MINUTES OF THE THIRD 1996 HSA NATIONAL MEETING

The meeting was held in the Northbrook Public Library, Northbrook, Ill., on Saturday, September 14, 1996.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. The meeting was chaired by HSA President Barbara Ressler. Other officers present were Lee Gurga, First Vice President, and Charles Trumbull, Newsletter Editor.

A report from Acting Secretary Dee Evetts gave the current membership total as 612, and increase of one member since the same date in 1995. A motion to change the HSA Regional Divisions was made and carried as follows: Maryland and the District of Columbia are transferred from the Northeast Region to the Southeast Region. This move was made at the request of the respective regional coordinators after consultation with HSA members involved.

With regard to the proposed HSA World Wide Web page, the following motion was carried: that Dee Evetts, John Hudak, Charles Trumbull, Alice Benedict, and Michael Dylan Welch work on this, with Dee Evetts as project leader. The Executive Committee retains authority to approve all contents of the Web page. The Committee approved placement of the HSA Information Sheet and the HSA Newsletter on the Web page.

A proposal was approved to acknowledge the contributions made by Mrs. Harold Henderson to the HSA. Barbara Ressler will implement this.

A proposal to appoint Kristen Deming as “Adviser to the Haiku Society of America” (with reference to next year’s joint conference with the Haiku International Association in Tokyo) was approved, and the appointment duly made by President Barbara Ressler. A request from Ce Rosenow for the HSA to endorse or support Haiku North America 1997 was discussed, and Lee Gurga was authorized by Barbara Ressler to deal with this issue.

GENERAL MEETING. This was attended by the following (as well as some others who did not sign up): Sara Brant, Randy Brooks, Patrick Brown, Maryjo Cally, Jocelyn Conway, Patricia Donegan, Lee Gurga, Bud Goodrich, Chuck Goodrich, Harvey Hess, Doris Kampfe, Joe Kirschner, John S. O’Connor, Barbara Ressler, Lidia Rozmus, Robert Spiess, and Charles Trumbull.

The meeting began with a welcome from organizer and regional coordinator, Sara Brant, followed by a lively round reading. Pres. Barbara Ressler presided over a short business meeting, during which the Minutes of the previous national meeting and the nominations for HSA officers were read and accepted. She reported on the main items of business from the Executive Committee meeting. Charles Trumbull read the names of the winners, the winning entries, and judges’ comments from this year’s Harold G. Henderson and Gerald M. Brady Senryû contests that had been submitted for the meeting and the nominations for HSA officers were read and accepted.

Robert Spiess kicked off the main program with a paper titled “Juxtaposition in Haiku.” He focused on the use of the kireji (cutting word) to create the split necessary for true haiku juxtaposition, hypothesizing that the most highly formed haiku juxtaposition usually follows three basic rules: (1) the two sections created by the kireji must be sufficiently distant and disassociated; (2) despite the distance, the sections must not be too dissimilar; (3) there must be a two-sided connection in which each image enhances the other.

Following Robert Spiess’s presentation, Randy M. Brooks explained how Gestalt psychology could be used to examine the organization of a haiku moment in “The Gestalt of Perception.” Using several poems to build on a foundation of Gestalt theory, which categorizes the way that people perceive their experiences, Randy explained how haiku poets juxtapose images in order to illuminate certain aspects of the landscape that might not otherwise emerge.

Papers on juxtaposition in haiku that had been submitted for the meeting were then read aloud; these included statements by H.F. Noyes, Patricia Neubauer, Michael Dylan Welch, Dee Evetts, and Lee Gurga.

Following a brief break for homemade strudel, Patricia Donegan, who received a Fulbright grant to work with translator Yoshie Ishibashi to bring the work of Chiyo-ni, perhaps the best and best-known woman haiku poet, into English, gave a personal and extraordinary talk about her forthcoming book, Chiyo-ni: Woman Haiku Master. Beginning with some details about her own studies, Patricia provided biographical details about Chiyo-ni. She focused on the sensuality of female imagery that distinguishes Chiyo-ni’s work, reading several of her favorite translations, including:

- wrapped around
- this world’s flower
- hazy moon

continued on page 3

SECRETARY’S REPORT

The best and best-known woman poet, into English, gave a personal and extraordinary talk about her forthcoming book, Chiyo-ni: Woman Haiku Master. Beginning with some details about her own studies, Patricia provided biographical details about Chiyo-ni. She focused on the sensuality of female imagery that distinguishes Chiyo-ni’s work, reading several of her favorite translations, including:

- wrapped around
- this world’s flower
- hazy moon

continued on page 3

NATIONAL MEETING

THE HAiku SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Volume XI, Number 4 — Autumn 1996
HSN Newsletter

A t the time we went to press, the following events were scheduled for the quarterly meeting of the Haiku Society of America in Boston.

Friday evening, December 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Kaji Aso Studio at 40 St. Stephen Street in Boston, there will be a renga party.

Saturday, December 7, at 9:30 a.m. Dee Evetts will present a paper on a subject yet to be determined, after which members present will be taken to the Museum of Fine Arts to review their Japanese collection as well as other exhibits.

After lunch, at approximately 1:00 p.m. at the Studio there will be the regular HSA Business Meeting and gavurround of readings by all present. Members are encouraged to bring books to sell. At 3:00 p.m. Alan LeVines will do a slide presentation of his research on hiking Basho’s Oku no Hosomichi (Far Road to the Deep North) from his past trips to Japan. A project in which he and Tadashi Kondo are collaborating with the hope to enlist the support of the Japanese government to develop a hiking trail similar to the Appalacian Trail in the U.S. At approximately 4:30 p.m. there will be a presentation by Judson Evans of haiku he has written with flute accompaniment. The group will break for supper to nearby restaurants.

At 7:00 p.m. at the Studio Mr. Aso will do a haiga presentation using members’ haiku from the afternoon go-around. At 8:30 p.m. the featured reader will be Robert Zukowski from Panama City, Fla.

On Sunday at 1:00 p.m. at the Studio there will be a reading by members of the Boston Haiku Society followed by an open reading by members present.

— Raffael de Gruttola

HSN Newsletter

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HSN Newsletter
1996 Penumbra Poetry Contest of the
O'Connor, who won First Prize in the
of 36 books on haiku, Japanese poet-
been member and welcomed a number of new
1998 anniversary — five years — of
My next objective is to build mem-
the friendship with Ion and Mihaela.
the Haiku Moment and Mythic
an informal and open monthly
noid translator who made expert translations for difficult ques-
27560, Cedar Falls, IA 50513
out of phase in submitting infor-
by an open microphone ses-
Sunday morning. At the same location My next objective is to build mem-
and the haiku that resulted were
toward Haiku Society
program of haiga at the Wellesley Free Library for the Wellesley Artists’
Rafael de Gruttola gave a haiku reading during Chiku’s haiku
Forty-Eight, 31 Williams St.,
and lectures. The kids loved the class.
preference over haiku, something no one else had been able to do before:
chusetts College of Art in a series
called Poets of Today.
Ella Evans gave a reading at the Chinese Cultural Institute of his haiku and
O’Connor, who won First Prize in the
- - James Kacian

HAiku AND MUSiC: A WEEKEND RETREAT

A weekend retreat was held at the
the Midwest Haiku Society.

In the August meeting was devoted
to a study of the roots of English-
language haiku in North America.
Charles Trumbull read parts of the
introduction to Bruce Ross’s Haiku
Anthology.

HAiku SoCietY Of WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

The Midwest Haiku Society
Midwest Region

Chiku’s September meeting was
haiku, the Chicago area haiku

the Midwest Winter

for information about the current status of the Midwest Anthology, please contact:
Phil Fass
1310 State Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50513

To our knowledge, haiku has been
written about recent events in
Romania.
and forwarding all monies to
nida. nih.gov.

University of Alabama—Huntsville
approximately 50 people
attended the reading, and we
were delighted by the warm
response by many of the members
who expressed support for the
starting of a haiku club.

Was the first major haiku poet
to visit Hot Springs, and he
made a deep impression on the
poet.

As always, Ella’s talk
was warm, profound, and thought
provoking. Michael Dylan Welch introduced us to renga. Naïsa Alma gave
a performance reading, and
were few Haiku workshops,
and the haiku that resulted were
shared afterward.

On August 27, a ginko and potluck
following the meeting of the Regional
Coordinator, again well attended.
Food nearly took precedence over
haiku, but there was not much walking
about!

Becasue the Regional Coordinator
fell out of phase in submitting infor-
mation during the transition period
between the change of editors for the
the Midwest Newsletter that took place in
April, it wishes, as the year draws to
a close, to list briefly some of the
events that have occurred here in
Washington and Oregon during 1996.
Frances Porad continues to wel-
come us at her home every other
month where we share our most
recent acquisitions of workshops.
Because of the holiday season,
our last meeting for this year
will be held Thursday, November 14.
An active haiku group meets in Port
Townsend, Wash., and members
have visited with the Seattle group or
attended Regional Meetings, and
some of us have visited with them in
Port Townsend.
In April, a ginko was held among
the tulip fields in Mount Vernon,
Wash., well attended, and, despite
a light rain, many haiku were shared
and gussets discussed over dessert and
coffee afterwards.
A Regional Meeting was held at
the Portland Japanese Garden (Cascade),
Portland, Ore., on
Saturday, May 11, back-to-back with
the Haiku Summit that was held
there the day before. At the Regional
Meeting, Ella Story was the guest
speaker. Her topic: “The First Garden:
The Haiku Moment and Mythic
Paradise.” As always, Ella’s talk
was warm, profound, and thought
provoking. Michael Dylan Welch
introduced us to renga. Naïsa Alma
also gave a performance reading,
and there was a Four-Haiku Workshop,
and the haiku that resulted were
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On August 27, a ginko and potluck
following the meeting of the Regional
Coordinator, again well attended.
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haiku, but there was not much walking
about!
Poets in Oregon and Washington have submitted many haiku to be considered for the book of haiku, A Northwest Haiiku Year, by the deadline of October 31. (What had been projected as a subtitle has become the title.) Francine Porad and Robert Major are working together on this project and hope to have it completed by late November. Doris Thurston of Port Townsend is preparing the illustrations.

Cherie Hunter Day of Portland has very kindly agreed to put up her name for nomination as Regional Coordinator for the HSA Northwest area for 1997. The present Regional Coordinator has enjoyed serving for two years. He feels that one year of experience is not enough; after two years, someone else should have the opportunity to serve, particularly as the duties bring one into such rewarding contact with so many other haiku poets.

— Robert Major

Haiiku North America 1997

Haiiku North America 1997 will be held at Portland State University in Oregon, from July 24 through July 27, 1997.

Registration is 80 dollars per person before May 31, 1997, and 100 dollars per person late registration after May 31. One-day registration is available for Friday, July 25, or for Saturday, July 26, at a cost of $50 before May 31, 1997, and $70 after that date. Checks should be made out to Haiiku North America in U.S. funds only.

The theme for the conference is "innovation." The keynote speaker is Janine Beichman, author of Matsuyama. Additional speakers will be Patricia Donovan, Sam Hamill, William J. Higginsson, and many others. The program will consist of presentations, panel discussions, workshops, and readings.

Sponsors include Portland State University, Japan America Society of Oregon, and various American haiku organizations.

Frances North America Planning Committee comprises Margaret Chula, Cherie Hunter Day, and Ce Rosenow. To register or for more information contact:

Haiiku North America
P.O. Box 9128
Portland, OR 97291

— Ce Rosenow

Contest

Note that contest announcements are arranged in order of deadlines.

19th Annual HSA International Haiiku Writing Contest

Deadline: Postmarked by November 15, 1996.

Sponsor: The Hawaii Education Association

Definitions: The categories will be (a) Season Word; (b) Hawaiian Word "Uke"; and (c) Humorous. Names will associate your poem with Hawaii specifically. Words such as "waves," "sailboats," etc., are common in many parts of the world and therefore cannot be considered as a "Hawaiian word." Pineapple, sugarcane, and surfboards, for example, are usually associated closely with Hawaii. If you have questions, please feel free to ask.

Contest: The HEA reserves the right to publish all entries in any of its publications. The poet will, however, retain all other rights.

Entry procedure: Send entries by electronic mail directly to the contest. A special contest E-mail address has been created for this occasion.

Entry fee: None.

Submit entries to: toki@bcc.matsuyama-u.ac.jp

Adjudication: Entries will be sent to all contestants for judging after November 19 and before November 30, but names will not be included with the haiku sent at this time. Each contestant will then select one of his or her favorite haiku from among those contributed, and return e-mail with the judges, and enjoying the processes pertaining to this or any other contest.

Enter by e-mail.

Send entry to: toki@bcc.matsuyama-u.ac.jp

Awards: The Shiki team will welcome the winners of the contest to Matsuyama, Japan. The winner will be presented with a round trip ticket to Matsuyma from the airport nearest to them. (The upper limit is $2,000. The Shiki team reserves the right to publish all entries in any of its publications. The poet will, however, retain all other rights.

Shiki Internet Haiiku Contest

Deadline: November 19, 1996.

Sponsor: The Shiki Internet Haiiku Writing Contest organization is an annual contest held by the British Haiku Society.

Regulations: Previously unpublished and (unposted to Internet) haiku only. The theme words are "sky." Each haiku must contain at least one word from among the above three words: "sky," "cloud," and "air,

The British Haiku Society reserves the right to publish all entries in any of its publications. The poet will, however, retain all other rights.

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The HSA Newsletter

Contests

- THE NORTH CAROLINA HAIKU SOCIETY 1997 INTERNATIONAL HAIKU CONTEST

Deadline: December 1, 1996.
Sponsor: North Carolina Hiku Society.

Regulations: Haiku must be the original, unpublished work of the entrant and not currently submitted anywhere else. An unlimited number of haiku may be submitted.

Entry procedure: Each haiku must be typed in triplicate on 3 x 5 inch cards. The haiku must appear on the front of each card; your name, address, grade, age, and school (please include the school address) must appear on the back of (only) one of the cards for each haiku.

Entry fee: None.

Submit entries to: Tony Virgilio, Nick Virgilio Haiku Association, 1092 Niagara Road, Camden, NJ 08104.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: First Prize: $100; Second Prize: $50; Third Prize: $25; two Honorable Mentions: $15 each.

Notification: If list of winners is desired, enclose SASE. Winners will be announced at the seventeenth annual haiku holiday on January 25, 1997, at Bolin-Brook Farm near Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Rights: Winning entries will be printed on a winners' sheet, but all rights are retained by the authors. Nonwinning entries will be destroyed.

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

Deadline: Postmarked November 30, 1996; late entries will not be considered.

Sponsor: The Sacred Heart Church in Camden, New Jersey, and sponsored by the Nick Virgilio Haiku Association in memory of Nicholas A. Virgilio, a charter member of the Haiku Society, who passed away on January 3, 1989.

Regulations: Any student between the ages of 13 and 19 enrolled in high school (freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior) as of September 1996 may enter. Submit up to three haiku per student. All haiku must be previously unpublished, original work and not entered in any other contest. Please follow the guidelines carefully.

Entry procedure: Each haiku must be typed in triplicate on 3 x 5 inch cards. The haiku must appear on the front of each card; your name, address, grade, age, and school (please include the school address) must appear on the back of (only) one of the cards for each haiku.

Entry fee: None.

Submit entries to: Tony Virgilio, Nick Virgilio Haiku Association, 1092 Niagara Road, Camden, NJ 08104.

Adjudication: [Not stated.]

Awards: First Prize: $100; Second Prize: $50; Third Prize: $25; two Honorable Mentions: $15 each.

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- BiAnnual HAIKU Competition

"THE HAiku AWard"

- The Winners

- The Problems

- Snowbound

- the long tips of lavender
  - bend the lavender tips closer to the river —
  - coming to it with nothing
  - in my hands

- Notes on the Problems: "The Haiku Society"..."At first reading, this poem appears humorous, even a little cynical..."

- The Haiku Society Awards for Best Unpublished Haiku

- Winners of the Harold G. Henderson Awards for best unpublished haiku have been announced. Judges were Christopher Herold and Margaret Chula.

- FIRST PLACE ($150) — Leatrice Lifshitz, Pomona, N.Y.
- SECOND PLACE ($100) — Kay F. Anderson, Redwood City, Calif.
- THIRD PLACE ($50) — Jeffrey Witkin, Potomac, Md.

- Haiku will be judged on the following criteria:
  - The intuition dawns that life itself is the division of one into many. Pondering this, the poet goes back to finish the day of longest light. The slender stems of lavender have also reached their peak, pointing straight up to the sun. Bees cluster around the blossoms to gather nectar. In doing so, they bend the lavender tips closer to the sun. Imbedded in these rhythms is the division of white into colors, the division of one into many. Pondering this, the poet goes back to finish the day of longest light.

- THE NORTH CAROLINA HAIKU SOCIETY 1997 INTERNATIONAL HAIKU CONTEST

Deadline: December 1, 1996.
Sponsor: North Carolina Hiku Society.

Regulations: Haiku must be the original, unpublished work of the entrant and not currently submitted anywhere else. An unlimited number of haiku may be submitted.

Entry procedure: Each haiku must be typed in triplicate on 3 x 5 inch cards. The haiku must appear on the front of each card; your name, address, grade, age, and school (please include the school address) must appear on the back of (only) one of the cards for each haiku.

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- THE HAiku AWard

"the lives of their children before descending into the lines of earth..."

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems

- The Problems
The Winvers

Kohjin Sakamoto, Kyoto, Japan
still sun-warmed, the pulled-out scarecrow
in my arms

This poem exudes compassion for a thing seemingly human, a being that has performed an important task, defending the precious vegetable crop, and has now come to the end of its service. Tattered and worn, it has been trashed by humans, its use-wornness changed by it the pull-out scarecrow

Judges' Overall Comments. "Of the 686 submissions to this year's Harold Henderson Awards Contest, there were a great many fine poems. Once the narrowed down to about 30, it became exceedingly difficult to choose the truly outstanding ones. This difficulty became even more pronounced once the short list was down to 12. In the early stages, and even into the final phases of judging, we noticed a flurry of senryû labeled haku. Since HSIA offers a concurrent senryû contest, we decided that it would be advisable to not select any poems that we felt were obvious senryû, though we did consider ones that were in the gray zone.

"Another dilemma came in choosing between poems that exhibited great moments of insight yet had inherent flaws in craft. Use excessive punctuation, awkward phrasing, structural difficulties and either reference to Japanese phrasing and asane broads and an aura of reality without conformance."

Winners of the Gerald Brady Memorial Awards for Best Unpublished Senryû have been announced. Judges were Yvonne Hardenbrook and Tom Clausen.

First Place ($100) — Sandra Fuhringer, Hamilton, Ont.
reconciliation the candle between us

Second Place ($75) — Paul Watsky, San Francisco, Calif.
his ashes scattered
what to do with the box

Third Place ($50) — John Stevenson, Nassau, N.Y.
nude beach
his enormous sand castle

Honorable Mention (alphabetical order)
Helen Dalton, Honolulu, Hawai'i
letting the dog out
letting the dog in wrong dog

D. Claire Gallagher, Sunnyvale, Calif.
A gusting breeze —
the storm coññects
in my bocalloucs

Marianna Monaco, San Francisco, Calif.
long walk home —
keeping a stone for company

John Stevenson, Nassau, N.Y. (twice).
Christmas Day
the exchange
of custody

honeymoon trip
he refuses to stop for directions

Gerald Brady Memorial Awards for Best Unpublished Senryû

"Haiiku Wanted"

We have received word of the inauguration of a new journal, called still, in England. The first issue is expected out in January 1997. The editor, ai li, says that submissions are being solicited now for the second issue. The journal will also sponsor a twice-yearly competition (see "Contests" section). still promotes haiku, senryû, and other forms of the poetry. Syllable count and season word are not essential. Previously published work is acceptable (please state where and when published) though unpublished and subscribers' material will be given priority.

The price of a subscription includes the first six entries to each biannual competition free. No contributors' copies. Please write: still, a journal of short verse 49 En glandes Lane London NW3 4YD, England still@into.demon.co.uk home page (World Wide Web site): HTTP://WWW.INFO.DEMON.CO.UK

Subscription rates: £20 per annum (4 issues) + P&P (U.K. £3; air mail to North America, £8). Note that postal rates will rise in January 1997! Please make cheques, postal orders, International Postal Money Orders payable to still. U.S. cash (no cheques please) acceptable at current exchange rate.

Haiiku Chicago Call for Permissions

The news from Japan is that the Haiiku International group has finished the translations of the Japanese talks delivered at Haiiku Chicago in October 1995.
We hope to publish all the talks presented at the conference along with all the poems submitted for the kukai. In order for us to do so, we will need permissions to publish from all the participants. We have received permissions from the following people: Brooks, Currier, Deming, Evetts, Hutton, Kilbride, Leibman, Little, Lyles, Pauly, Porad, Ross, Rozmus, Rust, Spiess, Swede, Tokutomi, van den Heuvel, Welch, and Young.

If your name is not on this list, and you would like to have your poem included in this publication, please send your permission to publish to: Lee Gurga, 514 Pekin Street, Lincoln, IL 62656-2054. Deadline: December 1, 1996.

1995 Members’ Anthology

One Breath, the HSA 1995 Members’ Anthology, edited by Jean Dubois, Michael McNierney, and Elizabeth L. Nichols, is available for $7.50 postpaid (US and Canada; overseas mailing fee $2) from Jean Dubois, P.O. Box 1430, Golden CO 80402.

A Haiku Path

Orders are still being taken for A Haiku Path. The list price for nonmembers, $27.95; the discount price to HSA members is $21.95 (USA); includes postage and handling. Members in Canada and other countries, please add $2.00 per copy for extra postage. You must be a current HSA member to obtain a copy at the discount price.

Please send orders to Raffael de Gruttola, Treasurer, 4 Marshall Road, Natick, MA 01760

Our Error

Profound apologies are due to Suzanne Friedman, Ebba Story, the Haiku Poets of Northern California, and all the non-HPNC members who submitted verses to the planned HPNC anthology of dog haiku and senryû after seeing the notice we ran in the May 1996 HSA Newsletter. The chapbook was intended to — and will still — include the work of HPNC members only, which unfortunately was not clear to us from the announcement forwarded to us in late April.

We are sorry for the problems that we caused the editors and for the disappointment that non-HPNC members experienced when their poems had to be returned.

– The Editors

The Haiku Bookshelf

The Haiku Society of America Newsletter

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

sumi-e by Lidia Rozmus

THE HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
c/o Japan Society, Inc., 333 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017-2399, USA