

## HSA Quarterly Meeting in Long Beach, Calif.

[as reported in the *HSA Newsletter*, Vol. XV, No. 1, winter 1999]

The HSA winter quarterly meeting was held on Friday and Saturday, December 4–5, 1999. The turnout was small but spirited at the library of California State University, Long Beach. President Paul Williams presided at the general meeting, where we discussed local haiku activities and commented favorably on the HSA education package. Jerry Ball announced that there will be a conference called “Haiku Pacific Rim” on October 24–28th, 2001. This meeting will be modeled after Haiku North America but will gather haiku poets from New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, Japan, Canada, Washington, Oregon, and California. For information please contact Jerry Ball.

After the general meeting Paul Williams read a paper entitled “The Moon In Haiku,” which gave a broad scientific background about the moon as well as a strong collection of haiku with “moon” as kigo.

Two talks followed lunch. The first was by Greta Nagel, Professor of Education at California State, Long Beach. Greta discussed what is going on with haiku in the schools and in teacher training. Things have been oriented along 5–7–5 patterns, but now are beginning to change more to freestyle in the manner of HSA. She announced that the university and the local Southern California Haiku Study Group are cosponsoring a haiku contest for students in Long Beach schools. This contest has the endorsement of the HSA.

The final paper, “Déjà-ku,” presented by Michael Dylan Welch, was a discussion of haiku that are written—and sometimes published—and are remarkably similar to haiku that have been published previously. A spirited discussion followed.

That evening our group sponsored an open reading at Borders bookstore in Long Beach with good attendance. The reading was followed by a social at the Holiday Inn.

— *Jerry Ball*