



photo: unknown

## Haiku Society of America News

Volume 31, Issue 10 - October 05, 2016

(HSA News replaces Ripples as the official newsletter of HSA)

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[Become a  
Member of HSA](#)



Membership includes a year's subscription to the society's journal, Frogpond (three issues yearly). In addition, members receive HSA NEWS on the fifth of each month, the annual information sheet and an annual address/email list of HSA members.

[Join Now!](#)

### Greetings!

The HSA appreciates your continued support and your participation in society activities. As primary supplement to the HSA website, this monthly report strives to bring you news from the Executive Committee and the Regional Chapters.

**2016 memberships expire on  
December 31, 2016.  
If you have not yet renewed for 2017,  
please do so now!**

From the

*President*

### Dear Members,

We will be sending out a ballot for the 2017 election very shortly. In addition to selecting the 2017 HSA officers, we encourage you to vote 'yes' for the ballot measure regarding our membership listing. In this era of cyber espionage and identity theft, we feel it is our obligation to handle our members' personal information very carefully. The proposed language for Article 2.4 of the By-laws is included in this





Like us on Facebook. Share news, poems, discussions! See photos from some recent gatherings of the poetic kind.



Follow us on Twitter:  
Twitter@hsa\_haiku

## .haiku

Check out the ".haiku" column at the HSA webpage, please. Gene Myers shares tools and tips available to haiku poets.

View our web sampler and excerpts from previous issues of *Frogpond*.

newsletter. We hope to announce the results in early November. Please send your ballot by the end of October.

Due to advancements in technology, our lives have become more convenient. We can easily share information and chat with people who are on the other side of the continent. Unfortunately, adversaries have become more organized and sophisticated. Isn't it scary to know they can hack a company's information by entering through the air-conditioning control system?

Now, to change the subject, let me entertain you with a children's story written by Kenji Miyazawa, titled '*Acorns and Wild Cat*.' It was published in 1924. The essence of the story is something like this:

One day, Ichiro received a strange post card from Wild Cat asking him to come to the forest. When Ichiro arrived there, a lot of acorns were arguing who was the best. One acorn shouted, "I am the best because I have the most pointed head." Another yelled, "No, no! I am the best because I am the roundest." Others started screaming, "I am the biggest!" "I am the tallest!" Wild Cat looked at Ichiro and said, "They've been like this for three days. How can I silence them?" Ichiro told Wild Cat, "How about telling them the best acorn is the one who is most stupid, the worst-shaped and should have a flat or a crushed head?" Wild Cat was pleased with Ichiro's answer and asked the acorns, "Who is the most stupid and has the worst misshaped head among you?" In a flash, all the acorns became very quiet.

Ichiro, a school boy in Miyazawa's story, never received a second invitation from Wild Cat. After successfully quieting the acorns, Wild Cat asked Ichiro, "In my next invitation, should I use more official words like 'make your appearance?'" Ichiro told him, "That would be strange. You should not use such words." He seemed to have hurt the feelings of Wild Cat, who wore a yellow surcoat and acted as Mr. Judge in the forest. A cup of golden acorns Ichiro received from Wild Cat turned into ordinary brown ones when he arrived at home.

meandering path  
into the acorns' forest  
I wait for the wind

**Fay Aoyagi**  
HSA President  
[fay.hsa.president@gmail.com](mailto:fay.hsa.president@gmail.com)

From the

*Secretary*

**Dear Members,**

Thank you to the nearly 100 members who renewed memberships for 2017 this last month. Early renewal is important for at least two reasons: one, we don't have to mail as many back issues to late members; two, I won't have to leave a pile of renewals for the new secretary in January.



So, if you haven't already done so, please renew now.

Here's the link:

<http://www.hsa-haiku.org/join.htm>

Many thanks.

Sondra Byrnes

Secretary

[hsasecretary2014@gmail.com](mailto:hsasecretary2014@gmail.com)

## HSA News

### REFERENDUM QUESTION for the upcoming 2017 Election

Once again we are revisiting the question of whether the Executive Committee should be supplying the membership with a list of members and their contact information. We strongly urge you to carefully consider approving the change to Article 2 in the HSA By-Laws. The question, as it will appear on the ballot, is quoted below.

In light of increasing concerns about identity theft and online privacy, Amendment 5 proposes to discontinue the distribution of the HSA members' list as a membership benefit. It also removes the requirement of providing an informational sheet since this information now appears on the HSA website. See the tab "More information"

More Information:

Article 2 CURRENT LANGUAGE:

"4. Each member shall receive: A copy of these By-laws; an annual membership list, periodically updated; the Society's general information sheet; notices of meetings; timely announcements of contests; and issues of the Society's periodical publications."

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

"4. Each member shall receive: A copy of these By-laws; the Society's general information; notices of meetings; timely announcements of contests; and issues of the Society's periodical publications."

## UpComing Contests

# Genjuan International Haibun Contest 2017 Guidelines

Genjuan □□□ is the name of the cottage near Lake Biwa where, in 1690, Basho lived for a time. His residence in this 'Vision-Inhabited Cottage' was probably the happiest period of his life, and it was there that he wrote his most famous short haibun. The purpose of the Contest is to encourage the writing of fine haibun in English and maintain the connection between the traditional Japanese perception of haibun and what is evolving around the world. The judges are hoping that the Contest will continue to receive a warm response from all haibun writers. The award for the Grand Prix remains the same - a fine, full-size replica of a Hokusai/Hiroshige ukiyo-e print - and smaller gifts will be sent to the An (Cottage) Prize-winners. The writers of all the decorated works will receive a certificate of merit. We sincerely look forward to your participation.

**1 Subject:** Free.

**2 Style:** No restrictions, but special attention must be paid to honour the spirit of haikai. This includes such features as the subtle linking of haiku with prose, omission prompting the reader's imagination, humour and self-deprecation.

**3 Length:** In total, between 7 and 35 lines (at 1 line = 80 spaces; a 3-line haiku counts as 3 lines; the title, as 1 line).

**4 Haiku/Title:** At least one haiku (no formal restrictions) should be included and each piece should be given a title, however short.

**5 Format:** Print each piece separately on one sheet of A4-size paper (and use the reverse if long) and write at the bottom your name (and your pen name, if you have one) together with your address, telephone number, and email address. Your privacy will be strictly protected, and the judges will not see your names until the result has been decided.

**6 Deadline:** All entries should reach the following address between 1 October 2016 and 31 January 2017. Please send your entries to: Ms. Eiko Mori, 2-11-23-206 Jokoji, Amagasaki-shi, Hyogo-ken 660-0811, Japan. Entries received after this date might not be accepted. Kindly avoid sending by express and using extra-large envelopes. Best write your home address on your envelope, too. We apologize for not being able to accept emailed entries.

**7 Entry Fee:** None.

*Restrictions:* Entrants can send up to three entries, but two is what we normally expect. They should be unpublished and not under consideration elsewhere. As we cannot return your entries after screening, please retain your own copies.

**9 Questions:** All queries should be sent to the address above or by email to [moriemori55@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:moriemori55@yahoo.co.jp) Email Ms. Mori 2 weeks after sending your entries if you wish to have an acknowledgement of receipt.

**10 Judges:** Nenten Tsubouchi, Stephen Henry Gill, Hisashi Miyazaki, Ellis Avery

**11 Special Request:** The authors of the decorated works will later be requested to send us their pieces as Word-files by email. In this, we expect your cooperation.

**12 Results:** The results will be posted on the Hailstone Icebox by May after awardees have first been notified by email. Later, the prize-

winning pieces will be posted there on a dedicated page. Judges' comments will, in due course, be sent to awardees, together with prizes and/or certificates of merit. Every three years, it is hoped to publish an anthology of the best Genjuan pieces.

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## 2016 San Francisco International Competition Haiku, Senryu, Tanka & Rengay

Sponsored by:  
Haiku Poets of Northern California

### **Deadline for Haiku, Senryu, and Tanka:**

In hand, October 31, 2016

### **Deadline for Rengay:**

In hand, January 31, 2017

### **Details**

All entries must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere. There is no limit to the number of submissions. A first prize of \$100 will be awarded in each of the four categories. For the Haiku contests, 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, the contest coordinators and the judges (who will remain anonymous until after the competition, except 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 one card only, print your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (optional). The entry fee is \$1.00 per poem. Send haiku, senryu and tanka submissions, along with entry fee, to HPNC, c/o Carolyne Rohrig, 37966 Parkmont Dr., Fremont, CA 94536.

#### **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. The rengay judge will be announced later. Send rengay submissions to

### 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.

Thank you for participating in this year's contest. If you have any questions, please contact by e-mail:

Carolyn Rohrig ([carolyne.rohrig@gmail.com](mailto:carolyne.rohrig@gmail.com)) for Haiku, Senryu, Tanka

Fay Aoyagi ([fayaoyagi@gmail.com](mailto:fayaoyagi@gmail.com)) for Rengay

<http://www.hpnc.org>

## Regional News

### California

Deborah Kolodji



### Southern California Haiku Study Group

On September 17th, members of the Southern California Haiku Study Group met at the Lamanda Park Library. After a sharing of haiku, the group read 8 haiku from *galaxy of dust*, the 2016 Red Moon Anthology, and 8 haiku from *Haiku 2016*, newly out from Modern Haiku Press. Workshop participants discussed their favorite haiku from this sampling and the reasons the haiku resonated for them. It was a lively discussion of 16 spectacular haiku. The workshop was attended by Debbie Kolodji, Jon Yungkans, Kim Esser, Greg Longenecker, Victor Ortiz, James Won, Peggy Castro, Kathabela Wilson, Elva Lauter, Marsha, Marcia Behar, Mary Torregrossa, Janis Lukstein, Sharon Yee, Pat Wakimoto, and Toni Steele.

The Southern California Haiku Study Group is pleased to announce the November launch of their newest anthology, *what the wind can't touch*, edited by Naia. Cover photo by Stevie Strang, the 2016 Southern California Haiku Study Group Anthology includes the voices of 75 Southern California haiku poets. The date for the reading/launch party has yet to be determined, but it will be in early to mid November. Please watch the Southern California Haiku Study Group facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SoCalHaiku/>) for more information.

# Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

A foggy evening in Santa Cruz, California made the home of Dyana Basist and Leaf Leathers even more warm and inviting on September 10th, 2016. In traditional YTHS fashion, the event began with members and their guests sharing a delicious potluck spread.

we wait for the moon  
sharing mochi and friendship  
mouth full of sweetness

*Nicole Heinrich*

With no moon in sight, most members returned inside to flickering candles and haunting music.

moon rise  
the poets pick up  
their pens

*Patrick Gallagher*

While YTHS members nestled into their own spots to write haiku, three guests (Kathleen Wall, Meg Madsen, and Becky Davies) enjoyed visiting in a cozy corner of the kitchen.

I'm looking  
for the non-writers  
moonless night

*Kathleen Wall*

Gathered into a circle to share once again, the members (Mimi Ahern, Betty Arnold, Dyana Basist, Ann Bendixen, Kae Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Patrick Gallagher, Peggy Heinrich, Anne Homan, Toni Homan, Patricia Machmiller, and Carol Steele) took turns reading their haiku.

it sails over our houses  
reading our dreams  
September moon

*Peggy Heinrich*

With the glow of the candles and evening still filling the house, Leaf and Dyana said goodnight to their guests....

most quiet party  
I have ever hosted  
moon viewing

*Dyana Basist*

submitted by Mimi Ahern

## Mid-West

Julie Warther



### Kyle Craig: Featured Poet

Indiana member, Kyle Craig is the featured poet for September on Indiana Poet Laureate, Shari Wagner's website. Learn more about Kyle, read an interview and enjoy some of his poems by clicking the link below.

<http://www.throughthesycamores.com/poetry-features.html>

### Ohaio-ku Study Group

The next meeting of the Ohaio-ku Study Group will be held Saturday, October 8 from 10am - noon at the Cuyahoga Falls Public Library in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. <http://cuyahogafallslibrary.org>

We will be reading and discussing the haiku of Raymond Roseliep. The kukai theme this month is "Back to School". Please bring haiku of your own to workshop and read. For more information, contact Julie Warther [wartherjulie@gmail.com](mailto:wartherjulie@gmail.com).

### Missouri member, Ben Moeller-Gaa at New Hampshire Poetry Festival

Ben Moeller-Gaa participated in a panel discussion titled "Write Short and Share" with Folded Word Press at the New Hampshire Poetry Festival Saturday, 9/24.

<http://poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org/fest/schedule.html>

### Illinois State Poetry Society's Haiku Chapter

The Illinois State Poetry Society's Haiku chapter meets on October 16 at the Northbrook Library from 1pm-4pm for critique and a presentation by Lee Gurga on Japanese Aesthetics. Contact [suuld@yahoo.com](mailto:suuld@yahoo.com) for more information.

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## Evergreen Haiku Study Group With Michele Root-Bernstein



The Evergreen Haiku Study Group is back for another great year of collaboration, community, and enjoyment of nature! All writers are welcome, whether you are familiar with haikus, or if you have never written one before. The group will again be facilitated by Michele Root-Bernstein, associate editor of acclaimed literary journal *Frogpond* from 2012 to 2015.

Join us from 1-3pm  
in C301 Snyder!



September 10th  
October 1st  
November 5th  
December 3rd



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Arts and Humanities

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## The Haiku Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society

The Haiku Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society will be meeting on Sunday, October 16 from 1-4 pm in the Civic Room at the Northbrook Library located at 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois.

This month Lee Gurga will be presenting *Japanese Aesthetics* and we will critique following the presentation. Please bring 10 copies of up to 6 haiku for critique. Please contact Susan Auld at [suauld@yahoo.com](mailto:suauld@yahoo.com) for more information.

submitted by Susan Auld

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## Northeast Atlantic Wanda Cook

### 3rd Annual Haiku Gathering at Wild Graces

Robin White, the editor of *Akitsu Quarterly*, and her husband Marshall Hatch hosted the 3rd Annual Haiku Gathering at Wild Graces on September 10, 2016. This was an all-day event for writers and haiku aficionados, and attended by featured poets Alexis Rotella, Tom Clausen, Michael Ketchek, Stanford M. Forrester, Jeannie Martin and

Brad Bennett.

Alexis Rotella's presentation on *The Five Element Systems of Chinese Medicine & how it affects our every day life, art, & poems* started the morning after a music interval by Flutewalker, the musician and flute-maker, Werner John. Alexis Rotella's session was wonderfully informative, and looking around, all were busy scribbling fiercely into their notebooks. I know many people left with deep reflections on the iteration by Alexis on the least known season - the fifth season - late summer. Alexis Rotella and her husband cannot be thanked enough for traveling all the way from Maryland to participate in this event!

Tom Clausen and Michael Ketchek's workshop entitled *The Simplicity of Haiku* was the next morning workshop. Tom Clausen presented copies of a self-made checklist for keeping haiku simple. "If you like rules, then ok; if you don't like them, then ok" and "Haiku are intuitive, not intellectual or abstract" are two points among ten he shared with the audience. Using the checklist, Tom asked us to examine a selection of 100 poems he compiled for the occasion, and invited commentary on why we believed they fit this simple ideal. Michael Ketchek spoke about Buson's poem: *the bag of seeds / tonight grandfather uses it / for his pillow*. He said that the longevity of this poor family is entrusted to the grandfather who will see that the seeds make it through the winter by exerting his practiced restraint against snacking any of them. Alexis Rotella commented on the glove in Raymond Roseliep's poem, saying it is removed for the pure purpose of trying to touch the thing-in-itself: *he removes his glove / to point out / Orion*.

Lunch included sautéed mushrooms that Robin's husband Marshall Hatch had gathered, as well as three varieties of his delicious home brew. One of the highlights of the day took place then. The reading of *Drifting Golden*, a kasen renku featuring the local New Hampshire writing group, Wrenku: Pat Davis, Robin White, Evelyn Lang, Kelley Jean White, Marshall Hatch, Susan Lang, and David L. Young. They all contributed to this collaborative poem that was read as Flutewalker improvised between each poem, harnessing some magic.

*The World Disguised as This One: a year in tanka* by Mimi White was scheduled to take place after lunch, but Mimi White was unable attend due to a family emergency, and our hearts go out to her. Bruce Iverson led instruction on sumi-e painting as a slight drizzle developed, but soon passed, giving way to more sunshine.

Stanford M. Forrester next offered the afternoon workshop *Hitting the Bullseye: Getting to the Point when writing Haiku & Senryu*. Stanford shared ideas on how to "diagnosis" your own haiku when editing, and encouraged the poem's message as a top priority. The haiku or senryu should be built upon an idea with a deeper meaning, Stanford explained, likening it to the arrow piercing the bullseye. You hit the target when your reader knows what you mean, and your arrow stays when you provide that deeper meaning for the reader to savor. This is in keeping with Stanford's Zen aesthetic of "letting go" and it meshes well with Tom Clausen's idea from in his earlier workshop: "Let things speak for themselves." The day culminated with a reading by the featured poets.

For more information about Wild Graces, Akitsu Quarterly, and information on next year's Haiku Gathering, please check Robin White's website:

<http://www.wildgraces.com/Akitsu-Quarterly.html>

## Northeast Metro

Rita Gray

On Saturday, September 17, Miriam Borne and Hiroaki Sato shared a program with Haiku Society of America Metro-Northeast members.

Hiroaki Sato presented a fascinating talk: *A Haiku Poet Called a Hooker: Suzuki Shizuko*

Miriam Borne gave a riveting dance and haiku performance: *Light and Shadow/Film Noir Now*





A writing contest with prizes followed.

### **A few examples of the Shizuko's haiku in Hiroaki Sato's presentation--**

*Natsumikan suppashi imasara junketsu nado*  
*Summer citrus sour now the hell with virginity*

*Maguwai no shidukana ame i-torimaku*  
*Mating: a quiet rain stays and surrounds us*

### **A few of the haiku by Miriam Borne in her dance/haiku presentation reflecting the mood of Film Noir --**

*just before bed*  
*the shadows on the wall*  
*beckon*

*Back concerto*  
*touching the worn red velvet*  
*on the balcony railing*



## Winners in our haiku contest --

**1st**

*summer night  
a baby's cry  
suddenly stops*

Jeff Hoagland

**2nd**

*black gloves  
before the stage curtain  
her hands disappear*

RaNae Merrill

**3rd**

*autumn trees  
irregular shadows  
across her face*

Jeff Hoagland

## And a few others:

*lingering light  
people out walking  
with their dreams*

*old church graveyard  
lovers locked in a  
jealous rage*

Rita Gray

*winter rain...  
another*

*empty promise*

Mary Ellen Rooney

A special thank you to Rita Gray, our gracious program coordinator, and to Cor van den Heuvel and Scott Mason for their help in judging the writing contest and to Amanda La Salle for fine technical support in *Light and Shadow/Film Noir Now*.

<https://www.facebook.com/miriam.borne/posts/10210826643891980>

**Light and Shadow /Film Noir Now PR**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1669129600083012/?ti=icl>



**Ignatius Fay**  
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Comments or concerns about your membership?  
Please contact the [HSA officers](#)

