

First 2006 HSA Quarterly Meeting
Kaji Aso Studio, Boston, Mass., March 4, 2006

[as reported in the *HSA Newsletter*, Vol. XXI, No. 2, May 2006]

The meeting was opened at 1:00 P.M. by HSA President Pamela Miller Ness. She welcomed us and thanked Kaji Aso, Raffael de Gruttola, members of the Boston Haiku Society, members of the Haiku Poets Society of Western Massachusetts, and the day's presenters.

Ness reported on the Executive Committee (EC) meeting. She described the new Public Relations standing committee that the EC voted to form out of the two committees previously designated "Recruitment" and "Promotion and Outreach." Dave Russo will chair this committee. Initial responsibilities will include updating the HSA membership brochure, distributing it to all Regional Coordinators to make available at local meetings, and researching new contacts to promote the USA.

Also, the EC discussed the situation with mail arriving at the HSA mailing address and decided to keep the address. The EC determined that the membership directory will come out in May with the newsletter. The EC reviewed the status of exchange and honorary memberships. Ness also reported that the EC is beginning to discuss the possibilities for a 40th anniversary celebration and possibly an anthology.

EC members gave their reports. Ness gave a report for Welch and Egger for Sterba, who were unable to attend:

- a. First Vice President Michael Dylan Welch: The deadline for the Merit Book Awards is March 31. The deadline for the 2006 Members Anthology is May 31.
- b. Second Vice President Marlene Egger: The Virgilio deadline is March 25. HSA's only responsibility in this collaboration with the Nick Virgilio Society is to provide judges. The Henderson and Brady deadlines have been moved up this year to June 15. The Einbond deadline remains September 15, and the Einbond contest fee has been dropped to \$10 to encourage renku entries. Selection of judges is proceeding well. Egger reported on the 2005 Einbond winners.
- c. Secretary Carmen Sterba: 80 new members have joined HSA and 580 members have renewed so far in 2006. Those who may not yet have renewed are encouraged to do so immediately, so that they will receive their *Frogponds* and *Newsletters* on time.
- d. Treasurer Paul Miller: The IRS fine which HSA incurred during the time when mail was not being picked up at the Japan Society was dropped after HSA's petition to do so. Ness has now arranged for regular receipt of HSA mail in timely fashion.

e. *Frogpond* editor John Stevenson: Next year is the journal's 30th anniversary and the year after that the Society's 40th. *Frogpond* will be marking its 30th, but probably in a comparatively low key way that will be cooperative with observances of HSA's 40th celebration.

f. Newsletter Editor Johnye Strickland: the newsletter is on track. We announced an October 1 deadline for the fall issue of the *Newsletter*, with publication scheduled for October 30. The reason for this was to allow the ballots and Membership Directory to be mailed in the same first class mailing as the *Newsletter*. Plans have changed since this announcement. The Directory will not be published until May, which will allow time for the renewals to be included and make the Directory reflect the current membership rather than that of the previous year, as has been the practice.

g. Electronic Media Officer Brad Craddock: There are some new items on the website. Members are encouraged to take a look.

h. Archives Committee: President Pamela Ness announced the creation, on the authority of the Executive Committee, of a standing committee on Archives & Society History with Charles Trumbull as chair and Stanford M. Forrester to assist. Stanford explained that the committee is concerned with the collection of records and documents of HSA meetings, presidential decisions, and Executive Committee notes from all sources so that all actions of the Society can be documented, cataloged, and taken into account in making future decisions. Stanford requested that members should also contact him or Charlie if they have any HSA ephemera that might be donated to the archives. The collecting of both HSA documents and ephemera will help to ensure that the history of the HSA is recorded accurately and fully.

Other Business: de Gruttola announced the first Nick Virgilio Haiku Society Conference on March 25.

The Business meeting closed at 1:34 P.M.

—Marlene Egger