so Kirby graduated with a degree in PPE, Politics, Philosophy and Economics. Gone was their goal of working together on their own newspaper. But these were happy years despite food rationing still in effect after the war. Kirby rowed on the Keble Crew and Agnes grew to love gardening. Together, toddlers in tow, they camped throughout Ireland, England, France and Italy before settling in Baltimore, Maryland for three years where Kirby continued his studies in Economics at the Johns Hopkins University, working nights as a printer, while Agnes typed dissertations to make ends meet. These were hard years but their effort succeeded. Kirby gained his PhD and they moved to West Lafayette, Indiana in 1954 where he joined the Economics Department at Purdue University and became Coach of the Rowing Crew. Agnes shunned committee life, opting instead to continue writing short stories and poetry, while creating a seasonal garden in the new home they had built.

Their move to Kampala, Uganda in 1962 where Kirby became Visiting Professor of Economics at Makerere University was a great adventure as it was the year of *Uhuru*, independence. Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation to consult on universities in need of assistance, together with Laura and Karen who lived with them in Kampala, they drove 48,000 miles throughout Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, and Northern and Southern Rhodesia as the countries were then known, and to the Cape and Durban in South Africa before flying back visiting universities in the Congo, Nigeria, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and visiting an Egyptian friend, a fellow Rhodes Scholar in Cairo.

Agnes' world altered irrevocably when the Foundation offered Kirby a job in Manhattan in late 1963 where he became a Director in the Social Sciences and Chairman of the University Development Committee, which entailed his travel throughout Africa, Asia and South America.

in winter storm
his own deep footprints
closing behind him

L.A. Davidson The Shape of the Tree New York New York

It broke Agnes' heart to leave her garden, and shunning suburban life in Scarsdale, she chose to live in Greenwich Village, refusing ever again to buy a house. Karen returned to Purdue University and Laura left for the University of California-Berkeley two years later. Kirby continued his love of water sports, buying a boat which he and Agnes kept in Connecticut, sailing in Long Island Sound on weekends.

The move to Greenwich Village brought Elizabeth Searle Lamb into Agnes' world and with it, her introduction to the Japanese form of poetry known as haiku. Here at last Laddie found her form of expression, combining her keen reporter's eye for detail, her childhood communion with nature and her love of writing. Though she never wrote the great American novel, L.A. Davidson became an early member of that group which became the Haiku Society of America, writing Haiku in English. For over forty years she not only wrote haiku, she actively promoted it.

She had always been a great correspondent but now her letter writing encompassed poets far and wide who wished to learn more about this ancient form of poetry, now accessible to English readers and writers. Haiku and the companions she made through this poetry sustained her when Kirby retired and moved to Brazil.

buying a bowl
of white chrysanthemums
the morning he leaves

L.A. Davidson
The Shape of the Tree New York New
York

Their divorce after forty-seven years in 1988 hurt bitterly but her pioneer spirit of independence gave her the strength to carry on for another nineteen years. She took pride in both her daughters obtaining PhDs, and she loved their husbands Arthur and Dhiru as her own but refused to leave her Greenwich Village apartment. She remained devoted to haiku and to those who loved reading and writing, living alone until the end.

Her publications included hundreds of haiku in magazines, journals and anthologies and three collections: The Shape of the Tree New York New York, Jamaica Moments and Bird Song More and More, the latter published by Swamp Press in which Vincent Tripi wrote in the winter of 2003: "L.A. Davidson is one of the most honored and respected American haiku poets. She exemplifies, at its highest level, the poetic ideal of servitude to beauty and the truth."

By her wishes the cremation was private. Her ashes will find her home again. Memorial donations may be made to the Haiku Society of America, c/o Paul Miller, HSA Treasurer, 31 Seal Island Rd, Bristol, R.I. 02809-5186

Correspondence may be sent to her daughters:

Karen Davidson, 5619 Dumbarton Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92404-3044

Laura Tanna, 3245 Village Green Drive, Miami, Fl. 33175, lauratanna@aol.com L.A. Davidson is now her best known haiku:

beyond stars beyond

L.A. Davidson

The Shape of the Tree New York New York

Yours sincerely

Laura

Laura Tanna

that one by itself is my star... Heaven's River

Issa

National News 1st Quarterly Meeting Minutes, June 30, 2007

President Pamela Miller Ness welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Hoyt Arboretum in Portland, Oregon, and thanked Ce Rosenow and Margaret Chula and members of the Oregon Haiku Society for arranging the program.

Minutes of the 1st Quarterly meeting were read by Stanford Forrester and approved by the group.

The president reported these actions of the Executive Committee:

- 1)Plans to celebrate the HSA 40th Anniversary by a joint meeting with the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society at Asilomar were cancelled. 2)The Executive Committee is discussing the content for a book to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of HSA, which will be edited by Michael Dylan Welch.
- 3) The EC approved a special letterpress edition of the 2008 Members Anthology to be edited by Brenda J. Gannam and William Cullen, Jr. and printed by Swamp Press, to be sold for \$15 plus postage, as part of the 40th Anniversary celebration.
- 4)Two resolutions related to the position of *Frogpond* Editor were passed: (a) The EC strongly recommends that the Frogpond editor should not edit another haiku journal, either online or in print, at the same time as he/she is editing *Frogpond*. (b) We encourage the Frogpond editor to select one or more assistant editors to form an editorial team [as allowed in the By-Laws—*Ed.*], but strongly recommend that all names of possible assistants be approved by the EC. These guidelines will be communicated to the nominating committee for 2008 to be shared with potential candidates.
- 5) Designs for a bookplate to accompany all HSA items given to the American Haiku Archives in Sacramento, California, will be presented to the EC for approval at the Dec. 1 meeting in New York City.

Raffael de Gruttolo and members of the Virgilio Society and Rutgers University will present ideas to the EC at the Dec. 1 NYC meeting related to the deposit of duplicate HSA items in the new Virgilio archive at Rutgers. A suggestion was made that the HSA consider holding the NYC meeting in June or September instead of December in future years.

Johnye Strickland, for Secretary Lane Parker

Secretary's Report

The current total membership is 682, including 114 New members, 534 Renewing members, and 34 members Rejoining after a lapse of at least a year. (Last year at about this time, the total membership was 762.) Of the current membership, 121 are in the Friends category, 36 are Donors, and 11 are Sponsors.

Respectfully submitted, Lane Parker, HSA Secretary

writing with a finger in the clear blue sky...
"autumn dusk"

Issa

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance \$51,802

Dues/Contributions \$1,897 Museum Haiku Literature \$300 Member's Anthology \$2,189 Contest Fees \$193 Frogpond Sales \$28 Miscellaneous \$133

Revenue \$4,740

Frogpond Expense \$4,196 Newsletter Expense \$2,576 Administrative Expense \$95 Contest Expenses \$100 Meeting Expenses \$300

Expense \$7,267

Ending Balance \$50,840

Paul Miller, Treasurer

city life even melting snow costs money

Issa

Quarterly Meetings 2007 1st – Shreveport, LA March 31, 2007

2nd- Portland, OR June 30, 2007

3rd Quarterly Meeting Rochester, New York September 15, 2007

The HSA Annual Meeting will be held on September 15, 2007 in Rochester, New York.

The host hotel is the Holiday Inn Rochester Airport. 911 Brooks Ave. Rochester, NY. 14624. Please contact them via their web page www.hirochesterairport.com or telephone 585 328-6000. We have rooms saved if you contact them before Aug. 20. There is a bar and restaurant in the Holiday Inn.

Here is the tentative schedule: **Fri., Sept. 14** - Wine and Cheese get together at the Holiday Inn, 7:30 PM in one of the rooms where we can share our books.

Sat., Sept. 15- 8:30-9:00 The Rochester Area Haiku Group will help provide transportation from the Holiday Inn to Barnes & Noble Booksellers in the Pittsford Plaza where most of the activities will occur.

9:30- 10:00 Registration in the Community Room of Barnes & Noble

10:00-11:30 Executive CommitteeMeeting in the Coffee Area.
10:00-11:00 Program in the Community Room: Display of Bonsai, Viewing Stones, Ikebana arrangements and photos of Japanese Gardens. A discussion will ensue of how the essence of these arts are related to haiku. We can share haiku where these were the topics of the haiku.

11:00-12:00- Workshop with Pamela Miller Ness. We are asked to read her article on Prosody in Haiku, in *Modern Haiku* 37:2 (Summer 2006) or you can contact her for a copy. Bring some of your own haiku to work on. 12:00-1:30- Lunch at near by restaurants.

1:30-2:15 Business Meeting.

2:15-2:45 Book Share.

3:00-4:30 Public Performance by some well known haiku poets. 5:00-7:00 Dinner at a local Restaurant.

7:00-9:00 Public Reading with all of the attendees and Open Mic. Rides back to the Holiday Inn. Sunday Sept. 16 9:30-12:00 A ginkgo with Tom Painting to the Historic Mt. Hope Cemetery

Rides back to the Holiday Inn and Lunch on your own

For more details contact Jerome Cushman at jercush@aol.com *Jerome Cushman*

4th Quarterly Meeting New York City, New York December 1, 2007

Pre-meeting activities include a tour of a NY Museum and lunch in a local restaurant. For those in need of lodging, please book early to get the best price. Here are two hotels:

The Milburn Hotel (near subway) 242 W. 76th Street (212) 362-1006 Although it is pricier (especially in December).

There is also one close to where we meet (Tenri Cultural Institute, 43A West 13th Street, between 5th and 6th Avenues):

Four Points by Sheraton Chelsea 160 West 25th St. (212) 627-1888 [See NY Regional News for Program] don't cry, geese! your inn is wherever the autumn moon shines

Issa

H. F. Noyes Appointed as New Honorary Curator of the American Haiku Archives

The American Haiku Archives advisory board is pleased to announce the appointment of H. F. Noyes, commonly known as Tom Noyes, as the 2007–2008 honorary curator of the American Haiku Archives at the California State Library in Sacramento. This honor is in recognition of his service to the haiku community through his poetry, personal inspiration, and writings about haiku and haiku aesthetics. Countless people have learned more deeply about haiku through his erudite, informative, and refreshing "Favorite Haiku" commentaries that have appeared in dozens of journals in many countries for at least two decades, many of which were compiled in five stimulating volumes by the same name. Many more people have been touched by his poetry and his nurturing personal correspondence with poets around the world.

Tom Noyes was born in 1918 on a farm in Oregon, to which he attributes his love of nature. According to one of his books, he was "introduced to haiku through the Blyth volumes recommended to him in his twenties by John Cage, the composer." Tom served four years in the U.S. Navy, attended Yale and Columbia, and obtained a doctorate in counseling, also training in Gestalt therapy and Jungian psychoanalysis. After twenty-five years as a psychotherapist, in 1970 he left New York for retirement in Greece, where he still lives. Though seemingly far away from North America, he has continued to be close to poets throughout the world with his frequent hand-written letters (he does not use e-mail). Tom has

published seven notable collections of haiku: My Rain, My Moon; Star Carvings; and The Blossoming Rudder (all from Parkway Creative Communications, in 1983, 1985, and 1988), as well as Just Floating Here (privately published, 1991), Oar Under Water (Carthorse Press, 1991), The Moment's Gift (haiku translated into Chinese; Baihua Literature and Art Publishing House, 1993), and Between Two Waves (Leda Publishing House, 1996). In addition, the five volumes of his Favorite Haiku books appeared from 1998 to 2002, published by Red Moon Press. In 2004, the Haiku Society of America honored him with its Sora Award. Tom once wrote that he attributes his good health to "living in an environment that allows one to be one's ordinary simple self." And, as he once said in an article about haiku, "Let us on our haiku journeys, in the words of the great Persian poet, Rumi, wash ourselves of ourselves. And through this ego-cleansing we can then hope to experience Nature's wholeness through the wholeness of our own nature." The following are but three sample poems by H. F. Noyes:

bamboo in snow but for a Sung painter's art I'd have passed it by

morning stroll unshared thoughts float off with the withered leaves

raking aside leaves on the backyard pond I release the moon

The American Haiku Archives, which includes the Haiku Society of America archives, is the largest public collection of haiku materials outside Japan. Each year since the archives were established on July 12, 1996, the AHA advisory board, chaired by Garry Gay, appoints a new honorary curator (an idea suggested by former California state librarian Dr. Kevin Starr). Past cu-

rators, in order starting from the first year, have been Elizabeth Searle Lamb, Jerry Kilbride, Cor van den Heuvel, Robert Spiess, Lorraine Ellis Harr, Leroy Kanterman, William J. Higginson, Makoto Ueda, Francine Porad, and Hiroaki Sato.

The archives continues with its mission, which is as follows: "Based on the belief that haiku and related poetry can enrich lives, the American Haiku Archives is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and promotion of this poetry as a vital component of literature in the English language. Established 12 July 1996 as an inclusive educational and scholarly resource at the California State Library in Sacramento, the Archives seeks to make its material accessible to the general public, especially students, poets, writers, and scholars. The Archives' material, primarily in English, includes books, magazines, pamphlets, recordings, art work, photographs, letters, papers, and ephemera. It also encompasses other historical and contemporary material from individuals, groups, publishers, and societies around the world, from whom the Archives actively invites future and regular contributions. The American Haiku Archives exists with the hope and confidence that present and future generations will continue to enjoy and benefit from the reading, writing, and studying of haiku and all related poetry.''

The AHA advisory board is delighted to pay tribute to H. F. Noyes as the current honorary curator of the American Haiku Archives. To search the collections of the American Haiku Archives online, please visit

<www.lib.state.ca.us/html/welcome.html>.
For information on donating material to the archives, please visit the new American Hai-ku Archives Web site at

<www.americanhaikuarchives.org>.

—Michael Dylan Welch



Regional News Northeast Region Boston

Two renku groups met in July and one will probably meet again in August: The Immature Green Heron Group met at Karen Klein's house in Mashpee, MA July 13. Those present were: Karen Klein, Judson Evans, Allen LeVines and Raffael de Gruttola.

TheMetroWestRenkuAssociation (MWRA) met on Saturday, July 14, at the home of host Paul Mena, to do another one of their bluenotes renku. The participants were Raffael de Gruttola, and Brett Peruzzi.

The Boston Haiku Society paid a return visit to The Bangor Haiku Poets on June 23 at the Ecotat Gardens. They spent the day writing after a brief ginko. The two groups consisted of Bruce Ross, Astrid Andreescu, Ginger Graham, Christina Diebold, and Bob Seretny from Bangor, and Raffael de Gruttola, Karen Klein, Judson Evans, and Ken Carrier from the Boston Haiku Society.

On June 2, the *haiku circle* group met in Northfield, MA. The event was coordinated by vincent tripi and Raffael de Gruttola. Over 35 poets were in attendance to participate in a nature walk led by Sandra Jaquay-Watson, a bee keeping workshop by James Ferris, a haibun workshop by Judson Evans, a full day workshop by Ed Rayher of Swamp Press, a meditation workshop by John Martone, and readings by Tom Clausen and Larry Kimmel. Larry's reading was preceded by an historical talk of Larry's new book, *Johnstown Flood*, with a talk by Wanda Cook. Larry also read the haiku and tanka of Carol Purington. Food and music included a jazz accompaniment of Larry's reading. Because of the success of this first haiku circle event, another will be planned for next year.

Raffael de Gruttola

Western Massachusetts

Happy Summer to all! Our group has been busy building our lending library. Each of us has been working at integrating haiku with other talents and interests in our everyday lives.

Barbara Farrington arrived at the June meeting with her new broadside, "Warming Sun." She had a copy for each of us. It was such a delight to have a collection of her haiku to enjoy at leisure. She is an avid bird watcher and this love is shown in many of her haiku about birds in the Western Massachusetts area:

heading toward water that wood duck what a swagger!

Gloria Ayvazian volunteers in the Jackson Street School in Northampton. The third and fifth grades have been working on haiku, and Gloria brought some of their haiku to share with us. It is incredible to see the wide range of topics they had chosen and the level of sophistication of these young poets!

Our June meeting was a real treat. Marilyn Gabel held a one person artist's exhibition of some of her latest work. This was a multi-media retrospective she has been working on. She combines photographs she has taken all over the world, acrylic paint and natural materials in a collage to create the most extraordinary works of art. One of her latest contains a composite of photos of a Thai temple with gorgeous tones of ochre, gold and sunshine yellows, lush greens, and shades of blue acrylic and flower and plant petals. This is the haiku inspired by what was my favorite work in the exhibition:

among the palm leaves just a shadow sitting buddha

k reynolds

Patricia Harvey arrived at the June meeting with handmade haiku inspired bookmarks for each of us. This month she brought a new journal with one of her haiku as part of the cover art. She is our newest member with multiple artistic talents!

September 2007 marks our 15th anniversary for The Haiku Poets' Society of Western Massachusetts! Wanda Cook suggested we get started on planning our 15th anniversary celebration.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Reynolds

Rochester, New York

The Rochester Area Haiku Group (RAHG) visited a bonsai show in May. After appreciating the exhibits and arrangements and watching a demonstration of turning a small pine tree into a work of art, members wrote a few haiku poems about the experience. These we shared aloud to an appreciative audience towards the end of the show. A few examples:

a gnarled, old branch more beautiful than its blossoms -- catherine nowaski

its soul
in the mountains
-- jerome cushman

dawn redwood only 15 inches tall but still I look up -- catherine nowaski

Wisteria
limb extends outward
suspended violet garden
-- dm giangreco

beneath a moss mosaic

entangled roots anchoring the bonsai pine

-- deanna tiefenthal

Save the weekend of September 14-16, 2007, and plan on attending the HSA quarterly meeting in Rochester NY.

Deanna Tiefenthal, RAHG Coordinator

Northeast Metro New York City, New York

It was a lovely summer day, as we of Northeast Metro gathered at Tenri Cultural Institute to celebrate Cor van den Heuvel's *Baseball Haiku*. It was just the sort of perfect day for a baseball game. Our theme was "Play Ball!" And we did. First Cor not only read from his wonderful new book, he also graced us with an historical tour of this genre. For example:

spirng breeze this grassy field makes me want to play catch

Shiki

And later a modern blues haiku feel in this one:

Empty baseball field --A robin, Hops along the bench

Jack Kerouac

Cor van den Heuvel then shared some of the evolution of his haiku

writing. In 1958, he first began writing his evocative haiku. Those of us who know him have compared his work to what Edward Hopper reveals in paint. Nature, small town America, and lighted buildings at the end of lonely roads are often the subject of his haiku. So it seems destined that Cor would write about the all-American game of baseball, played out of doors, and frequently under the lights at night. His first baseball haiku written in the early 90s:

lingering snow the game of catch continues into evening

Cor has also written from memory of childhood experiences such as the haiku about him and his friends having to play with a ball held together by electricians' tape:

> through the blue sky the tape-wrapped baseball trails a black streamer

He concluded with baseball senryu, a separate genre:

conference on the mound the pitcher looks down at the ball in his hand

He was followed in this reading from *Baseball Haiku* by his able "Designated Hitters."

Brenda Gannam began by leading us in a group singing of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." One of her crowd pleasing baseball haiku:

fastball! the pitcher slyly adjusts his equipment

Batting clean-up, Alan Pizzarelli gave us a good history of the game of baseball. For example, we learned the earliest games were decided by whichever team scored 21 runs first. We also learned that baseball in Japan began in 1872. This baseball haiku from 1889:

beyond the hedge they are playing ball in a withered field

Shiki

Alan kept a baseball journal in his youth. One of his senryu:

back in the dugout

he kicks the water cooler

Another element of baseball haiku mentioned by both Cor van den Heuvel and Alan Pizzarelli is the role of memory. It was somehow fitting that the exhibit on display at Tenri Cultural Institute (June 18 to July 18, 2007) was "Three Japanese Masters." One of these masters is the artist and long time Haiku Society of America member Tadao Okazaki, whose lyrical abstract paintings were created from memories he had of Central Park, NY thirty years later. The fruits

of his use of memory to create beautiful images were vividly around us. The gallery opening of the "Three Japanese Masters" exhibit was only two days earlier, on June 21. Several members of NE Metro attended. Tadao Okazaki and his wife, Atsuko, had to return to Japan the next day, but Tadao contributed a baseball haiku to our meeting:

day moon
is the ball my uncle played
on Iwo Jima

After the June 21st gallery opening, several of us took the Okazakis to dinner, where he wrote (after being introduced to American whiskey by Cor):

breaking bread sipping Tennessee whiskey summer evening

After a leisurely intermission, during which Cor sold out all the copies of Baseball Haiku he had with him, we all enjoyed goodies, including some wine and small chocolate baseballs. Then John Stevenson playfully led us in a "Play Ball!" Workshop. He was assisted by his able teammates, Arlene and Jackson Teck, who had brought in a huge assortment of balls, including basketballs, golf balls and even a play eyeball. The balls were distributed by one of our newer members, Jorma Loci, assisted by her small daughter. We felt each ball and passed it on. Later we lined up according to how important we believed baseball to be

in our lives. After a bit of sharing, John rearranged our lines and we found ourselves in pairs sharing a memory of a baseball (or sports) experience and wrote our own haiku. Our winners included:

> from the top of the hill evening sulight leans down past the solitary skier

1st prize, Cor van den Heuvel

high ball the fielder's eye catches the sun

2nd prize, Pud Houstoun

squishy blue balls maybe I'll stuff a couple in my bra

3rd prize, Rita Gray

We also had two honorable mentions: Jorma Loci and Toyoshigi Mizuno. It should be noted that Mr. Toyoshigi Mizuno is one of the three masters exhibited in the "Three Japanese Masters" show. He is a master potter and a National Living Treasure. Even though his English is limited, he decided to join us, having met some NE Metro members at the June 21 opening.

Afterward, many of us went on to Café Loup, and had a wonderful French dinner. In attendance: Harterjy Anderson, Marsha Bikales, Larry Bole, Miriam Borne, Bill Cullen, Roberta Curley, L.A. Davidson, Rita Gray, Brenda Gannam, Barry Goodman, Doris Heitmeyer, Pud Houstoun, Jorma Loci, Pamela Machoda, Dorothy McLaughlin, Toyoshigi Mizuno, Al Pizzarelli, Arlene Teck, Jaxon Teck, John Stevenson, Cor van den Heuvel, and Pauline Rooney Yeargans.

Miriam Borne, NE Metro

Additions to NE Metro Report:

This report closes with some unexpected news. As you may already know, our beloved and founding member, L.A. Davidson died on July 18, 2007.

She will be much missed by all members of the Haiku Society of America. Since we of Northeast Metro knew her so well, we intend to honor her at our September 15th meeting, when Penny Harter and Bill Higginson will present their program "Reach for the Stars." In lieu of our regular group introductions, we will each bring and share a few of our favorite "Agnes Haiku".

Later, at our December 1st National Meeting, we will honor Agnes in other ways. Our December 1 premeeting activities include a tour of a NY Museum and lunch in a local restaurant. [For those in need of lodging, please see 4th Quarterly Meeting in National News.-*Ed.*]

In December, Brenda Gannam and Bill Cullen will lead our program. It is with pleasure that we of Northeast Metro welcome Brenda and Bill as our newest haiku couple. They were married in a very beautiful ceremony on July 7, 2007.

Doris Heitmeyer, a long time friend of Agnes, kindly researched and shares some well loved haiku by Agnes, including these:

> winter morning without leaf or flower the shape of the tree

(from her book, *The Shape of the Tree*)

And one about Elizabeth Lamb, when she moved to New Mexico (They were best friends and lived in the same building.):

furniture gone, sharing a last cup in the empty room

From our record of haiku regularly offered during Northeast Metro group introductions, these last two of Agnes's:

in the food display of fancy vegetables one Irish potato L. A. Davidson March 24, 2007

in hospital
my blind roommate
watching baseball

I. A. Day

L .A. Davidson June 23, 2007 Agnes was a good friend, too, of the poet and painter Tadao Okazaki. It was she who introduced him to Professor Vrachopoulos of CUNY and the Tenri Cultural Center, and helped launch the first US exhibit of Tadao's watercolors in the "Three Japanese Masters" exhibit at Tenri.

We of Northeast Metro Haiku Society wish to express our gratitude to Tadao Okazaki and his wife, Atsuko. We have just been informed that Tadao Okazaki is kindly donating \$1000 to our Northeast Metro group from the sales of his recent Tenri Cultural Institute show: sumi-watercolor and calligraphy. We plan to use this gift

to make L.A. Davidson's books available for purchase by Haiku Society members.

In Tadao Okazaki's own words:

"I wish my humble donation in memory of L.A. Davidson to be designated to the Metro New York Chapter of the Haiku Society of America, because Ms. L.A. Davidson was the person who encouraged and helped my first exhibition in New York City; because she was a founding member since the Haiku Society of America started in New York City; and because she lived and died in New York City. It is my wish to remember Ms. L.A. Davidson in this manner."

It should also be noted that Agnes attended the opening of "Three Japanese Masters" on June 21. She worked to bring this exhibit about,

and was delighted to see her haiku, which Tadao Okazaki took as the theme of his work, written large on one canvas:

sitting quietly in a mountain clearing: bird song more and more L.A. Davidson

Respectfully submitted, Miriam P. Borne

Mid Atlantic Region Towpath

April meeting. A threatened storm held off, and Lee Giesecke, Kristen Deming, Laquita Wood, Fonda Bell Miller, and Audrey Olberg gathered at Ellen Compton's for the second Towpath meeting of 2007. We began with a pause to remember Kristen's father-in-law, Olcott Deming, in whose Georgetown home Towpath had sometimes met. Kristen explained that Ambassador Deming had died quietly on March 20 after a long and varied life of service.

It was a good day for haiku. Among the poems in the round robin, we heard Lee's playful

> remote beach on my shell phone the sea's hiss

And the workshops produced an unusual number of haiku in the "good as is" category, so we had time for a hereto unheard of *three* rounds.

After discussion of possible program events for upcoming meetings, Kristen agreed to a June presentation on the Museum of Haiku Literature in Tokyo. She also suggested future presentations on some of the contemporary Japanese poets, including Haiku Master Yatsuka Ishihara. We also plan to expand our knowledge of each other's work, so we will schedule occasional readings by one or more Towpath members.

June meeting. The summer day was sunny and, rare for Washington, neither hot nor humid when Towpath met at Audrey Olberg's condo in Chevy Chase. Present with Audrey were Kristen Deming, Lee Giesecke, Mary Wuest, Fonda Bell Miller, Ellen Compton, Roberta Beary, and guest poet Penny Showell.

We learned that Tei Matsushita Scott is leaving the mid-Atlantic for Long Island. New York poets take note! Tei has been coordinating Towpath's regional season word collection, so Towpath will need a new kigo keeper.

Kristen gave a brief talk on Tokyo's Museum of Haiku Literature, giving us copies of an article she had written for *The Japan Times* during her years in Japan. Kristen explained that the museum maintains a comprehensive and constantly growing collection of publications relating to haiku, mounts exhibits of haiku-related art and calligraphy, and houses a collection of rare letters, manuscripts, scrolls, and other materials by famous haiku poets, including Basho, Shiki,

and some of the moderns. Tokihiko Kusama, the museum's director at the time of the article, called it a "mecca for haiku poets." The museum's international division promotes cultural exchange between Japan and other countries. It is this division that gives the awards for best works published in *Frogpond*. Kristen pointed out that "Japan may be the only country with a museum dedicated to one kind of poetry." Those of you who are not familiar with the museum might enjoy a visit to the web site: http://www2.famille.ne.jp/~haiku/in

dex-e.html

Kristen also turned out to be a resource on the subject of fireflies. Past discussion of firefly poetry had led some of the poets to wonder which sex flashes and which sex responds. Having researched the topic for two Japan Times articles (copies handed out), Kristen reported that (as you might expect) the males are usually the flashers, and the females respond with a flash. A male will then fly down to meet the female only if she gives the right response. Sometimes a female from a different species will mimic the wanted response in order to consume the male. Don't know what all this means for haiku, but it does liven up a meeting.

Towpath highlights. Roberta Beary, Ellen Compton, Donna Foulke, and Lee Giesecke attended a gathering at Jim Kacian's in Winchester for Richard Gilbert's discussion of his current research. The event was one

of several planned as part of Richard's tour of American universities and haiku groups. Also present were poets Robert Bauer, of the Shiki Kukai team, and Dave Russo, from the North Carolina Haiku Society. Richard has a source of dynamite doughnuts. After a brief update on HNA, Dave read a selection of haiku, including:

autumn afternoon the teacher sits a while by the window

Roberta is this year's winner in the snapshot book publication competition. Her collection, *the unworn* necklace, is expected be out in August.

Ellen and Roberta were guest speakers and workshop leaders at the North Carolina Haiku Society's Haiku Holiday on the last weekend in April. As part of the program, each poet gave a brief reading of her haiku.

Central Maryland

The most recent meeting of the Haiku Poets of Central Maryland was held on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at the home of Elizabeth Fanto, in Timonium, MD. Also in attendance were: Nancy Rouse (Baltimore); Cathy Drinkwater Better (Eldersburg); and recently joined member Marilyn Cramer (Westminster)—this was Marilyn's first time attending in person; she had been participating in meetings via email)—as well as new member Denis Garrison, of Balti-

more. Marilyn and Denis told us a little bit about their backgrounds, both personally and in regard to poetry. We're very happy to have them in our midst!

Members sending notes or poems to share were:

Tim Singleton and daughter Julia (Columbia, MD); Joan Murphy (Fairport, NY); Maria Steyn (Johannesburg, South Africa); Beth Edelstein (Timonium, MD); Edith Bartholomeusz (Phoenix, AZ); Kirsty Karkow (Waldoboro, ME); and Susan Barnett (Glen Burnie, MD).

Some of the poems read aloud (an * denotes poems sent by mail/email):

Mother's Day—
the grandson
listens to a third seashell
~Tim*

bounce of the branch catbird song ~Cathy

abandoned house covered with vines old azaleas still bloom ~Nancy

poison ivy that old man never learns! ~Julia*

used bookstore

two rooms of writers gathering dust ~Maria*

gray pussywillows his mother's halo of thinning hair ~Elizabeth

fifth pacemaker my neighbor plants young fruit trees ~Kirsty*

thunderstorm
7th inning stretch
beneath the umbrellas
~Susan*

plowed fields an irrigator sends up drifting rainbows ~Denis

Marks flow on paper
Portfolios call my name
Grades turned in; peace comes.
~Beth*

soft rain
on just begun leaves
and cement
~Marilyn

In Member News: Kirsty's new book, shorelines: haiku, haihun, and tanka, was released in mid-June 2007. It has already garnered praise, including this from poet Hortensia Anderson:

"[shorelines is] a book of wisdom, writ-

ten with compassion and skill by one who has followed her own path, both in life and in poetry. Readers will be delighted to accompany Kirsty on her 'long walk of wet ink.'" For ordering information, contact Kirsty at kirsty@midcoast.com or by mail at 34 Indian Point, Waldoboro, ME 04572 USA.

Marilyn recently experienced winning a haiku contest at a public library in Connecticut while visiting her daughter's family. She noticed the contest poster, within days of the deadline, and with her husband's encouragement, entered the competition. Go, Marilyn!

Cathy brought her latest six children's books, released in May, to pass around; and let it slip that she'd recently received 1st Place, Local Column, Humor/Feature, in the annual Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association Editorial Contest, for her humor column in the *Eldersburg Eagle*.

For information on future HPCM meetings, email efanto@bcpl.net.

South Region Hot Springs, Arkansas

The 11th annual South Region Conference will be held at the Hot Springs airport conference room on November 2-3. There is no Registration fee. HSA members and guests are invited to attend.

If you are interested in making a presentation, please contact our program chair, Celia Stuart-Powles sourdust@earthlink.net

If you plan to attend also send a message to hkilby@hotmail.com so we can have an appropriate welcome for you. Please use "Haiku Conference" in the subject line for both messages.

Also, we have a gift exchange in the form of a White Elephant game that always brings surprises and laughter (usually an item, new or recycled, \$10 or less, related to hai-ku/arts).

Howard Lee Kilby

New Orleans, Louisiana

Yippee! Hurray! The New Orleans Haiku Society is five years old and we are currently planning an Anniversary celebration slated for the fall. The party will include a reading from our *Katrina-ku – storm poems* book, a haiku exhibit and refreshments. Check out our Blog for updated information about the event at: neworleanshaikusociety.blogspot.com. Also, check out a new haiku and music website for children at

www.twodragonflies.com. Poems for and by children can be submitted via the online submission form. If you wish to submit lesson plans or activities for the website, please contact me at johnettemusic@aol.com.

In June, NOHS hosted a haiku information table at Japan Fest at the

New Orleans Museum of Art. This cultural event is a highlight for our group each year. Now that we are settled back into our home meeting location at the Latter Library, we invite you to join us on the third Monday of each month from 6:00-7:45 p.m. *Johnette Downing*Cofounder, New Orleans Haiku Society

Shreveport, Louisiana

Only thing to report is that HSA member Theresa Mormino is the featured reader for The Trapped Truth Society on July 29.

Carlos Colón

Itta Bena, Mississippi

A new "Haiku Page" from Mississippi is being instituted as a publication from Mississippi Valley State University at Itta Bena, Mississippi. It will be edited by Professor Jiaqing Zheng.

[For submission details, please see *Haiku Page* in the New Books and Journals section. -*Ed.*]

Midwest Region Chicago, Illinois

Chi-ku, the Chicago area haiku group, broke all records at its May 6 meeting. Nineteen poets and significant others crowded into the meeting room of the Winnetka Public Library to read and discuss haiku. They were Charlotte Digregorio, Bill Eiden and La-

vonne Mumford, Scott Glander, Bud Goodrich, Cindy Engvold, Heather Jagman, Sung Kyu and Cindy Kim, Eliot Landau, Michael Nickels-Wisdom, John O'Connor, Christopher Patchel, Natalie Rudychev, Dan Schwerin, Catherine Theis, Charles and Margret Trumbull, and Jeff Winke.

Because there were so many new faces in the group, a round of introductions preceded the usual round reading during which each poet got to read three haiku. Charlie Trumbull, chairing the meeting, reported on recent and future haiku activities, including the Robert Frost Poetry Festival that he had attended in Key West, Florida in April, the upcoming HSA Quarterly Meeting in Portland, Oregon in June, and Haiku North America in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in August. Charlotte Digregorio, who had made the excellent arrangements for this meeting, announced a public haiku reading and workshop to be held in the Winnetka Library on September 30 and asked for volunteers to handle various tasks.

Charlie noted the impressive publishing activities of Chi-ku members in recent months. Winnetkan Bud Goodrich was the first poet featured in Cor van den Heuvel's new book, *Baseball Haiku*, and haiku by Lee Gurga and Randy Brooks was included as well. He pointed out that he had noticed haiku by Chi-ku members published in the following journals: *Acorn* (Patchel), *Bottle Rockets* (Rudychev, Digregorio, Kirschner, Brooks,

Trumbull, Winke), Frogpond (Patchel, Rudychev), Haiku Harvest (Rudychev), Heron's Nest (Patchel,

Winke), Modern Haiku (Glander, Goodrich, Gurga, Kirschner, Patchel, Rudychev, Schwerin, Theis, Winke), Paper Wasp (Rudychev), Simply Haiku (Rudychev), Roadrunner (Trumbull, Winke), Tinywords (Trumbull, Winke), Wisteria (Brooks, Trumbull), as well as in the Red Moon Anthology (Gurga, Patchel).

Following a break, the group spent about an hour workshopping haiku offered by the gathered poets. With just about 15 minutes remaining, Sung Kyu Kim skimmed over the high points of his paper titled "The Origin of Haiku: Korean 17 character gag poem was the Origin of Haiku," which asserts that haibun as well as the 17-syllable haiku format were derived from earlier Korean models. Over the past six years Kim has developed a Korean variant of haiku that he calls "zoomsi." They are featured on several Web sites in Korea and celebrated by the Korean Zoomsi Society, of which he is founder and president. From Kim's paper, here are two zoomsi, translated by him from Korean:

friend

around campfire glowing bush like my face

hibernation

winter water slippery dreaming whenever asleep

Cor van den Heuvel was a featured poet at the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Tent at the 23rd Annual Printer's Row Book Fair in Chicago on Saturday, June 9, presenting his book Baseball Haiku. Attending the reading were Scott Glander, Lidia Rozmus, Christopher Patchel, and Charles Trumbull. Michael and Beth Nickels-Wisdom joined the group for lunch and excellent conversation with Cor afterwards. Somehow, a "wordless poem" seems a very good way of sizing up the standings of Chicago's own Cubs and White Sox!

Charles Trumbull

Mississippi Mud Daubers

The Mississippi Mud Daubers Haiku Group met on June 29 at Sacred Grounds Coffee House in Edwardsville, Illinois. Our agenda included selecting a project that will facilitate our bonding as a group while enabling us to introduce area residents to haiku.

We decided that each member will create some haiga for a public exhibit and possible inclusion in a chapbook produced by Second Reading Publications, which is owned by group member John Dunphy. We will share our haiga with each other at the next meeting and take it step-by-step from there.

Submitted by John Dunphy

Southwest Region North Texas (Dallas/Plano)

Haiku Poets of North Texas had 3 meetings this quarter. The May 19 meeting was a presentation by Susan Delphine Delaney MD on renga, using materials developed by Johnye Strickland for the recent quarterly HSA meeting in Shreveport. Susan was a last minute sub for Wynell Hosch who was called out of town.

The June 16 meeting was a workshop at Wynell's on covering books. Jeanne Lowenthal, HSA Roshi award winner, taught the group to cover handmade books. The group plans a passalong art journal project with a haiga emphasis for the fall.

The July 21 meeting was a presentation by Susan on the history of haiga, modern haiga and the use of stamps or seals to 'sign' the haiga.

The August 18 meeting will be a workshop by Jeanne on sumi-e painting to equip the members to begin their passalong haiga journals.

Members continue to take turns creating ikebana for the meetings and bringing novel and delicious treats.

Susan Delphine Delaney MD

Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Worth Haiku Society and Southwest Region members Jim Applegate and Helen Jones attended the National Federation of State Poetry Societies convention in Oklahoma City in June. Helen won 2 first place prizes and several other places as well. Jim has been named a vice president in his New Mexico Poetry Society.

Shirley Crow is the new 2nd Vice President for Fort Worth Haiku Society. Other officers are: Cliff Roberts, President; Helen Jones, 1st VP; Brenda Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer, and member at large Carrie Mabry.

Submitted by Brenda Roberts

Washington State Region

The May Washington monthly meeting was held at the Bellevue regional library. We finalized plans for our local tribute to Francine Porad, *A Thousand Wishes*, which is set for Sunday, September 9th at the Bellevue Botanical Garden from 2-4 pm. Connie Hutchison has put much effort into arranging this and we are very grateful for all her hard work. She is also coordinating the reading of *A Thousand Wishes* at the HSA Meeting in Portland June 29 - July 1.

Those present included Curtis Manley, Ida Freilinger, Anne Machonis, Michael Dylan Welch, Helen Russell, Jay Gelzer, Marilyn Sandall, Connie Hutchison, Mary Fran Meter and Terran Campbell. We shared and gave feedback about our haiku.

Michael Dylan Welch is curarating the Haiku Garden readings at the Washington Park Arboretum this summer. They are the 2nd Monday of the Month--June 11th, July 9th and August 13th. On June 11th Billie Wilson from Alaska will be the guest reader.

Michael will also be offering two haiku workshops at the Cedar River Watershed Institute on June 16th for adults and June 17th for youth.

The June 7th meeting was also at the Bellevue Library. The first part of the meeting was a potlatch/give away of haiku books/periodicals from Francine Porad's collection. It was great fun rummaging through the treasures. Many folks went home with goodies. This was especially fun since we had a number of new folks who were able to access haiku resources immediately. We will be selling some of the books at the upcoming Portland event to benefit our local chapter.

Those who participated included: Dave Baldwin, Joshua Beach, Angela Terry, Marilyn Sandall, Curtis Manley, Helen Russell, Ida Freilinger, Ruth Yarrow, Michael Dylan Welch, Mike Myers, Jeannie Boag, Jay Gelzer, Kitty Jospe, Connie Hutchison and Terran Campbell. We managed to even get a couple of rounds of haiku and feedback done as well.

> Respectfully submitted, Terran Campbell

Oregon State Region

The HSA quarterly meeting in Portland, Oregon began on Friday, June 29 with a reading in the Pearl Gallery at Powell's Books. Amelia Fielden and Pamela Miller Ness were the featured readers and shared selections of their tanka and haiku. An open reading followed and approximately twenty additional poets read their work. The reading was well-attended by poets and members of the Portland community.

On Saturday, the Executive Committee held its meeting at the Marriott Hotel at 8:00 a.m. while everyone else gathered at the Hoyt Arboretum for a round robin haiku reading and introductions, followed by a memorial tribute to Lorraine Ellis Harr and Francine Porad. Oregon and Washinton poets read their favorite poems by Lorraine and Francine followed by a humorous or poignant story. The Executive Committee arrived in time for Patrick Gallagher's workshop, "Inspirational and Enlightening Quotations," in which he presented everyone with a booklet of quotations about haiku and poetry in general. Audience members responded to the quotations and evaluated sample haiku. After a short break and

time to shop at the book tables, the meeting reconvened for the Book Review Panel. Randy Brooks, Ce Rosenow, Johnye Strickland, and Michael Dylan Welch gave short presentations and then engaged in a lively discussion with members of the audience (please see the additional description at the end of this overview).

After lunch, President Pamela Miller Ness gave the Executive Committee's report to the membership which included the previous quarterly meeting's minutes read by Stanford Forrester. Margaret Chula began her haibun workshop, "Scents and Sensations," with an overview of the haibun form and then handed out black film canisters, each containing a different scent. She then led everyone through a series of steps designed to inspire a haibun, prompted by the scent in their container. Her workshop was followed by a ginko along the paths of the beautiful Hoyt Arboretum. The meeting concluded with people sharing their poems from the ginko and from the haibun workshop.

Saturday evening sake and conversation flowed as participants enjoyed a banquet at Bush Garden, a Japanese restaurant in downtown Portland.

Sunday morning, Margaret Chula led a two-hour tour through the Portland Japanese Garden and then brought everyone together for lunch and goodbyes at Pazzo's, an Italian restaurant in Portland. The Book Review Panel produced a number of interesting suggestions and comments about reviews of haiku books, which I've summarized here at the suggestion of newsletter editor, Johnye Strickland:

Randy Brooks emphasized the need for reviewers to consider the aims and intentions of the poet and the book when writing a review. He recommended evaluating a book based on how well it reached the goals it set out to achieve. Using this approach, he argued, allowed a reviewer to objectively approach books even when those books are written in a style or from a perspective that the reviewer doesn't necessarily adhere to in his or her own writing. He also encouraged publishers and poets submitting books for review to include all of the necessary information such as page count, dimensions, price, ordering information, and a description of the book.

Ce Rosenow suggested that editors and reviewers be clearer about the purpose of their reviews. For instance, is the review designed to educate people about the haiku form and the direction of contemporary English-language haiku, is it to simply describe the book, is it to evaluate the book, or is it to recommend a book for purchase? Editors could help reviewers by explaining their decision to have a particular book reviewed and by describing the role of the review

section in their journal. Reviewers could define the parameters of their review and the criteria by which they are evaluating a book.

Johnye Strickland said that since she is fairly new to haiku, she does not feel comfortable making a critical assessment or suggesting the place a book or poet occupies in the development of English language haiku and related genres. These things are important, but should be left to more experienced haiku practitioners, such as the other members of this panel. (Her Managing Editor usually writes these kinds of reviews, and is quite adept at depicting a book's flaws as well as its strengths.) Instead she tries to give an objective view of contents and aesthetic appearance, with a subjective appraisal of its effectiveness, and to select examples which will show a range of the subjects and forms present.

Michael Dylan Welch talked about the need for both thorough critical assessment as well as personal reactions to haiku books, the ethics of book reviewing, and the responsibilities of the book review editor, the reviewer, and the reader. Editors should engage themselves with the fullest range of haiku books to make sure that the most important books are given reviews (and that unimportant books are not), and to actively assign books to appropriate reviewers (and not do too many of them himself or herself). The reviewer should avoid gratuitous negativity, try to be

substantial and nonobvious in his or her comments, and tailor the length of the review to the importance of the book. He noted that reviews serve the purpose of being a record of the book's publication, can support the poets and the small presses that publish the books (often at a financial loss), and contribute to the conversation that the book itself begins. He also cautioned against book reviewers and book review editors who have conflicts of interest or favor their friends, something that happens all too often in the small pond of haiku.

Many audience members expressed their concerns about reviewers not being critical enough in their evaluations and about the number of reviews written by friends of a book's author. They also noted that editors often seem to select their friends' books for review as well as relying primarily on their friends as reviewers. A number of people argued for more objectivity in book reviewing and for making journals' review processes more transparent.

The Portland Japanese Garden has created a Japanese garden exhibition at the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington D.C. Four of Margaret Chula's haiku will appear on a publicity poster announcing a national haiku contest.

Anyone wishing to enter the contest is welcome to submit their haiku to the Portland Japanese Garden by completing the online haiku entry form at: www.japanesegarden.com/culture/haiku

Or entries may be sent by mail to Portland Japanese Garden, PO Box 3847, Portland, Oregon 97208. The 1st Prize winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate to the online Garden Gift Store and two runners-up winners will receive \$50 gift certificates. Samples of haiku and full instructions can be found at www.japanesegarden.com/culture/haiku. The contest runs from July 21 through October 8. [Additional information may be found under Contests in this Newsletter. *Ed.*]

Oregon haiku and tanka Society

An Oregon based publication edited by an'ya called *moonset* (which was originally a journal) has now become /moonset/, THE NEWSPAPER. It has been met with fantastic enthusiasm and everyone seems to be enjoying the user-friendly format. For subscription and subscriber information, please visit

http://moonsetnewspaper.blog-spot.com and for mini reviews, see http://b-oki.livejournal.com/and http://origa.livejournal.com/.

In the current issue, the featured haijin is Harriot West from Eugene, Oregon. There is also an article on FAN, Oregon's non-profit Feline Assistance Network, run by Larisa Worthington from Westfir, Oregon. The November issue will include an article on the OhtS.

an'ya

California State Region Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

To celebrate Valentine's Day we took turns reading haiku from Love Haiku, Masajo Suzuki's Lifetime of Love. Lee Gurga and Emiko Miyashita translated the book. We shared the sad news about Kay Anderson, our beloved friend, who died recently.

In March we met at Chase Studio, donnalynn chase's new backyard studio in San Jose, for a haiku and art workshop, where we took the time to reflect and engage in the process of creating haiga.

When we met in April, some of us had just returned from the Haiku Pacific Rim Conference in Matsuyama, Japan. It was the 140th anniversary of Masaoka Shiki's birth in Matsuyama, and the meeting was held at his beautiful museum at the peak cherry blossom time. Spectacular! Linda Galloway, Jim and Betty Arnold, June Hymas and Ann Bendixen shared haiku, tanka, photographs and mementoes from the trip to Tokyo and Kyoto. At the end of our meeting, Sakuhachi player Emily Boarding improvised beautifully on her flute while we took turns reading some of our favorite haiku.

In Japan, Jerry Ball and Sosuke Kanda, Saituma-city, Japan organized this conference to gather haiku writers from around the world. Two of the presenters at the conference were Patricia Machmiller, "Narrow Road to the Redwood Mountains" (a haibun about the Tokutomis) and Tei Matsushita Scott, "Fusion of Poetry, Painting and Music". One of the highlights was a program by Professor Jerome Cushman with haiku signed in American Sign Language by his graduate students Jack Williams and Stephen McDonald.

Patricia Machmiller's haiku shared first place at the Matsuyama Castle kukai.

here they come again the cherry blossoms ripping your heart out!

Our dear friend, Emiko Miyashita, arranged an English language renku at Masajo Suzuki's Pub while we were in Tokyo. That was great fun!
On May 19, 2007 we had our annual Japanese teahouse reading which was organized by Roger Abe, and Carol Steele created a stunning ikebana arrangement. Featured poets for this year's reading were Betty Arnold, Jim Arnold and Jerry Ball.

beneath the trellis old women sit waiting for wisteria to bloom Betty Arnold

gardener shears snip

and even the plum treeweeps Jim Arnold

I've named him Issa, the fly who sits on my hand and says "Just resting." Jerry Ball

Respectfully Submitted, Ann Bendixen, Secretary

Northern California

The spring meeting of Haiku Poets of Northern California was held on April 22 in San Francisco. Those present were: Fay Aoyagi, Barbara Campitelli, Cherie Hunter Day, Alan Dow, Claire Gallagher, Patrick Gallagher, Garry Gay, Carolyn Hall, Bernice Hunold, Chiyo Miyashita, Marianna Monaco, Linda Papanicolaou, Bridget Parks, Zane Parks, Ebba Story, Carolyn Talmadge, Paul Watsky, Paul O. Williams and Susan Antolin. After a round of introductions and haiku reading, Ebba Story introduced our featured reader, Cherie Hunter Day. Cherie and her husband Alan made the trip from their home in San Diego to be with us for the meeting. Many HPNC members had not seen Cherie in nearly a decade and so enjoyed the chance to reconnect with her. Cherie read haiku, most of which were from her new book, The Horse with One Blue Eye (Snapshot Press, 2006) as well as a selection of tanka. From her reading:

palominos curve of the winter hills in moonlight

warm rain a dragonfly shedding its wingless skin

a swirl of ink in the brush water early dusk

Later in the meeting Paul Watsky gave a presentation on his translation project for the newly published book Santoka: A translation with photographic images (Pie Books, 2006). Paul worked together with Emiko Miyashita, a well-known haiku poet and experienced translator who lives in Japan. As Emiko could not be there for the presentation, Fay Aoyagi assisted in reading the Japanese original poems and in answering questions regarding Japanese culture and the meaning of particular words. Paul passed around a copy of the book and explained that the project originated with the photographer, Hakudo Inoue, who had a deep appreciation for Santoka's poetry and so set out to capture images that would complement his favorite poems. The poems included in the book were all selected by Inoue.

Paul gave an overview of the important events of Santoka's life (1882-1940) beginning with the traumatic experience of seeing his mother's body pulled from the family well after she drowned herself when Santoka was just eleven years old. Santo-

ka spent most of his life struggling with alcoholism. After dropping out of Waseda University he assisted his father in running a sake business and got married at age 27; both the business and the marriage were unsuccessful. In 1924 Santoka attempted suicide by stepping in front of a street car and was later taken to a zen monastery, where he became an ordained Buddhist priest. In 1926 he set off on a walking pilgrimage and wrote haiku while supporting himself by begging. Paul noted that Santoka was a con artist in that he wore the clothing of a priest but kept the money he got from begging to support his drinking. The bowl pictured on the cover of the book is an iron begging bowl similar to one Santoka would have used. At the age of 58 Santoka was found dead after a night of heavy drinking. To further illuminate Santoka's daily life, Paul read excerpts from Santoka's diaries, published in translation in For All My Walking by Burton Watson (Columbia University Press, New York, 2003).

Paul went on to describe the translation process and the various challenges he and Emiko faced in rendering the poems in the most accurate and poetic form they could achieve. Paul and Fay read aloud from a list of poems that exemplified the various translation difficulties and answered questions from the group about word choices and cultural differences. Paul provided a hand out with selected poems from the book along with alternate translations done

by prior translators of the same work. This illustrated the wide range of interpretations that are possible with each poem. The hand out also provided the Japanese original of each poem (printed in roman letters for us to read) as well as a literal translation of each word. Paul also noted that Santoka did not adhere to a strict 5-7-5 format, and so many of the poems, when translated, did not fit the traditional three-line format of English language haiku. Many of the poems in the book are in one or two lines in the English version. Overall the presentation gave us some detailed insight into the translation process and into the life and work of Santoka.

Our summer meeting will be held on July 22 and this year's "Two Autumns Reading" will take place on September 30 in San Francisco. For more information on HPNC and upcoming events, please visit our web site: http://www.haiku-poets-northern-california.com/.

Susan Antolin HPNC Newsletter Editor

Central Valley Haiku Club

On Sunday, April 21st, the CVHC gathered at the library in Antelope, California. Members in attendance were Yvonne Cabalona, w.f. owen, Mark Hollingsworth, Amy Whitcomb, and Leslie Rose.

We had a number of celebrations:
--the recently completed printing of
w.f. owen's latest haibun collection,
Small Events by Red Moon Press
--the upcoming publication of one of
Yvonne's haibun in Bottle Rockets #16
--the acceptance of one of Leslie
Rose's haibun by cho.

Under Old Business, we worked on our next haiku project, a chapbook of "extraordinary" haiku to be written by members. This was a task the Club decided to attempt after reading Tom Tico's article in *Frogpond* XXX.1, p.62. Mark, who is editor for the undertaking, helped us decipher Tom's meaning, and examine possible form variations. He gave examples of poetry that would fit the desired format and it was decided that we wanted poems for the collection that can be read in two different ways, what Mark referred to as "poems in flux." We are all excited by the challenge and will be sending haiku that fit the criteria to Mark over the next months.

Amy brought to our attention a Yolo County publication, *The Yolo Crow*, which has put out a call for haiku for their magazine. She is sending a "Letter to the Editor" that will offer refinements of their definition of haiku, as well as some examples of haiku published by our members.

Mark recently attended a poetry reading at the Mistlin Fine Gallery in Modesto. He suggested that our group might do a reading at one of their monthly functions as well. Yvonne will be investigating that possibility.

Business out of the way, Leslie Rose took the group through a set of exercises for constructing tanka, a form that only a few of the members have toyed with. Our experimentation resulted in much light-hearted laughter and some fair attempts at the form. Leslie will be e-mailing members websites/publications that accept tanka in the hopes that some of these poems will find their way into print.

We finished our meeting by sharing and critiquing works-in-progress.

Prior to adjournment, Bill was able to confirm dates for our next two meetings. We will again be at the library in Antelope. The dates are June 9th (1:00-5:00 p.m.) and August 11th (1:00-5:00 p.m.). At the June meeting Yvonne will lead us in a Tan Renga workshop. Prior to that meeting she asked that members email her some 3 line possibilities to begin the poem.

Sunday, June 9th, the CVHC again gathered at the library in Antelope, California. Members in attendance were Yvonne Cabalona, w.f. owen, Mark Hollingsworth, Claris Moore, and Leslie Rose.

We had cause to celebrate, as Claris Moore is having one of her haibun published in an upcoming edition of *Mariposa* and Yvonne Cabalona will

be having one of her haiku appear in an upcoming *Bottle Rockets*. Also noteworthy is the upcoming reading by one of our own, Mark Hollingsworth, at the HPNC "Two Autumns" event on September 30th in San Francisco. Mark will be joining Jerry Ball, Laura Bell and Allison Woolpert in that reading.

Under Old Business, Mark reported that he now has contributions from all members for our "extraordinary haiku" project, but needs more.

Yvonne reported the receipt of only one haibun to date for our yearly Jerry Kilbride Memorial Haibun Contest. We are hoping that those who have been postponing, polishing, or distracted by other obligations, will realize that time grows short, and there will be an amazing influx of submissions prior to the **September 1st deadline.** [Details available under Contests. –*Ed.*]

It still being a bit early, there was nothing new to report on the October Fall Reading at the Sake Factory in Folsom. We are still in search of a date for a Reading at the Mistlin Gallery in Modesto.

With business out of the way, Yvonne led us in a Tan Renga workshop, which involved much spontaneous laughter and delight as we all played at answering other members' haikus. The following are three of the twenty-five Tan Renga that were produced:

conjunction the new moon and Venus lie down for the night Mark Hollingsworth

back to back the lovers sleep it off w. f. owen

* * * * * *

all these scents in full romp spring dusk Mark Hollingsworth

after seven sneezes the perfume's aroma is gone Claris Moore * * * * * *

the lightness of a butterfly last day of school Yvonne Cabalona

the arc of the trout shaking loose my hook Leslie Rose

Prior to adjourning, our president reminded us that we are completing the CVHC's eighth year of existence and that our next meeting will be on Saturday, August 11th, at the Antelope, CA, library, from 1:00-5:00. At that meeting our president, w.f. owen, will lead us in a Rengay workshop.

Leslie Rose, CVHC Secretary larosecat@aol.com

Southern California

The Southern California Haiku Study Group continued with their monthly meetings during the early summer months. The attendance was hit and miss because some people were away on trips, or some members had visitors from other parts of the country.

One significant happening in July was the birth of our first anthology since Jerry Ball moved to Northern California. Linda Galloway, as acting editor, had the most difficult job collecting the ingredients for the recipe. The result is a well-done book entitled Rattle of Bamboo, with comments by Patricia Machmiller and Stanford Forrester. Also included is an article by Jerry Ball entitled "Reflections of a Dojin Emeritus." On Sunday, July 29, the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, where our meetings are held, has set aside this special day for the presentation of the anthology.

On the 7th and 8th of this month, four of us attended Tanabata (Star Festival) at Cal State Long Beach. The four (Debbie, Wendy, Naia and Peggy) enjoyed the evening so much, we will make this an annual event with more members. We were taught how to make origami birds, calligraphy, paper lanterns, and stars to decorate a bamboo frond. We had delicious bento box dinners. After dinner we were entertained beautifully with music and Japanese dancing.

Next day at the Earl Burns Japanese Gardens, Debbie set up two tables. One table was for writing haiku for beginners. (Naia did a magnificent job of showing them how.) And Wendy had created drawings with haiku for children to color. I could go on and on about this delightful weekend. Come join us next year.

I'm running out of space, so I will include haiku from our 2007 anthology. The following poems are all from new members to the SCHSG:

hawk shadow over the field stillness

Thomas Conroy

night game the Goodyear blimp swallows the moon Billie Dee

gingko leaves fall like yellow fans she dances with them D'Ellen

> quilted sky seagulls cutting shapes Anne Jones

a pigeon pecks
a dancing cracker
to the death
Janis Lukstein

a small child--

dandelion "fairies"
scatter in the wind
Terry Johnson
museum exhibit
display case-she checks her lipstick
Kathy Wilson

Hollywood celebrity names and careers underfoot John Wong

Margaret Hehman-Smith

Contest Results

The miniWORDS Competition

Sponsored by Charnwood Arts Loughborough, Leicestershire UK First Prize: £250 (US \$500) Winner: Allen McGill The winning poem:

> fallen leaves a black ribbon binds the wind chimes

Congratulations, Allen!

Mildred Kanterman Memorial Merit Book Awards

The winners of these Awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting in Rochester September 15, and in the Winter 2008 issue of *Frogpond*. In the meantime, members can find infor-

mation about these Awards on the HSA Website:

http://www.hsa-haiku.org

Contests HSA Contests

Listed in order of Deadlines.

Bernard Lionel Einbond Renku Contest

The Haiku Society of America sponsors this annual award for renku of 36, 20, or 12 stanzas.

Deadline: In hand by September 15, 2007. Entries received after that date will not be accepted.

Eligibility: The contest is open to the public. HSA officers who are members of the executive committee are **not** eligible, but regional coordinators may enter. No entries will be accepted that include work by any of the judges.

Regulations: For the purpose of this contest, a renku may consist of 36, 20, or 12 stanzas (kasen, nijûin, shisan, 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. Entries must be in English. Entries must not have been previously published, nor contain any stanzas previously published, submitted for publication, nor entered in any other contest. Publication is defined as an appearance in a printed book, magazine, or journal (sold or given away), or in any online

journal that presents edited periodic content. The appearance of poems in online discussion lists or personal Web sites is not considered publication. Judges will be asked to disqualify any link that they have seen before.

Submissions: One copy, with full authorship information, stanza by stanza, must give the full name and address of all authors, and indicate the coordinator (to whom any correspondence will be addressed). This 'identified' manuscript must be signed by all authors or other definite confirmations such as hard copies of e-mail confirmations of permission from each author should be included with the entry. 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 makes it impossible to judge an entry and could result in disqualification without notification.

Entry fee: \$10 must accompany manuscript. Please make checks/money orders payable in U.S. funds to "Haiku Society of America."

Submit entries and fees to: Einbond Renku Contest, c/o Marlene Egger, 7527 Brighton Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-5316.

Adjudication: The names of the judge(s) will be announced with the winners.

Awards: Grand Prize: Up to \$150 and publication in *Frogpond* and on

the HSA Web site. 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 be worthy of the Grand Prize, renku awarded lesser prizes may or may not be published in *Frogpond* and on the HSA Web site.

Correspondence: Sorry, entries cannot be returned. Please send an SASE (#10 envelope only) for a list of winning entries. Please note the need for sufficient postage. One envelope per contest.

Note: 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:4 (winter 1994), or the updated version of it at http://renku.home.att.net/shorter_renku.html.

Additional Contests

The Jerry Kilbride Memorial 2007 English-Language Haibun Contest

Sponsor: Central Valley Haiku Club **Deadline:** In hand by September 1, 2007

<u>Submissions:</u> All entries must be unpublished, not under consideration

elsewhere, and in English. No limit to the number or length of any submissions. Submit three copies of each haibun, two (2) copies without author information attached for anonymous judging, one (1) copy with author's name, address, phone number and e-mail address for notification purposes. A first prize of \$50 will be awarded. First and second honorable mention certificates also will be given. The entry fee (\$5 US per haibun) should be made out to: Mark Hollingsworth (CVHC Treasurer).

Eligibility: Open to the public; CVHC officers are ineligible.

Correspondence: No entries will be returned. Send businesss-sized SASE for a list of the winning entries. Please note that entries without SASE, insufficient postage, or that fail to adhere to contest rules will be disqualified.

<u>Judges:</u> Will not be disclosed until the contest winner has been decided.

<u>Send entries to:</u> Yvonne Cabalona, 709 Auburn Street, Modesto, CA 95350-6079.

R. H. Blyth Award: Haiku in English or English Translation Competition
Sponsor: World Haiku Club
GUIDELINES: Cat-

egory: Haiku poems in any form, style, subject or convention but rooted in tradition. Each poem will be judged on its own merit. Works showing originality, newness or something different will be preferred. You are free to add any explanation to each of

your haiku, if you so wish. Language: English (Haiku written in any other languages must be translated into English. Please aim at top-quality translation. Other languages are not eligible.)

Deadline: Sunday 30 September 2007 (Midnight your local time, or postmark). Standards: Highest standards and quality will be sought in this competition.

Eligibility & Copyright: Open to everybody in the world. Your works must be new, original, unpublished and not being considered elsewhere. By submitting your works, you shall be deemed to have agreed to give permission that the works may be published in WHC's announcement, publication or any other use which WHC deems fit. The copyrights shall revert to the authors once their works are published. Any work in breach of these requirements, or any other normal practice of international haiku contests, including those under WHC, which WHC deems reasonable, will be rejected and prizes awarded will be rescinded. Submission and Fees: You can submit up to 10 haiku poems, written in, or translated into, English. Type your works, your first names followed by your surname (with title, i.e. Mr., Mrs., Ms, Dr. etc), address, tel/fax, e-mail address, haiku pen name, if any, with a brief bio. How you lay your poems on paper may not necessarily be observed in the event of publication.

Fees: £ 5, or US\$ 10, or Euro 8 or Yen 1,000 for 1-3 haiku and £ 1, US\$ 2, Euro 2 or Yen 500 for each subsequent haiku. No other currencies will be accepted.

Payment in cash (sending banknotes by normal letter post) is the preferred method to avoid high bank commission costs (no problems have been experienced so far, but make sure to put the banknotes within at least two sheets of your folded letter paper), but this will be at the sender's risk. Otherwise, obtain International Money Order in British pounds, or sterling cheque drawn at

UK banks, payable to "World Haiku Club." (Please make the denomination in British pound sterling.) **Send work with payment** by snail mail to:

World Haiku Club HQ, Leys Farm, Rousham, Bicester, England OX25 4RA.

In addition, send the same works also by e-mail to: su-

sumu.takiguchi@btinternet.com Results: The results will be announced on 28 October, the day of Blyth's death, or on 3 December, Blyth's birthday, or on another appropriate occasion. There will be the Award winner, two runners-up, and seven honourable mentions. The R. H. Blyth Award will be conferred to the Award winner only. No prize is considered for the rest of the best ten, except for the honour of it. The rest of the short-listed works will also be announced as Zatsuei (works of merit). No individual enquiries regarding works submitted will be answered. Publication: The best ten and other short-listed works of merit will be published in World Haiku Review, the WHC's world-wide comprehensive haiku magazine, and will also be widely shown via WHC's lists and other world-wide communication network. [More details available at http://athenaeumblyth.blogspot.com/]

2007 San Francisco International Competition: Haiku, Senryu, Tanka and Rengay

Sponsors: Haiku Poets of No. California Deadlines for Haiku, Senryu, and Tanka: In hand, October 31, 2007

Deadlines for Rengay: In hand, November 30, 2007

All entries must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere.

There is no limit to the number of submis-

sions. A first prize of \$100 will be awarded in each of the four categories. For the Haiku contest only, second and third prizes of \$50 and \$25 will be awarded. Contest results will be announced at the first HPNC meeting in January and in the HPNC Newsletter. Winning poems will be published in the Spring /Summer issue of *Mariposa*, the membership journal of the HPNC. All rights revert to authors after the contest results are announced. This contest is open to all except the HPNC president and, for their respective categories, contest coordinators and judges (anonymous until after the competition, except the rengay contest).

Haiku, Senryu, and Tanka Submission Guidelines

Type or print each entry on two 3 x 5 cards. In the upper left corner of each card identify its category as Haiku, Senryu, or Tanka. On the back of <u>one card only</u>, print your name, address, telephone number and email address (optional). The entry fee is \$1.00 per poem. Send haiku, senryu and tanka submissions, along with entry fee, to HPNC, c/o Paul Miller, 31 Seal Island Road, Bristol, RI 02809

Rengay Submission Guidelines

All rengay must be titled. For two people (Poet A and Poet B) follow this linked format: 3 lines/Poet A, 2 lines/Poet B, 3/A, 3/B, 2/A, 3/B. For three poets (A, B, and C) the format is: 3 lines/A, 2 lines/B, 3 lines/C, 2/A, 3/B, 2/C. Type or print each rengay on three letter-size sheets. Include full authorship information, stanza by stanza, as well as all poets' names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses (optional) on one copy only. On the other two copies, mark stanzas with letters only (poet A, poet B, poet C) to indicate the sequence of authorship. The entry fee is \$5.00 per rengay. 2007 rengay judge is Cherrie Hunter Day. Send rengay submissions to HPNC, c/o Fay Aoyagi, 930 Pine St. #105, San Francisco CA 94108

Entry Fees

Make checks or money orders payable in U.S. dollars to "Haiku Poets of Northern California (HPNC)." Cash (in U.S. currency) is OK. Enclose a business-size SASE (U.S. first class postage or an IRC) for notification of contest winners. No entries will be returned, with the exception of late submissions, or those received without payment. These will be returned using your SASE; without an SASE these entries will be discarded. www.haiku-poets-northern-california.com

moonset, the newspaper Competition I.

Sponsor: the natal * light press. **Deadline**: **In-hand by 9/1/2007**.

Fees: \$1 per a single entry/poem, but no limit on number of submissions.

Categories:

A=Haiku

B=Senryu

C=Tanka

D=Renku

E=Haibun

F=Haiga.

Format: Duplicate copies on 3 x 5 cards with name of category on the back. On one card only, name, email and postal address. Send all submissions for all categories to the natal * light press, P.O. Box 3627, La Pine, Oregon, 97739-0088. Or, (preferably) email any submissions to peterb@bendnet.com. Please use the proper subject heading, for instance: moonset I/plus category.) See specs and details for haiga submissions at the website.

Adjudication: Blind

Prizes: First Place - a free subscription to *moonset, THE NEWSPAPER* for the winner, plus 3 gift subscriptions to any persons of their choice, postpaid, and an Award Certificate.

Second Place - a free subscription to *moonset*, *THE NEWSPAPER* for the winner, plus 2 gift subscription to any person of their choice, post paid, and an Award Certificate.

Third Place - a free subscription to *moonset* plus 1 gift subscription to any person of the winner's choice, postpaid, and an Award Certificate.

Three Honorable Mentions will receive an Award Certificate.

Rules: Open, no theme; but must be unpublished, original works.

Notification: Winners will be notified after September 1, and published in the Autumn/Winter issue of *moonset 2007*Submissions: By post - send all submissions for all categories to the natal * light press, P.O. Box 3627, La Pine, Oregon, 97739-0088, on 3 x 5 cards; duplicate copies (only one with name, addresses.) Or (preferably) email any submissions to peterb@bendnet.com. Please use the proper subject heading, for instance: moonset I/plus category. See specs and details for haiga submissions at the website: http://moonsetnewspaper.blogspot.com

Japanese Garden Haiku Contest

Sponsor: Portland, OR Japanese Garden **Eligibility**: Open to anyone.

Purpose: to spark creativity and bring awareness to this 300-hundred-year-old art form. "As a literary form, haiku is the essence of simplicity—written in three lines with a total of 17 syllables or less—brief enough to be read in one breath," explains haiku poet Margaret Chula, contest judge and author of *Grinding my ink*, Winner of the Haiku Society of America's 1994 National Merit Book Award. "You need to make every word count. Haiku are written in the present tense as though the action is taking place now."

"Haiku are about nature and experiences in our everyday lives. They contain a <u>seasonal</u> word (or phrase), such as 'snow,' 'summer breeze', etc... A haiku shows but does not tell. Describe your experience by using images from nature. Every haiku has an "aha!" moment. Often the first two lines set the scene. Then there's a leap to something unexpected in the final line."

Anyone wishing to enter the contest is welcome to submit their haiku to the Portland Japanese Garden by completing the online haiku entry form at www.japanesegarden.com/culture/haiku or mailing their haiku to Portland Japanese Garden, PO Box 3847, Portland, Oregon 97208. The first-prize winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate to the online Garden Gift Store and two runners-up winners will receive \$50 gift certificates. Samples of haiku and full instructions can be found at www.japanesegarden.com/culture/haiku.

The contest runs from July 21 through October 8.

Haiku Presence Award 2007

1st **prize**: £100

2nd prizes: £25 each (up to 4)

Entry Fee: £5 or \$10 or 10 Euros for up to 5 haiku. Additional haiku at £1 / \$2 / 2 Euros per haiku.

Paid by: £ cheque to Haiku Presence. \$ or

Euro fees in cash only.

Format: 2 copies of each haiku, with author's name and address on one copy.

Deadline (in hand): 31 October 2007.

Send to: Martin Lucas, 90 D Fishergate
Hill, Preston PR1 8JD, England, UK

Details of the 2006 Award results can be found on our web site at http://freespace.virgin.net/haiku.presence

White Lotus Haiku Competition (Former Zen Garden Haiku Contest)

An annual haiku contest held and conduct-

ed by Shadow Poetry.

http://www.shadowpoetry.com/contests/w hitelotushaikucompetition.html

Deadline: December 31, 2007 (post-marked)

Eligibility: Open to all, age 13 and over.

Entry Form:

http://www.shadowpoetry.com/contests/mailform4.html

Send entries to:

Shadow Poetry
"White Lotus Haiku Competition"
1209 Milwaukee Street
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

Regulations: Haiku submissions must be unpublished, not under consideration elsewhere, written in the three-line traditional or contemporary form, and be the original work of the poet. Entries are unlimited. Haiku entries are accepted on 8.5" x 11" paper or 3"x 5" index cards, submitted in duplicate. The poet's name, address, phone number, and email address (if applicable) in the upper left-hand corner of one sheet or on the back of one index card. Repeat method for multiple submissions.

Entry Fee: \$5.00/3 haiku or \$2.00 per individual haiku

Make checks payable to "Shadow Poetry." Cash and money orders accepted.

Online entry available via PayPal.

Enclose a #10 SASE for contest results. Additional SASE for entry receipt. **Prizes:** 1st - \$100.00, 2nd - \$50.00, 3rd - \$25.00, plus winners to receive a certificate and a ribbon. The top ten placing haiku will be published in Shadow Poetry's Spring /Summer 2008 White Lotus Magazine.

The 2008 Anita Sadler Weiss 4th Annual Memorial Haiku Awards

Sponsor: Haiku Poets of Central Maryland In Memory of Baltimore-based haiku poet and teacher Anita Sadler Weiss. Deadline: In-hand by January 31, 2008.

Eligibility: Open to the public, aged 14 and up. (Only the contest coordinators are prohibited from entering.)

Awards: Total of \$300.00 in prize money: First Place, \$175.00; Second Place, \$75.00; Third Place, \$50.00. Five ranked Honorable Mentions will also be awarded.

Submissions: All entries must be the original work of the poet, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere.

Entry fee: \$1.00 per poem. Poets may enter up to 15 haiku. *Entry fee must accompany submission*.

Submission Guidelines: Print or type each individual haiku on three separate 3" x 5" index cards. On the back of ONE CARD ONLY print or type your name, address, and email address (if one is available). Include a No. 10 (business-size) SASE (or SAE plus US\$1 for return postage for entries sent from outside the U.S.) for notification. Also enclose your entry fee in U.S. currency or check or money order payable in U.S. dollars. Make checks or money orders payable to "HPCM/Elizabeth Fanto." Entries not following these guidelines will be returned or (if sufficient postage and/or envelope are lacking) discarded. Entries without SASE or SAE + return postage will not receive winner notification.

Send entries to: Haiku Poets of Central Maryland, c/o Elizabeth Fanto, 51 Gerard Avenue, Timonium, MD 21093 USA. **Do not email entries.**

Notification/publication: Winners' list will be mailed on April 1, 2008, to commemorate Anita Sadler Weiss' birthday (April 6). Notification of winning poems will be sent to all competition participants and made available to the public for an SASE while supplies last. The winning poems will also be published in *The Dragonfly*, the newsletter of the Haiku Poets of Central Maryland. All rights remain with the poets. Adjudication: The name(s) of the judge(s) will be announced concurrently with the winning haiku.



Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Award Competition for 2008

Modern Haiku is pleased to announce the Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Award Competition for 2008. This is the eighth annual competition to honor the life and work of Bob Spiess.

Theme: Haiku are to be written in the spirit of the following "Speculation" (Robert Spiess, A Year's Speculations on Haiku, Modern Haiku Press, 1995):

A haiku is a profound testimony that a most humble object of nature when put into the simplest of aesthetic forms can become a revelation.

Deadline: In hand no later than March 13, 2008.

Rules: The competition is open to everyone but the staff of *Modern Haiku*, the competition coordinator, and the judges. Entries must be in English. Each entry must be the original, unpublished work of the author, and should not be under consideration in a contest or for publication elsewhere. For purposes of this competition, appearance of a haiku in an Internet journal or on a Web site is considered publication, but sharing haiku on an e-mail haiku list is not. Of course, entries should not be shared on Web sites or haiku lists during the term of the competition.

Submission guidelines: Poets may submit a maximum of five haiku written in the spirit of the above Speculation. Submit three copies of each haiku, on 3½" x 5½" cards or slips of paper. Entries should be typed or printed legibly. The haiku should appear on the face of each card (one haiku per card). The poet's name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if any) should appear on one of the three cards only, in the upper left-hand corner above the haiku; the

other two copies should contain only the haiku. Please keep a copy of your submission; entries will not be returned. E-mail submissions are not allowed. Please follow the instructions carefully: entries that are incomplete or that do not comply with the instructions will be discarded.

Entry fee: \$1 per haiku, cash or check (U.S. funds); make checks payable to *Modern Haiku*.

Send submissions to: Billie Wilson, 1170 Fritz Cove Road, Juneau, AK 99801-8501 USA.

Adjudication: Two judges will be selected by *Modern Haiku*; their names will be announced at the time of the awards. Judging will be double-blind, and the judges will not know the identity of the entrants. Judges' decisions are final.

Selection criteria: The judges will look for entries that hew to Western norms for haiku as published in *Modern Haiku* and other leading English-language haiku journals (no rules as to syllable or line count, etc.) and that best capture the spirit of the theme Speculation above.

Awards: First Prize: \$100 plus a signed, previously-loved copy of *The Turtle's Ears* (1971, out of print; has the previous owner's initials, a bit of water damage to the covers, and a small break in the hand-sewn binding). Second Prize: \$50 plus a copy of Bob's *The Shape of Water* (1982); Third Prize: \$25 plus a copy of Bob's Some *Sticks and Pebbles* (2001). Up to five poets will be awarded Honorable Mentions and each will receive a copy of Bob's *A Year's Speculations on Haiku* (1995).

Notification: Winners will be notified by email or phone before the general announcement. Winning entries will be published in the summer 2008 issue of *Modern Haiku* and posted on the *Modern Haiku* Web site, http://www.modernhaiku.org/, on or before July 1, 2008. If you would like a list

of the winners, please enclose a stamped, addressed business-sized envelope (SASE) with your entries. Overseas entrants should provide an addressed envelope and one IRC. These will be mailed when the summer issue of *Modern Haiku* is released.

ukiaHaiku Festival and Contest

6th Annual Haiku Contest and Local / International Festival devoted to the haiku form of poetry

Ukiah is a town in northern California whose name, spelled backwards, forms the word "haiku." In 2008 the City of Ukiah, in conjunction with Ukiah's Poet Laureate Committee, will hold its 6th annual haiku contest and festival. Winning haiku will be published in a book, and winners will receive a copy of the book and a modest award. The *ukiaHaiku festival* welcomes local, national, and international submissions of Contemporary Haiku. Please visit the website for terms of the contest and to browse poems that have won in the past.

Website Address: www.ukiahaiku.org

Fee: \$3 for 1 haiku, \$5 for 3.

Regulations: maximum 3 haiku per person.

Eligibility: age 19 and over.

Submissions: Please download <u>form</u> from website. Send by email (submit@ukiahaiku.org) or snail mail (P.O. Box 865, Ukiah, CA 95482). Online payment of fees may become possible by September of 2007 (see website). Otherwise send your check by snail mail.

Deadline: March 15, 2008 (postmark or email date).

Judging: Internationally famous haiku poet Jane Reichhold will judge the Contemporary Haiku category.

Awards: Modest awards and publication. **Festival Date:** Sunday April 27, 2 p.m. Winners are strongly encouraged to attend the festival to read their poems. When you come to Ukiah, consider visiting the <u>Mendocino Coast</u>, a world class tourist destina-

tion 1-1/2 hours from Ukiah by car. Kate Marianchild, Coordinator 707-463-0839 katem@mcn.org

Conferences

3rd Quarterly HSA Meeting Rochester, NY, Sept. 14-16, 2007

4th Quarterly HSA Meeting New York City, Dec. 1, 2007

New Books & Journals

HSA 2007 Members Anthology Available from Wanda D. Cook, PO Box 314, Hadley, MA 01035 USA Price: \$11.50 US; \$12.00 Canada/Mexico; \$15 elsewhere (US\$)

2008 HSA Members AnthologyDeadline: March 31, 2008.

Editors: Brenda J. Gannam and William Cullen, Jr. Details about submission and ordering will appear in the November 07 issue of the Newsletter. In the meantime, send inquires to:

gannamconsulting@earthlink.net

or to:

Gannam & Cullen HSA 2008 Anthology 910 Albemarle Road Brooklyn, NY 11218 USA

Shaped by the Wind

Haiku by Ferris Gilli 80 pages, perfect bound Snapshot Press (2006) ISBN 1-903543-16-9 \$20 US\$ or Euros; 9£ UK Available from the publisher at www.snapshotpress.co.uk

Shorelines

Haiku, Haibun, and Tanka by Kirsty Karkow Cathy Drinkwater Better, Ed. ISBN 0-9766407-5-9 (2007) Cover illustration by the author Perfect bound, 125 pages. \$15.95 Black Cat Press 613 Okemo Drive Eldersburg, Maryland 21784 USA blackcat_press@yahoo.com

Small Events

Haibun by w.f. owen 64 pages, perfect bound (2007) ISBN 978-1-893959-62-0 \$12 + Postage Red Moon Press PO Box 2461 Winchester, Virginia 22604-1661 USA www.redmoonpress.com

Scent of Jasmine and Brine

Tanka by Linda Jeannette Ward Introduction by Pamela Miller Ness. Inkling Press (Canada, 2007) Perfect bound, soft cover; 104 pages. \$24 postpaid. Available from: Magpie Productions, PO Box 52014, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2T5.

Rattle of Bamboo: A Haiku Anthology

by Members of the Southern California
Haiku Study Group. (2007)

mi-e Cover Art by Ann Bendixen, Yuki
Tekei Haiku Society.
Inside US, \$8 postpaid.
Cash, check, or money order to:
Darrell Byrd, 1806 Hamilton Ave.
El Centro, CA 92243
dbyrd37@yahoo.com

Katikati Haiku Pathway Guidebook

Contains the 30 poems engraved on boulders in the riverside walk in Katikati, New Zealand. Includes US writers William J. Higginson, Denver Stull, Jim Kacian, Michael Dylan Welch, Peter Yovu. Includes short author biographies, a history of the

project, and a map of the pathway. For US residents, the cost is \$12 for 1, \$20 for 2, postpaid. Payment may be made through the Katikati Haiku Pathway Focus Committee's PayPal account. For information about the account or the cost for additional books: email Sandra Simpson: nzhaiku@gmail.com

Information about the pathway: www.poetrysociety.org.nz/katikati-haiku-pathway

Haiku Page

New bi-monthly journal for haiku and senryu, to be published by Mississippi Valley State University. Please send no more than 5 of your best haiku or senryu on one page with a sase and your email address to: Editor, Haiku Page Mississippi Valley State University 14000 Hwy 82 W. #7242 Itta Bena, MS 38941-1400 [No email submissions.]

[OZheng, Editor

moonset

Formerly a bi-annual journal, *moonset* has evolved into a bi-annual newspaper, dedicated to the poetic and visual studies of Japanese art forms. \$20 US per calendar year (postpaid in USA and Canada), \$11 US single copy. Add air postage for other countries.

Submissions: Please send only original, unpublished haiku, senryu, haibun, tanka, choka, renku, rengay, tanka/waka, and/or black on white sumi-e type haiga (up to 10 at a time) not under consideration elsewhere nor entered in any contest at the time sent or before receipt of response; appearance in any online journal (with the exception of workshops or lists) constitutes prior publication. Preferably, email submissions with subject heading "moonset submissions" to:

anya@bendnet.com or send by post: an'ya, PO Box 3627, La Pine, OR 97739 USA

Please enclose SASE or IRC's. Submissions due In-hand March 1 and September 1. Short write-ups about your "moment", articles, essays, news, book and journal announcements welcome. For book reviews, please send 2 copies. Beginners to old-timers are welcome. Questions? Email an'ya.

Call for Submissions

moonset

bun sought for November issue.

Deadline: In hand September 1

unpublished haibun, not under consideration elsewhere. If accepted, moonset reserves the right to publish the haibun. Submission: label subject line:

moonset haibun, your name, title, date. Put haibun in the body of an email (no attachments). Send to: hortense@walrus.com

White Lotus

Submissions invited for a perfect-bound anthology to be released in the spring of 2008. Subject: lily ponds (includes: water lilies, lotuses, reeds, cattails, dragonflies, koi/goldfish, frogs, and other creatures/plants associated with lily ponds). Haiku, senryu, tanka, haibun, haiga, linked forms, and other Japanese poetry types will be considered. Please submit up to 20 pieces each of any form listed above. Previously published work will be considered with proper credits. All haiga will be printed in black and white only, though the front and back covers will be in color. Artists and photographers may submit cover ideas by mail or email attachment.

Deadline: January 31, 2008. For copies, send \$20 US; \$25 International per book by check or money order payable to "Shadow Poetry." Cash may be sent at your own risk. Editors: Marie Summers, an'ya, Francis Masat, Bette Wappner, and Harriot West. Mail Submissions (SASE required) to:

White Lotus Anthology, 1209 Milwaukee Street, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. **Email Submissions**: with the subject of "Lotus Anthology" to: whitelotus@shadowpoetry.com. For online submissions, orders, and other inquiries, please visit: http://www.shadowpoetry.com/lotus.html.

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day flowers over the withered grass they creep

Issa

Note from the Editor

Errata:

The 2007 volume number for the *Newsletter* is XXII. The February and May issues were incorrectly printed as Vol. XXI.

Health issues and the increased activities coming up during the Holiday Season make it necessary to move the deadline up for the next two issues. Please send all Reports and Announcements (Books, Contests, Conferences) by **October 10** for the November issue, and by **January 10** for the February issue.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated

Thanks are due David Lanoue for permission to use his Issa translations to brighten our day. http://haikuguy.com/issa/

The sumi-e is by Stephen Addiss.

with the boiled chestnuts finished, so is the conversation

Issa

mountain wind house after house with summer banners it seems to wash the summer mountains... sunrise

short summer night the frogs croaking trash talk in a dewdrop world singing at dewdrops... summer cicada

a boor with the ladies but he puts on . . . this summer kimono today's last voice is raised... summer cicada

summer mountain the maiden flower happy by herself in the short summer night wriggling to climax... maiden flowers

in their new summer robes today too...
mountain, little thicket

my nights of pleasure are ancient history... new summer robe

my home village even in summer plum trees bloom in summer cool ambling down my road to hell

summer moon there's no such thing as a perfect night every time I put on the summer kimono... feel old

stitching together the short summer night... singing frogs behind me the autumn wind blows me home

Issa

Issa