Dear Randy M,

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.
Dear Members,

Though we started in New York City as an American haiku society, HSA has a lot of members who live outside the United States. We are global now. Our door is open for everyone. Please encourage your friends at home and abroad to join HSA. Also, our meetings are open to the public, and non-members are welcome to attend. I enjoyed all three meetings in 2016, and I will be at the meeting on St. Simons Island, GA (April 21 to 23). You can find more information on SE Regional news here. Contact Robyn Hood Black here if you have any questions.

Recently, at a local haiku gathering, there was discussion about kigo. I wonder how we can evoke empathy with a reader if he/she lives in a different climate, or has a dissimilar cultural background. When I write haiku, whether in English or Japanese, I rely on a Japanese saijiki. I use ‘asparagus’ or ‘clam’ as a spring kigo because the saijiki says so. Honestly, I am not sure why the saijiki lists kigo such as ‘seaweed’ in the spring, but I decided that I would not question its authority. You would not ask why three strikes eliminates a batter when you play baseball, right?

誰訪びに海苔の中行く小舟かな 蕪村
dare toi ni nori no naka yuku kobune kana

whom does he visit?
a small boat moving
amid seaweed

Buson

from "Haiku Dai-Saijiki" ("Comprehensive Haiku Saijiki"), Kadokawa Shoten, Tokyo, 2006
In Buson's era, seaweed was gathered during the springtime in Edo (Tokyo) Bay. His contemporaries would not have any problem seeing this as a spring haiku.

日をのせて浪たゆたへり海苔の海　　高浜虛子
hi o nosete nami tayutaeri nori no umi

sunshine on the top
waves flickering
in the seaweed ocean

Kyoshi Takahama
from "Haiku Dai-Saijiki" ("Comprehensive Haiku Saijiki"), Kadokawa Shoten, Tokyo, 2006

In the above haiku, it is easier to feel 'spring' because I can imagine the calmness of the spring sea. This may allude to Buson's '春の海ひねもすのたりのたりかな'(haru no umi/hinemosu/notari notari/kana) (spring ocean/gently and slowly/all day).

Since I am not a nature person, I often search the Internet to learn about a bird or a flower in someone's haiku. Though not everyone will know that 'seaweed' is a Japanese spring kigo, I will use it anyway because I rely on the saijiki. If a haiku can open a door for a reader and let him/her feel empathy, I say that haiku is successful.

dry seaweed
the key to decrypt
the ocean's secret

Fay Aoyagi
HSA President
fay.hsa.president@gmail.com
Dear Members,

The HSA ended 2016 in solid financial condition thanks to a steady level of membership, many more of whom renewed before January 1, and thanks to the continued generosity of donors.

Cash in Bank as of 12/31/16 was $88,042.

Income was higher than expenses by $8,825.

Income was higher than budget by nearly $2,000, mostly in Dues/Contributions. Many more people are paying online and earlier through the HSA website.

We also received an unexpected $1,000 grant thanks to the efforts of Regional Coordinator Shelley Baker-Gard.

The conversion of HSA contests to electronic entries and payment was a big success, and contest fee income exceeded budget by $492.

Expenses were under budget by $6,010, most notably Travel reimbursements ($4,400 under) and Frogpond costs ($2,573 under, due to smaller journals last year).

HSA supported Haiku North America in 2016 with a donation of $1,000 for the 2017. In addition, a number of smaller grants totaling $1,528 were given out to support haiku programs.

Bill Deegan
Treasurer
hsa.treasurer@yahoo.com

HSA 2016 Financial Status
For the year ending
### December 31, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Ending cash balance, December 31</td>
<td>$ 88,042</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HSA News

#### HSA 2017

#### Election Results

226 of 767 ballots cast
*write-in candidate

**President**

Fay Aoyagi: 211 votes - 98.1%
* Michael Dylan Welch: 1 vote - 0.5%
* Mike Montreuil: 1 vote - 0.5%
* Roberta Beary: 1 vote - 0.5%

First Vice President

Mike Montreuil: 207 votes - 99.5%
* Someone else: 1 vote - 0.5%

Second Vice President

Beverly Acuff Momoi: 207 votes - 99.5%
* Deborah Kolodji: 1 vote - 0.5%

Treasurer

Bill Deegan: 215 votes - 100.0%

Electronic Media Officer

Randy Brooks: 216 votes - 100.0%

Frogpond Editor

Christopher Patchel: 126 votes - 59.7%
Bruce Ross: 85 votes - 40.3%

Newsletter Editor

Ignatius Fay: 217 votes - 100.0%

Secretary

Dianne Garcia: 215 votes - 100.0%

Regional Coordinators

California: Deborah Kolodji
Hawaii/Pacific: Brett Brady
Mid-Atlantic: Robert Ertman
Midwest: Julie Warther
Mountain Region: Steve Tabb
Northeast/New England: Wanda Cook
Northeast Metro: Rita Gray
Oregon: Shelley Baker-Gard
Pacific Northwest: Angela Terry
South: Carlos Colon
Southwest: James Applegate
Southeast: Robin Hood Black

HSA BY-LAWS AMENDMENT
TSA Publications Sale!

Want to learn more about tanka? Missing a back issue of Ribbons or a TSA anthology? Want to make your tanka collection more complete? The Tanka Society of America is having a publications sale! All available back issues of Ribbons are just $5.00 each (half price), and available issues of our membership anthologies are $6.00 each (40 percent off). And shipping is FREE to TSA members in North America, if you order by February 20, 2017 (we apologize that we can't offer free shipping outside North America or to nonmembers, but the sale is open to anyone).

Ready to order? Get details at here. And remember, even after February 20, these publications will still be on sale, but not with free shipping. If you have any questions about this sale, please email Kathabela Wilson.
particular issues, please email Kathabela Wilson. Get your orders in soon, especially for the more scarce back issues!

And if you'd like to join or you haven't yet renewed your TSA membership for 2017, go here. Don't forget to do that right away, especially if you want to take advantage of this sale's free shipping for members!

submitted by Michael Dylan Welch

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**UpComing Contests**

**THE IAFOR VLADIMIR DEVIDÉ HAIKU AWARD**

**Open For Submissions!**

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award, now in its seventh year, is open for submissions. Have you started writing yours yet?

Submit your haiku [here](#) by March 1, 2017

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award is an open competition for previously unpublished haiku written in the English language. The award is for haiku regardless of whether in the traditional or modern style; it transcends haiku divisions and is based only on literary merit.
About The Award

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award is judged by Dr Drago Ćtambuk, and is organised by The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) and The Asian Conference on Literature (LibrAsia), with the kind support of the Haiku International Association (HIA) and the World Haiku Association (WHA).

Winners and Runners Up will be invited to attend the LibrAsia2017 Plenary Day as audience members, which will include entry to the award ceremony and haiku reading, as well as to the haiku workshop, run by Emiko Miyashita and Hana Fujimoto of the Haiku International Association. Winners will be published in the prestigious IAFOR Haiku Anthology.

In addition, this year's Guest Judge, award-winning poet Susan Burch, will make a special selection on the theme of "history, story, narrative."

Spread The Word

Support the IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award by following us on Facebook and Twitter, and spread the word to friends and colleagues who might be interested in submitting by forwarding this email. For the latest news, the history of the award, past winners and blog posts from some of the world's most respected haiku experts and poets, visit the award website.

FORWARD TO A FRIEND

The Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Awards for 2017

Modern Haiku is pleased to announce the Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Awards Competition for 2017. The purpose of this competition is to honor the life and work of Bob Spiess, editor of Modern Haiku from 1978 to his death on March 13, 2002.

Email entries are accepted as well as postal entries.

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

When haiku poets are truly stirred by a now-moment of awareness they respond with a simple, usually silent "Yes," not because they "understand," for that means the intellect is operating on the event-experience. This "Yes" is not one of considered approval but is prior to such an intellective judgment, it is an unqualified acceptance of the moment and its entities just as they are in their true nature at that particular and never to be repeated split second.


Rules: The competition is open to everyone but the staff of Modern Haiku, the competition coordinator, and the judge. 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, on a Web site, in a blog, or in any other public media is considered publication, but posting haiku on a private email list is not. Of course, entries should not be shared in an Internet journal, Web site, blog, private or public email list, or any other public media during the term of the competition.

Submission guidelines: Poets may submit a maximum of five haiku written in the spirit of the above Speculation, accompanied by the applicable entry fee.

Postal entries should be typed or printed legibly on one sheet paper. The poet's name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address (if any) should appear in the upper left-hand corner above the haiku. Send postal entries to: Billie Wilson, 1170 Fritz Cove Road, Juneau, AK 99801-8501 USA.

Email entries are to be submitted as follows: (1) on the Modern Haiku subscription page, scroll down to the Donate button; (2) make a donation of up to $5 [$1 for each entry]; (3) when you receive your payment confirmation number, copy and paste it into an email with your haiku and your name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address; (4) send the email to Billie Wilson at akwilsons@gci.net.

Please keep a copy of your submission; entries will not be returned. Please follow the instructions carefully; entries...
returned. 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, check, or PayPal (U.S. funds); make checks payable to *Modern Haiku*; for email entries, follow the instructions above.

**Adjudication:** A judge will be selected by *Modern Haiku*; the judge's name will be announced at the time of the awards. Judging will be double-blind, and the judge will not know the identity of the entrants. The judge's decisions are final.

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

**Awards:** First Prize: $100 plus a signed copy of *The Turtle's Ears* (1971, out of print). Second Prize: $50 plus a copy of Bob's *Some Sticks and Pebbles* (2001, out of print); Third Prize: $25 plus a copy of Bob's *Five Caribbean Haibun* (1972, out of print). 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 2017 issue of *Modern Haiku* and posted on the *Modern Haiku* Web site, on or before July 1, 2017. If you would like a list of the winners, please indicate that on your e-mail entries or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope (SASE) with your postal entries. The winners will be announced when the summer issue of *Modern Haiku* is released.

**HSA**
**Bernard Lionel Einbond Renku Competition**

**EXPANDED FORMAT**
The Haiku Society of America is pleased to announce that the 2017 Bernard Lionel Einbond Renku Competition is open to the Kasen (36-verse format), the Nijyuin (20-verse format) and other established formats.

**Deadline:** February 28, 2017

**Submission guidelines:** This year’s Einbond Renku Competition is not limited to the Nijyuin (20-verse) format and can be other established formats, including the 36-verse Kasen. Please identify the format you are using when you make your submission. For complete submission guidelines, please see the [HSA website for the renku contest](http://www.hsa.org/renku).

**Entry fee:** For HSA members, $5 US for up to 3 renku. For non-HSA members, $7 US for up to 3 renku. Payment must be made online using the link on the HSA website for the renku contest.

**Adjudication:** Judges will be announced at the time of the awards. Judges will not know the identity of entrants.

**Awards:** Up to $150 in awards. Winning renku will be published in *Frogpond* and on the [HSA website](http://www.hsa.org/).

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**The Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku and Senryu Competition for Grades 7-12**

**NEW ONLINE SUBMISSIONS**

In 2017, the Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku and Senryu Competition for Grades 7-12 will consider haiku and senryu. Also, a new online submission process has been implemented to simplify the submission process for students.

The Virgilio competition was founded by the Sacred Heart Church in Camden, NJ, and sponsored by the Nick Virgilio Haiku Association (NVHA) in memory of
Nick Virgilio Haiku Association (NVHA) in memory of Nicholas A. Virgilio. The Haiku Society of America co-sponsors the contest, provides the judges and publishes the results in *Frogpond* and on the HSA website.

**Submission guidelines:** Up to 3 haiku per student. Online submissions are strongly encouraged, but postal submissions will be accepted in this transition year.

For complete guidelines and a link to the online entry form, please see the [HSA website for the Virgilio contest](#).

**Deadline:** March 25, 2017

**Eligibility:** Any student in grades 7-12 enrolled in school as of September 2016.

**Adjudication:** Judges will be announced at the time of the awards. Judges will not know the identity of entrants.

**Awards:**
Six poems will be selected. Winning poets will be awarded $50, and their high schools will be awarded an annual subscription to *Frogpond*. Winning poems will be published in *Frogpond* and on the HSA website.

submitted by Bev Momoi

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**The 2017 Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest**

Enter the oldest USA-based international haiku contest honoring traditional Japanese haiku.
Win a Prize! $100 $50 $25 to the top three haiku.

**Contest Rules**
Contest Rules

- In hand-deadline of May 31, 2017
- Haiku must be in English.
- Haiku must have 17 syllables in a 5-7-5 pattern.
- Haiku must use only one kigo from the contest list. Haiku with more than one recognized kigo will be disqualified.

2017 Contest Kigo List

- New Year: first morning
- Spring: tadpole, departing spring
- Summer: midday nap, flea
- Autumn: school begins, harvested fields
- Winter: winter cloud, early plum blossoms

Email Entries

To: Mimi Ahern at 2017YTHSContest@gmail.com
Fee: $8.00 per 3 haiku with PayPal: YukiTeikei@msn.com. In the "note" box type: YTContest, your name, and number of haiku.

Paper Entries

To: Mimi Ahern, Contest Chair, 980 Twin Brook Drive, San Jose, California 95126.
Fee: $7.00 per page of three haiku. Include check made out to Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. Place 3 poems per 8 ½ x 11 page and 4 copies of each page with name and address on one copy only. Overseas entrants use International Postal Money Order in U.S. currency only.

Entry Details

- Entries must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere.
- Previous winning haiku are not eligible. No limit on number of entries.
Entries will not be returned and no refunds will be given.

The contest is open to anyone, except for the YTHS President and Contest Chair.

Final selection will be made by one or more distinguished haiku poets.

YTHS may print winning poems and commentary in its newsletter, web site, annual anthology, and brochures. The judges and contest results will be announced at the November 2017 YTHS Annual Haiku Retreat in Asilomar. Soon afterward they will appear on the YTHS website.

For a paper copy of the contest results send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) marked "Contest Winners." Those abroad please enclose a self-addressed envelope (SAE) plus enough postage in international reply coupons for air mail return.

submitted by Mimi Ahern

The Jane Reichhold Memorial International Prize

15th Annual Ukiah Haiku Festival

Postmark Deadline for Entries: March 17, 2017

Open to Adults planet-wide. Includes category in Spanish, Sumisoines Regionals de Haiku En Espanol.

All entries are free.
All entries are free.

Annual Festival Celebration will be Sunday April 30, 2017, 2:00 pm, at the Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Smeinary Ave, Ukiah, California.

Separate categories also include regional contests for both children and youth and adults. All work is requested to be previously unpublished and original work by author submitting.

For more information, please see our website.  
336-430-7632  
Opensky-wi.net

submitted by Kate Gaston

Upcoming Events

Special Reception for Charlotte Digregorio

Charlotte Digregorio will be given a special reception by the Fremont Public Library in Mundelein, IL, in honor of her solo haiku exhibit, at 6 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 1170 N. Midlothian Rd.

All are invited for refreshments, conversation and the signing of her book, *Haiku and Senryu: A Simple Guide for All*. In addition, Charlotte was recently featured in the newsletter of the Independent Book Publishers Association for her work in effectively marketing haiku and poetry to book buyers.

Please visit Digregorio's blog [here](#). Featured are The Daily Haiku and the work of poets from thirty countries. Those who have previously-published haiku or senryu that they would like to submit for consideration, may contact Charlotte. Please send no more than three poems.

submitted by Charlotte Digregorio
Group Book Launch at Haiku Canada Conference 2017

Haiku Canada is preparing for its annual 40th Anniversary Haiku Canada Weekend at the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus May 19 to May 21st. Go here for the registration form. All costs remain the same as 2016 thanks to the extraordinary work by Anna Yin and George Swede in making this conference a success! I'll be there and hope to see many of our wonderful Canadian Haiku Poets. You can find details here of the launch request process from Anna Yin.

Our Group Book Launch has featured many laudable works that deserve a viewing, launching and publicizing by many small and large press publications. Add yours to the list!

For the group launch (books and chapbooks) at Mississauga Campus (University of Toronto) Saturday afternoon, May 20th, 2017. If you are interested in launching a book or chapbook at the 2017 HC weekend, please send the following information to Anna Yin (anna.yin@gmail.com) by Valentine's Day (Feb 14th, 2017).

- Name of poe(s):
- Title of book/chapbook and a short description
- Whether or not you will have an added presentation to go with your book "launch"/reading?
- Required audio/visual equipment, or anything else you'll need
- Your preferred time frame (12-15 mins) or (22-30 mins). The final time frame will be decided by Anna (depending on numbers of
decided by Anna (depending on numbers of books and time allotment)

--------------------------------------
To display books at the conference at UTM, please bring your own to the conference.

Books to be donated to the Mississauga Public Library for a display before the conference, should be mailed in advance to:

Anna Yin  
3820 Lacman Trail  
Mississauga On L5M6X8  

Anna will bring them to the central library. (note: better to donate books not chapbooks....thanks)

submitted by carole Daoust


HAIKU ARBUTUS

Victoria, B.C. study group for haiku poets walking the path of haikai  
Meetings are held seasonally, 1-4 pm, usually at the Monterey Centre in Oak Bay

2017 schedule:

Spring: Saturday, April 1  
; featured speaker Michael Dylan Welch

Summer: Sunday, July 16

Autumn: Sunday, October 1

Check Facebook page for upcoming meeting details here

Facilitator: Terry Ann Carter  
terryanncarter3@gmail.com
**SOLSTICE HAIKU**

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

Haiku discussion group meets monthly to share & discuss haiku
- next meeting is January 14, 2017
- the group is thriving and plans to complete its first renku this month

**Facilitator:** Katherine Munro (kjmunro)
kjm.1560@gmail.com

---

**VANCOUVER HAIKU GROUP**

Open to all people who are interested in developing traditional styles of Japanese and contemporary English-style haiku, as well as other forms of composition related to the haiku genre.

Meetings are usually held every third Sunday of the month (Jan-June, Sep-Nov), 1-4 pm

- next meeting is January 15, 2017
  Britannia Community Services Centre
  in the Family Resource Centre
  1661 Napier Street, Vancouver

**Facilitator:** Angela J. Naccarato
angelan@telus.net

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**VANCOUVER CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL**
2017 Haiku Invitational
Will receive submissions March 1 - June 1, 2017

Visit us [here](#).

**This year's theme:** freedom

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**Sakura Days Japan Fair**

April 8 & 9, 2017
Saturday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

VanDusen Botanical Garden
5251 Oak Street (37th & Oak), Vancouver
Visit us [here](#).

**Coordinator:** Lynne Jambor
[lynnejambor@gmail.com](mailto:lynnejambor@gmail.com)
Contact Lynne if you'd like to volunteer for Japan Fair

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**National haiku gathering**

**HAIKU CANADA WEEKEND 2017**

May 19 - 21, 2017
Mississauga, Ontario
at the UTM (University of Toronto Mississauga) campus

Will celebrate Haiku Canada's 40th anniversary

For information, please visit us [here](#).
HAIKU
NORTH AMERICA 2017

September 13 - 17, 2017
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Visit our website

SEABECK HAIKU GETAWAY

Haiku Northwest (a region of the Haiku Society of America)

October 26 - 29, 2017
Seabeck Conference Center
Seabeck, Washington

Will celebrate the Getaway's 10th anniversary
Visit us here.

submitted by Vicki McCullough

Regional News

California
Deborah P Kolodji

Haiku San Diego
Haiku San Diego has a new location and meeting time:

**NEW LOCATION**
North University Community Branch Library (in north University City) - photos attached
8820 Judicial Drive
San Diego, CA 92122-4684
858-581-9637
Meeting Room 1 or Meeting Room 2

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Second Sunday of each month beginning Sunday, February 12th.
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Exception: our March 12th meeting. The library will be closed that week.)

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**Southern California Haiku Study Group**

**December Workshop**

On December 17, 2016, twelve members of the Southern California Haiku Study Group met at the Lamanda Park Library in Pasadena for a haibun workshop led by Greg Longenecker. The meeting kicked off with a read-around of haiku by Lynn Allgood, Joyce Futa, Kimberly Esser, Deborah P Kolodji, Kirk Kolodji, Elva Lauter, Greg Longenecker, Toni Steele, Pat Wakimoto, Kathabela Wilson, James Won, and Sharon Yee.

The following books were brought to share during the read-around:

*Old Enough* by Bruce H. Feingold
*Lit from Within* by Ruth Yarrow
*Full of Moonlight* (HSA 2016 Anthology)
*Naad Anunaaad* (Haiku Anthology from India)
*Cherry Blossom Light* (Yuki Teikei Haiku Society 2016 Anthology)
After the haiku sharing, Greg talked about his experience as one of the judges of the HSA haibun contest with Joan Zimmerman. He then led a discussion about the three elements of a haibun: the title, the prose, and the haiku. A handout was given to participants with several haibun separated out to a list of titles, a list of prose pieces, and a list of haiku. Participants were given time to try to match the titles with the prose and haiku. A discussion ensued regarding various choices participants made as compared to the actual haibun these parts came from. It was a discussion that would resonate with participants long after the workshop ended.

Post-Holiday Party

On January 8, 2017, the traditional Southern California Haiku Study Group post-holiday party was held at the Temple City home of Deborah P Kolodji. Due to an unusual break in cold rainy weather, with blue skies and 70 degrees, the party took place in the backyard patio, featuring potluck dishes brought by members, supplemented by food from Portos Cuban Bakery. Each party-goer brought a haiku "gift" to share with other members of the group, a gift that somehow incorporated a haiku they had written, whether it be a photo-haiga postcard or candy with a haiku on the wrapper or a bundle of red pens tied up with a haiku. Before and after the gift presentations, Rick Wilson played various flutes under hot pink bracts of bougainvillea. Present were Lynn Allgood, Peggy Castro, Kim Esser, Joyce Futa, Deborah P Kolodji, Yvette Kolodji, Mynor Lorca, Janis Lukstein, Cindy Rinne, Susan Rogers, Toni Steele, Mary Torregrossa, Kathabela Wilson, Rick Wilson, James Won, and Sharon Yee.
January Workshop

On a day when 750,000 people in Los Angeles were marching, we held a quiet haiku workshop in the Lamanda Park Library on January 21st. The topic of the workshop was how to write effective haiku about current events.

As is our custom, we opened the workshop with a read-around of haiku from participants, which included Lynn Allgood, Marcia Behar, Kim Esser, Bill Hart, D’Ellen Hutchins, Deborah P Kolodji, Greg Longenecker, Patty, Ralph, Beki Reese, Kathabela Wilson, James Won, and Wendy Wright.

The following books and journals were brought to share during the haiku read-around:

*Frogpond 39.3*, Autumn 2016
*Lit from Within* by Ruth Yarrow
*The Haiku Anthology*, 3rd Edition, by Cor van den Heuvel
*Acorn #37*, Fall 2016
*Street Chatter Fading* by Abigail Friedman
*I Wait for the Moon* by Momoko Kuroda (tr. Abigail Friedman)

A copy of the essay, "World Economy in Word..."
Economy" by Ruth Yarrow from Frogpond 34.1, 2011 was shared with participants, who took turns reading the sample haiku about the economy aloud. A handout by Deborah P Kolodji called "Engaging the Senses vs Making a Statement" was passed around. This handout had "5-7-5" political statement "haiku" from various newspapers. The object of the exercise was to try to write haiku on these topics which engaged the senses versus making a statement. For example, the Marin Independent Journal recently published election "haiku" from readers. As often happens in these newspaper features, most of these poems, if not all of them, were not haiku, they were statements.

One example:

I go to the polls.
I vote none of the above.
They win anyway.
- Richard Park, Tiburon

Participants were not to "rewrite" the haiku or otherwise plagiarize it; instead, they were to use the topics presented as prompts to write haiku or senryu. The following example was provided:

his name on the ballot
the black blots
of my votes
- Deborah P Kolodji

Other sample haiku addressed the death of John Glenn and California Propositions on the November ballot (plastic bag ban, bonds for large projects) written as 5-7-5. For those participants who needed a reprieve from politics, the following kigo were offered as prompts: rainy season, bare root roses, bare branches, toyon berries, Orion, long nights, winter sparrow, tangerines, bare fields, snow-capped mountains, overwintering monarchs, and migrating whales.

After a productive writing sessions which produced poems ranging from plastic bag bans to winter sparrows, we held an anonymous haiku workshop on the haiku and senryu we had written.
This year’s annual retreat was held from November 10 through 13 at the Asilomar State Beach and Conference Center in Pacific Grove, California. The theme for this year’s retreat was the “Role of Kigo and Season Words in Haiku” and the special guest speaker was Charles Trumbull.

Thursday: For those who could attend, the conference began with an afternoon ginko walk led by YTHS President Patrick Gallagher at Point Lobos State Park. The evening program opened with a Welcome by President Patrick Gallagher and an Introduction to the Conference by Program Chair, Betty Arnold. This was followed by Patricia Machmiller’s Memorial for Jane Reichhold (1937-2016), who was a great friend to the world of haiku and to the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society, serving as the editor of society’s newsletter GEPPPO from 1991 to 1993. We are all greatly saddened by her passing. The new publication *Old Pond: The Art of Haiku* was presented by its editor, Clysta Seeney. With essays and articles on the craft of haiku by Jerry Ball, Alex Benedict, Alice Benedict, Margaret Chula, Carol Conti-Entin, Helen Davie, D. Claire Gallagher, Christopher Herold, Jim Kacian, Patricia J. Machmiller, H.F. (Tom) Noyes, Francine Porad, Jane Reichhold, Ebba Story, Michael Dylan Welch, and Paul O. Williams, this collection contains wisdom and guidance for all writers of haiku.

Next, featured guest speaker Charles Trumbull spoke about the Haiku Database Project. Trumbull began this database project in September 1998 with the intention of creating a tool to make the location and study of haiku easier for scholars and serious students. The database contains haiku in English, as well as translations of poems from...
English, as well as translations of poems from Japanese and a number of other languages. The text of the haiku as well as information about each poem can be accessed by means of a number of searchable categories, including author, composition or publication date, kigo, season word, keywords, etc. As of November 2016, the database contains over 342,000 haiku. Although the database is not publicly available, everyone is encouraged to contact Charles Trumbull directly with search requests. The evening ended with the opening by Patricia Machmiller of the Silent Auction, which serves as a fundraiser for scholarships to the retreat.

**Friday:** The morning session began with a talk by Michael Sheffield on the Historical Perspective of Kigo. This was followed by featured speaker Charles Trumbull’s presentation “Shiki’s Kigo,” in which he shared his recent research on the haiku of Matsuoka Shiki in connection with an ongoing exploration of the question of seasonality in haiku. Trumbull’s talk included discussion of kigo as it is and has been used traditionally in Japanese haiku followed by an analysis of how Shiki used kigo in his own work, aided by research with the Haiku Database.

Trumbull finished his talk with a discussion of kigo by those who came after Shiki. The morning session concluded with a Panel Discussion, in which Charles Trumbull, Patricia Machmiller, Patrick Gallagher, and Michael Sheffield shared their views with the group on Kigo and Season Words in Haiku. In the afternoon, Charles Trumbull and Michael Sheffield held readings of their work and the Silent Auction closed. After dinner, the group was treated to a stunning multimedia display of YTHS members’ haiga, coordinated by the Haiga Committee, and Elaine Whitman, aided by Neil Whitman, shared her delightful scarf haiga. This was followed by the presentation of the 2016 Membership Anthology Cherry Blossom Light, by Mimi Ahern (editor), David Sherertz (designer), and Carolyn Fitz (artist), which included a moving tribute to the society’s leader and dojin Patricia J. Machmiller.

Next, Contest Chair Greg Longenecker announced
the winners of the 2016 Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Haiku Contest. This annual contest, which honors the founders of YTHS, accepts submissions of traditional haiku with a five-seven-five structure and one kigo. This year’s contest judge was haiku poet, literary critic, and translator Marie Mariya. First prize was awarded to Priscilla Lignori, second prize to Ferris Gilli, and third prize to Marilyn Ashbaugh. A number of other YTHS members received honorable mentions.

Saturday: In the morning, participants had the opportunity to express themselves visually in the Art Studio and take part in a Haiga Educational Workshop. The afternoon session included a Participant's' Haiku Workshop and a Kukai, both led by Patrick Gallagher. And Saturday evening featured the Renku Party, which continued late into the night.

Sunday: The conference ended on Sunday morning with a reading of the renku from the previous evening by the verses' authors. The group then shared their haiku and artwork from the conference, and everyone took part in the Closing Acknowledgments to sum up the retreat and express their appreciation for the presenters, organizers, and participants.

YTHS Monthly Meeting: January 2017
Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest Preparation: a YTHS Craft Workshop by Joan Zimmerman, Carolyn Fitz's Clubhouse, Soquel, CA

On Jan 21, 2017 a brief opening in our winter storms allowed many poets to brave the wet roads to attend this special workshop. We gathered at Carolyn Fitz's clubhouse in Soquel where we were met by an abundance of delicious snacks, warm drinks and Carolyn's gracious hospitality.

YTHS members present: Joan Zimmerman, Alison Woolpert, Karina Young, Betty Arnold, Judith Morrison Schallberger, Carol Steele, Carolyn Fitz, Clysta Seney, Phillip Kennedy, Amy OstensK Kennedy, Toni Homan, Cynthia Holbrook. Beverly Acuff Momoi. Mimi Ahern. Patrick
Guests: Jennifer Thierrmann, Susan Giddings, Evelyn Kern and Rob Holbrook.

Joan Zimmerman led us in an educational and inspirational discussion of the rules for writing appropriate haiku for the Tokutomi traditional haiku contest, including the need for 5/7/5 syllable count and use of a kigo/ season word. Joan and some of the past contest winners read their distinguished haiku. You can find these haiku listed on the [YTHS website](http://www.ythsw.com).

This year's contest chairperson, Mimi Ahern, then explained how she came up with her list of kigo choices for 2017. After a short potluck break, we returned to try our hand at several writing exercises: writing fragments with 5 syllable, 7 syllables and finally completed haiku. An example of a seven syllable line using a contest kigo written by Amy Ostenso Kennedy was "tadpoles zip in the puddle." Another concept proposed by Joan, haiku juxtapositions, was also tried. Phillip Kennedy's examples were "school begins / sliced cheese" and "first morning/ straightening the welcome mat." A wonderful afternoon started out the new YT year, leaving many eager to create haiku to submit to the contest this year. A Big Thank You from all of us to Joan!

write-up by Dyana Basist

YTHS Monthly Meeting: December

Annual Holiday Party at Al & Patricia Machmiller's House, San Jose

On December 10, 2016 many wonderful folks made their way through the rainy dusk for the annual Yuki Teikei Holiday Party held at Patricia and Al Machmiller's lovely home in San Jose.
slinging her school scarf
over her shoulder the rush
into winter
~Joan Zimmerman

Members in attendance:
Roger Abe, Patricia J. Machmiller, Alison Woolpert, Judith M. Schallberger, Dyana Basist, Carol Steele, Carolyn Fitz, Eleanor Carolan, Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vroom, Anne Homan, Karina M. Young, Ann Bendixen, Clysta Seney, Linda Papanicolaou, Betty Arnold, Joan Zimmerman, Beverly Acuff Momoi, Katsuhiko Momoi.

Guests: Becky Davies (Anne Homan's daughter), Tom Berry (Anne Bendixen's son-in-law), Cynthia & Rob Holbrook, Smita Patel, Sirgit Patel, Lou Schallberger, Alan Levitt, Al Machmiller.

After mingling with bubbly beverages and rose petal jam on crackers, the sumptuous pot luck was served. WOW, what a feast for the senses: everything from world-class baked beans and duck cassoulet, to a large platter of sushi, beet salad, string beans with pomegranate seeds, quinoa and chicken, mung bean and waldorf salads and . . . on and on.

toyon berries
the faces of haiku friends
illuminated
~Karina M Young

After dinner everyone got in a crazy big circle and the holiday haiku were read and gifted to each other. Every haiku and card so unique and carefully rendered; a beautiful reflection of the members of our Society. People left lighter of foot and heart.

your pure love
when the world is snow
-Roger Abe

write-up by Dyana Basist
Yuki Teikei Haiku Society
Announces

The 2017 Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Haiku Contest

Enter the oldest USA-based international haiku contest honoring traditional Japanese haiku. Win a Prize! $100 $50 $25 to the top three haiku.

Contest Rules:

♣ Haiku must be in English.
♣ Haiku must each have 17 syllables in a 5-7-5 pattern.
♣ Haiku must each use only one kigo from the contest list.
♣ Haiku with more than one recognized kigo will be disqualified.
♣ In-hand deadline: May 31, 2017

Contest Kigo List:

♣ New Year: first morning
♣ Spring: tadpole, departing spring
♣ Summer: midday nap, flea
♣ Autumn: school begins, harvested fields
♣ Winter: winter cloud, early plum blossoms

Entries, payment, & guidelines are available on the YTHS website
Contest Chair, Mimi Ahern, may be contacted at: 2017YTHSContest@gmail.com

Submitted by Mimi Ahern
Please note: The new Pacific Northwest Region of the Haiku Society of America is now made up of members from Washington and Alaska.

Haiku Northwest

Haiku Northwest held its first meeting of 2017 on Thursday January 26 at the Kirkland library, with 8 people in attendance. We shared news, announcements and candy and homemade chocolate chip cookies. HNW is the recipient of several out of print haiku books from a member’s collection, and we discussed valuation and ways of offering them for sale. Treasurer Dianne Garcia will do further research on the subject.

Since we had to cancel our December meeting due to snow (and no, Seattleites don’t do snow well), we held our election for our 2017 officers at this meeting with the following slate being unanimously elected:

President - Michelle Schaefer
Vice President - Tanya McDonald
Treasurer - Dianne Garcia
Secretary - Angela Terry
Webmaster - Michael Dylan Welch

After the election, we shared haiku that members had brought. We are now working on ideas for upcoming HNW meetings and events during 2017.

Report by Angela Terry
Coordinator
PNW Region
Seabeck Haiku Getaway 2017

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Haiku Northwest's annual Seabeck Haiku Getaway. Make plans now to join us, and our beautiful fall colors, from October 26 to 29, 2017.

We have many special events planned, including some grand surprises for our 10th anniversary, plus special speakers, workshops, and presentations, our very popular talent show, bookfair, silent auction, haiku walks, haiga displays, weathergrams, a labyrinth, and more.

Will we see sharks in the lagoon again? See snow on the nearby mountain tops? Even if not, we'll enjoy the bouncy bridge, the Cathedral in the Woods, low tide at the waterfront, and more, plus lots of haiku writing and sharing.

Group attending the most recent Seabeck Getaway.

This year we're moving to a new meeting hall that's much larger, so come check us out. For more information, please email Michael Dylan Welch at WelchM@aol.com, and watch for registration information coming soon at www.haikunorthwest.org.

Can you join us?
Can you join us?


Midwest
Julie Warther

Haiku Waukesha

Haiku Waukesha meets the second Wednesday of the month, Feb. 8th, 5-7pm at First UMC, 121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186.

The public is welcome. Each session features study of haiku and time to workshop poems.

Direct questions to: Dan Schwerin at dan.schwerin@fumcwaukesha.org

Ohaio-ku Study Group

The Ohaio-ku study group met Saturday, January 14 at the Cuyahoga Falls Library. The following members were in attendance: Phyllis Lee, Joe McKeon, Larry Cliff, Sharon Ohnmeiss, Valentina Rinaldi-Adams and Julie Warther, as well as two first-time guests.

We shared and discussed some revision checklists and techniques, workshoped some of our own haiku and held a kukai with the theme "new year". (Phyllis Lee placed first. Joe McKeon and Julie Warther tied for second). The winner received a book award.

The next meeting will be held Saturday, February 11 from 10am-noon at the Cuyahoga Falls Library.
11 from 10am-noon at the Cuyahoga Falls Library.
The kukai theme is “February holidays”. (For example Groundhog Day, Valentine’s Day, Presidents Day, Leap Day, etc.)

We will be viewing Issue 5 of *Frameless Sky*, a biannual haiga and tanka art journal showcasing poets, artists, and musicians. Bring along haiku to workshop and some of your favorites from recent journals to share in a reading.

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**Illinois State Poetry Society Haiku Chapter**

The Haiku Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society is meeting on February 19, 2017 from 1-4 pm at the Northbrook Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois.

We meet every other month throughout the year for critique and study.

Contact Susan Auld for more information: susanbauld92@gmail.com

submitted by Susan Auld

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**Evergreen Haiku Study Group**  
**East Lansing, Michigan**

The Evergreen Haiku Study Group at the Center for Poetry, Michigan State University, met on January 21, 2017 to share haiku, inspirations, and tips on revising for publication. We topped off our evening with a workshop on the haiku shell game...
activities with a haiku shell game that included a haiku from everyone present and a door prize for the winning haiku.

Evergreen Haiku meets again **Saturday, February 18, 2017** from 1pm to 3pm in Room C301, Snyder Hall, 362 Bogue Street, East Lansing, Michigan. Barring severe weather, our guest poet will be **Lee Gurga**, past president of the Haiku Society of America (HSA), former editor of the journal *Modern Haiku*, current editor of *Modern Haiku Press*, and co-editor with Scott Metz of *Haiku 21* and its supplemental anthologies. Lee's books of haiku, *In & Out of Fog* and *Fresh Scent*, were awarded "First Prize" in the HSA Book Awards; his *Haiku: A Poet’s Guide* was recognized by the HSA as the "Best Book of Criticism" for 2004. Lee's haiku have been included in every major anthology of English-language haiku in the past 20 years; his awards are numerous. We are lucky to have him with us! He will present his lecture, "Not Your Grandmother's Haiku," an insider's look at innovative directions in contemporary haiku. He'll also read from his own poetry and respond to some of our questions and our haiku.

So come join us if you can! The Evergreen Haiku Study Group welcomes everyone, of any age, and at any stage of haiku love.

Contact: rootbernsteinmichele@gmail.com

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**Northeast**

Wanda Cook

**NEW ENGLAND LOOKS BACK AT 2016**

Special Events


Special Events

- Kaji Aso Studio Haiku Contest (MA)
- October Moon Haiku Contest sponsored by the Bangor Haiku Group (ME)
- Haiku Circle (MA)
- Wild Graces Haiku Gathering (NH)
- Haiku in Hadley (MA)
- Hamden Haiku Happening (CT)
- Boston Haiku Society monthly meetings
- Haiku Poets’ Society of Western Massachusetts monthly meetings

New England Publications:
Books, Chapbooks and Mini Chapbooks

What Light There Is
Sylvia Forges-Ryan (CT)
Red Moon Press  2016
Distinction: Included in the American Literature Collection, Beinecke Rare Book Library, Yale University

Blue Smoke: a two voice improvisation
Larry Kimmel (MA) & Sheila Windsor (GB)
Stark Mountain Press  2016

a drop of pond
Brad Bennett (MA)
Red Moon Press  2016

a circle of breath
Jeannie Martin (MA)
buddha baby press  2016

matcha
Stanford M. Forrester (CT)
Nut Wagon Press  2016
NEW ENGLAND LOOKS FORWARD

New England Letters Added to Archives

Five years of monthly issues of New England Letters will be added to the Special Collections and University Archives at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. The New England Poetry Archives are open to present and future scholars for the purpose of research. The collection contains the poetry of New England poets and helps document an historical picture of poetry in the New England states. The New England Region of HSA has had a relationship with the Archives since 2011 and has been instrumental in adding haiku and related forms to the already vast array of western poetry. Wanda Cook has been recognized in the annual report for her role in bringing haiku to the New England Poetry Archives.

Attention New England members of HSA
If you are a new or current member of HSA and have not signed up to receive New England Letters, a free monthly e-newsletter, you may do so at any time. Be sure to include all information on the subject line or your e-mail will not be opened.

Send your request to:

willowbranch32@yahoo.com
Subject line:
New England Letters Subscription
Your name    Your state

Southeast
Robyn Hood Black

BYOB

That's Bring your own BINOCULARS!

What better way to celebrate Earth Day in a couple of months than with an HSA meeting and workshop at St. Simon's Island on the sunny (fingers crossed!) coast of Georgia?

Honoring the Earth,
Friday, April 21 - Sunday, April 23, 2017, will offer opportunities to explore what it means to be human, living with and among the rest of the natural world. We'll hear from David G. Lanoue, Tom Painting, Laurence Stacey, and Fay Aoyagi, and also enjoy a
and Fay Aoyagi, and also enjoy a reading by Stanford M. Forrester. I’ll share a couple of new books by Robert Epstein. And several talented poets in our region will be on hand to participate and serve up some famous Southern hospitality.

Why the binoculars? In addition to a session on bird haiku, Tom will lead us on a birdwatching ginko! The area is a magnet for avid birders.

Whether you are a well-seasoned poet or want to learn more about haiku, working on your "life list" or can't tell a titmouse from a turkey vulture, you are welcome to join us. Details and cost information can be found on the HSA SE regional page.

Two updates

1. Meal times (of interest to commuters if you are planning day trips) are:
   Breakfast 7am-9am
   Lunch 11:45am-1pm
   Supper 5:30pm-7pm

2. If Epworth by the Sea has enough available rooms, I can be a little flexible with the March 5 date for receiving final payment. I will have to provide a final count to the staff there a couple of weeks after that, however,
INCLUDING any meals for commuters. Feel free to email me with questions or concerns.

Here’s a hint of spring to whet your appetite, kindly shared by Tom:

spring plowing
a flock of blackbirds
turns inside out

Frogpond  XXV:2
©Tom Painting

Submitted by Robyn Hood Black
robyn@robynhoodblack.com

Ignatius Fay
HSA NEWS Editor
Haiku Society of America
hsabulletin@gmail.com

Comments or concerns about your membership?
Please contact the HSA officers