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,

My name is Fox God. Your President is in Tokyo to take care of her family business, so I am your new DW (designated writer) for the newsletter. I had a long talk with her at a pub called 'Ginkantei' (Milky Way) in Tokyo, which is owned by a haiku poet and its clientele is 99% haiku poets. I heard you guys just completed a ballot to elect 2018 officers. Fay is not Wonder Woman. She will appreciate your continuous support next year and beyond. At the same time, if you have concerns, complaints, or suggestions, please shoot away. FYI: she cannot answer a call to her U.S. phone while she is in Tokyo (until 12/23). Her preferred method of communication is email.

煤逃げと言へば言はるる旅にあり
susunige to ieba iwaruru tabi ni ari

travelling...
some may say I am here to escape
a year-end cleaning

Toshiro Nomura
from 'Oki' (Open Sea) August 2001 Issue,
http://www.haisi.com/saijiki/susunige.htm

'Susunige' (escaping from a year-end cleaning) is a winter kigo. Originally it meant to move the elderly, the sick or children who would not participate in 'susuharai' (cleaning dust) to somewhere out of the way. Contemporary poets
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*.

somewhere out of the way. Contemporary poets tend to use this kigo with humor. I don't write haiku myself, but this is one of my favorite kigo.

狐火に逢ふてもどりてもぐり寝る　　鈴木花裳

kitsunebi ni oote modorite moguri neru

seeing a will-o'-wisp
I bury myself under a quilt
and sleep

Hanamino Suzuki

On December 31, we fox gods gather at Oji Shrine in Tokyo to elect the officials of our society. Because it is a dark winter night, each of us carries a lantern. According to my human friends, they see blue lights floating above the ground. Often, we are put in the same category as a tanuki (a raccoon dog, in English?). Humans believe both of us, fox and tanuki, are tricksters. I must tell you, though, a tanuki statue is found in front of a pub. A fox statue guards a shrine. That's a big difference, isn't it?

去年今年時が瀑布となりて落つ　松尾隆信

kozo kotoshi toki ga bakufu to narite otsu

old year, new year...
time becomes a cataract
and falls

Takanobu Matsuo
from 'Haiku,' a monthly haiku magazine, January 2010 Issue, Kabushiki Kaisha Kadokawa, Tokyo

'kozo kotoshi' (old year, new year) is a New Year kigo. The older you get, the shorter a year becomes, it seems. Since I've never travelled overseas, I haven't had a chance to see Niagara
overseas, I haven’t had a chance to see Niagara Falls. But there are some impressive waterfalls here in Japan, too. I’ve seen people standing under the water doing Buddhist ascetic practice. Getting completely wet on a cold winter day will not be fun, but should I suggest that Fay go through this spiritual training? It is supposed to make one mentally strong. Maybe she prefers pouring sake into her throat like an endless water falling.

Have great holidays!

Fay Aoyagi
HSA President
fay.hsa.president@gmail.com

Regional News

California
Deborah P Kolodji

Southern California Haiku Study Group

November Workshop at Hill Ave Library

The November 18-19 weekend was busy for the Southern California Haiku Study Group. On
Saturday, a workshop was conducted at the library, and on Sunday, the group launched its new anthology and celebrated its 20th Anniversary at Throop Hall.

On Saturday, nine members met for a workshop based on Chapter One "Think Small" of Scott Mason's new book, *The Wonder Code*. After a customary read-around of haiku during which participants either read their own haiku or a haiku from one of the haiku books brought to share, group Moderator Deborah P Kolodji summarized the chapter. The group read and discussed nine examples from the book, then worked on two writing exercises:

1. Think about your daily world, your garden, your patio, your kitchen, and what is hiding in plain sight. Write about it.

2. Try to reimagine something from this past week as if you were a small child. Write about it from the viewpoint of your younger self. Or write about something from your childhood.

After the writing exercise, participants selected one of the haiku they had written for an anonymous haiku workshop. The meeting was attended by Kimberly Esser, Regina Higgins, Mary Torregrossa, Bonnie Santos, James Won, Kathabela Wilson, Sharon Yee, Toni Steele, and Deborah P Kolodji. The following haiku books were shared at the meeting:

*The Wonder Code* by Scott Mason

*The Heron's Nest* (print) - Vol 18 - 2016

*Haiku Landscapes* edited & translated by Stephen Addiss, Fumiko Yamamoto, & Akira Yamamoto

*Haiku People* edited & translated by Stephen Addiss, Fumiko Yamamoto, & Akira Yamamoto

hanami dongo, the 2017 Yuki Teikei Haiku Society anthology
Some of the Silence by John Stevenson

The next workshop will be on Saturday, December 16th at the Hill Avenue Branch Library.

Eclipse Moon Anthology Launch & Reading

On Sunday, November 19th, the Southern California Haiku Study Group celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a reading and launch of their new anthology, Eclipse Moon, followed by a banquet in Throop Hall of the Throop Unitarian Universalist Church in Pasadena, California. 45 people attended the launch and reading, with 34 staying for the banquet.

William Scott Galasso was the editor for Eclipse Moon, with Deborah P Kolodji writing a 23 page historical timeline of the group, which also included haiku by former members of the group, as well as all of the title haiku for the SCHSG anthologies. The anthology includes haiku by 106 Southern California haiku poets, with the title haiku by Diana Ming Jeong:

    eclipse moon
    an abyss forged over
    time

The cover photo was taken by Stevie Strang. Thirty-six poets were present to read their work from the anthology. Scott Galasso, Deborah P Kolodji, Greg Longenecker, and Carol Judkins read the haiku of those who were unable to attend.
After all the anthology haiku were read (and the haibun from poets present), Deborah P Kolodji read the title haiku from each SCHSG anthology and acknowledged the editor of each. Four of the editors were present - Naia, Gregory Longenecker, William Hart, and William Scott Galasso. The program ended with special greetings from visitors to SCHSG from over the years in the form of a trifold of haiku read by Scott, Debbie, Greg, and Carol with haiku by Susan Antolin, Fay Aoyagi, Margaret Chula, Michael L. Evans, Patrick Gallagher, Richard Gilbert, Bill Kenney, Mariko Kitakubo, David G. Lanoue, paul m, Patricia J. Machmiller, Luce Pelletier, Michael Rehling, Michele Root-Bernstein, John Stevenson, and Michael Dylan Welch.
The Southern California Haiku Study Group was founded in 1997 by Jerry Ball, who having been a member of the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society when he lived in the Bay Area, decided Southern California also needed a haiku group. He put a notice in a local bookstore and sat and waited every third Saturday of the month for several months until Margaret Hehman-Smith joined him and the rest is history. The first group anthology was published in 2001 and included work by 8 poets: David Priebe, gK, Jerry Ball, Judy Sunderland, Naia, Peggy Hehman-Smith, Tom Bilicke, and Wendy Wright.

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society’s Annual Retreat - November 10-13, 2017

Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, CA
Featured Guest Speaker- John Stevenson

This year we had the wonderful opportunity to once again gather at Asilomar. What a backdrop for a haiku weekend! The thirty-five attendees included Roger Abe, Mimi Ahern, Jerry Ball, Betty Arnold, Sherry Barto, Dyana Basist, Ann Bendixen, Kae Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Carolyn Fitz, Patrick Gallagher, Ed Grossmith, Johnnie Johnson Hafernik, Anne M. Homan, Toni Homan, Debbie Kolodji, Phillip Kennedy, Gregory Longenecker, Patricia Machmiller, Beverly Momoi, Amy Ostenso-Kennedy, Linda Papanicolaou, Bona M. Santos, Clysta Seney Judith Morrison Schallberger, Lois Heyman Scott, Michael Sheffield, Carol Steele, Christine Stern, Neal Whitman, Elaine Whitman, Alison Woolpert, Karina Young and
Joan Zimmerman.

John Stevenson traveled by train from Albany New York to the West Coast to inspire us with haiku games, share with us his haiku knowledge, join in the raucous renku night, and delight one and all with intimate conversations.

Asilomar
a poet taking dictation
from the ocean

- John Stevenson

John Stevenson leads outdoor exercise.
left to right: Bonnie Santos, Linda Papanicolaou, Patrick Gallagher, John Stevenson, Joan Zimmerman, David Sherertz
(photo by Deborah P Kolodji)

This is how our retreat unfolded in haiku:

Friday:

dune spirit
rising in autumn sun
rising in me

-Michael Sheffield

autumn dunes
crows gather where the stream
meets the sea

-Alison Woolpert
autumn tryst
white waves pulling me
closer
-Dyana Basist

sitting alone
autumn sunshine
ocean breeze
-Sherry Barto

arranged just so
four silvered pine cones lie
in the autumn woods
-Anne Homan

Dali’s butterfly
almost a real species
Asilomar sky
-Johnnie Johnson Hafernik

wood smoke
circles the circle of oaks
setting sun
-Elaine Whitman

taillights flash
up the switchback road
dragon dance
-Amy Ostenso-Kennedy

Saturday:
tai chi beginners
we stretch our spines
to the morning moon
-Joan Zimmerman

soft is the grass in
section 60: Arlington
three deer cross the road
-Roger Abe

clustered snowberries
suspended with maple leaves-
red fading. white bright
autumn's end
just a few birds
on the beach

-Gregory Longenecker

it took me ten years
to come home from war
Veteran's Day

-Neal Whitman

cold tear-streaked cheeks
under a low bright sun-
veteran's day

-Clysta Seney

lavender flowers
from Mrs. Matano's plants-
autumn loneliness

-Carol Steele

**Sunday:**

haiku in motion
beach taiko drumbeats
on marathon day

-Bona M. Santos

tai chi-
an Asilomar crow
steps in, rolls back

-Linda Papanicolao

I wonder
do they see what I see
autumn clouds

-Carolyn Fitz

sounds of pages turned
Patricia leads kukai
appreciation

-Lois Scott
autumn afternoon
orange and yellow pool balls
in the side pocket
-Phillip Kennedy

not yet ready
to let go
the autumn sea
-Karina M. Young

autumn evening
as we stare at the planets
a stranger joins us
-Jerry Ball

Monday:

beach sagewort
holding the universe
together
-Patrick Gallagher

along the autumn shore
dogs running with abandon
her shadow too
-Toni Homan

I lift a seashell
from the ebbing tide -
sea lights fade
-Ed Grossmith

bull kelp
under the sand
hidden agendas
- Deborah P Kolodji

pine cones
cling to the snag's branches
last survivors
-Judith Morrison Schallberger

the deer
the moment before
the moment after
-Patricia Machmiller
We thank Carol Steele for being the Asilomar chair, herding us haiku cats with such graciousness. This year Phillip Kennedy and Amy-Ostenso Kennedy compiled our Members' Anthology, *hamani dango*. In addition to a selection of haiku written by society members, the anthology includes the first North American publication of Kazan Tanino's haiku collection *The Rush to Rescue Atomic Bomb Survivors*. Kazan Tanino was a young medical intern and haiku poet who went to Hiroshima in the immediate aftermath of the atomic bombing to help care for the survivors. The poignant and often heartbreaking haiku in this collection reflect his experiences from that time. The 2017 Anthology also features an insightful essay by Michael Dylan Welch about Shugyo Takaha: "Arriving Geese: Learning from Shugyo Takaha," and publication of the 2016 Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest. Bows to Phillip and Amy in appreciation for their work on the anthology. Available at [www.youngleaves.org](http://www.youngleaves.org)

The 2017 Asilomar retreat was a complete success. We hope you consider joining us next year.

Written-up and submitted by Dyana Basist

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**Oregon**

**Shelley Baker-Gard**

The Portland Haiku Group and HSA members met in both October and November. At the October meeting, the haiku most appreciated was written by Jim Rodriguez. Several people tied for second and third place. The October
workshop was led by Carolyn Winkler. She based it on two workshops she took at the Haiku North America conference in August. She directed us to use our memories of walks or visits to natural areas for inspirations similar to "forest bathing". We had many remarkable results from this exercise and collected them all to share and keep.

Our November meeting was equally successful. shelley hosted the meeting and coincidently had the most favored haiku in the kukai. Instead of a workshop, we all brought one or two books to deliver brief oral book reports on and to loan out to others interested in what was reported on.

The December meeting will be at the home of Shelley Baker-Gard on December 15th. This will be a potluck dinner starting at 6 pm. Clayton Beach will lead the khaki and workshop. Please contact Shelley if you are planning to come. Address is 1647 SE Sherrett St. Portland. Phone is 503-232-6560.

Mountains
Steve Tabb

Two of our members recently had poetry collections published. We are very proud of their achievements.

As The Crow Flies
Arthur Elser’s new book, *As The Crow Flies*, is available through Amazon.

Gary Schroeder’s new book, *After Rain*, will be released this week and will be available through Folded Word Press [https://folded.wordpress.com](https://folded.wordpress.com).

**Southwest**

James M. Applegate

**Haiku North America 2017**

Haiku North America 2017 was held in Santa
Haiku North America 2017 was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on September 13-17. By all accounts, it was a successful event. The keynote speaker was Ruth Yarrow who gave an inspiring talk on the conference theme, EARTHTONES: "Skin Tones Are Earth Tones."

Concurrent sessions in two rooms (and one off-site workshop) involved more than 70 presenters and panelists. The attendance of 224 was the largest ever and included participants from four countries in North America (the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and the Bahamas) as well as from Japan, India, Australia, and Switzerland. Haiku book sales exceeded $14,000 - another record.

Conference organizers were Sondra J. Byrnes, Cynthia Henderson, Miriam Sagan, Charles Trumbull and Scott Wiggerman. At the banquet, it was announced that Haiku North America 2019 would be held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

The Santa Fe Haiku Study Group - now approaching its third year - published Open Spaces, a collection of haiku from group members and guests, edited by Alanna Burke and Basia Miller, and supported by a mini-grant from HSA. The chapbook was published in August - just in time for inclusion in the Haiku North America 2017 packages.

On October 5, a haiku courtyard was opened at the Santa Fe Community College. The courtyard includes haiku from Penny Harter, Elizabeth Searle Lamb and Alvaro Cardona-Hine, as well as numerous students. This project was masterminded by Miriam Sagan, with stonework by Christie Hengst. In addition to the College, support was received from the Witter Bynner Foundation.

submitted by Sondra J. Byrnes
CRADLE OF AMERICAN HAIKU FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE: Plan to gather with other haiku enthusiasts in the birthplace of American Haiku - Mineral Point, Wisconsin for workshops and fun. The Cradle of American Haiku Festival will be held August 10-12, 2018. More information will be forthcoming.

MIDWEST STUDY GROUPS

The Mississippi Mud Daubers

The Mississippi Mud Daubers, a group for haiku poets living in Southwestern Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri, met at Sacred Grounds Café on November 3. Members present included Lori Becherer, John Han, Ben Moeller-Gaa, Natalia Coleridge, Richard Keating, Lisa Porter, Bryan Rickert and John J. Dunphy.

Members have been getting published quite a bit lately. Lori, Ben and John J. Dunphy have work in "They Gave Us Life," Robert Epstein's latest anthology. Ben and John J. Dunphy are represented in Scott Mason's anthology "The Wonder Code." John J. Dunphy has a poem in Carmen Sterba's anthology "An Amazement of Deer." His work is featured on the Facebook page "My Haiku Pond," which is publishing one of his haiku a day for the next thirty days.

Natalie reported that Roger and Gretchen Batz, who haven't been able to attend meetings lately, send their regards.

Ben gave a haiku workshop at the public library.
Ben gave a haiku workshop at the public library of Webster Groves, Missouri. John Han addressed the Missouri State Poetry Society on the subject of senryu. Mississippi Mud Daubers concurred that senryu too often plays second fiddle to haiku.

Bryan will have two poems in the next *Frogpond* and a work in the upcoming issue of *Modern Haiku*. Lori had a poem in the most recent *Modern Haiku*. She has also seen her work published in *Cattails* and *Chrysanthemum*. Members congratulated Bryan and Lori for really blossoming as haiku poets.

Natalie was inspired to write haiku after attending a recent class reunion. Richard Keating visited Washington State and enjoyed some serious hiking. He got above the tree line. In response to a question from Ben, Richard stated that he didn't spot even a single Sasquatch.

Ben, John Han, Lori, Natalie, Bryan and Richard all presented hard copies of work for critiquing.

We agreed that our next meeting will be held in 2018.

Respectfully submitted by John J. Dunphy, founder of the Mississippi Mud Daubers.

**Evergreen Haiku Study Group**
The Evergreen Haiku Group will meet on Saturday, December 9th, from 1 to 3pm in Room C301 Snyder Hall (362 Bogue Street) on the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Despite - or because of - the winter wind, we'll be taking a look at some haiku techniques, exercising haiku elements impromptu, and sharing our work with each other. And we'll have some fun with an Anonymous Kukai—just bring along a haiku written on the theme of "winter solstice." Everyone from beginner to seasoned poet is welcome!
For more information, about the program or parking, contact rootbernsteinmichele@gmail.com

The Illinois State Poetry Society Haiku Chapter

The Illinois State Poetry Society's Haiku Chapter is meeting on December 17, 2017 from 1pm-4pm at the Northbrook Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois. Please bring 12 copies of up to 6 haiku for critiquing. Also, please bring a haiku that delights and one that mystifies you for discussion. We welcome haiku publication celebrations and any new resources you would like to share. A discussion about haiga is planned prior to the critiquing.
Contact susanbauld92@gmail.com for more information.

Haiku Waukesha

Our venerable poets met Nov. 8th at First UMC in lovely downtown Waukesha. We opened with a review of some haiku basics related to juxtaposition, and we spent some time with composition based on fragments and phrases. We primed the pump with some basic seasonal.
Indianapolis Haiku Group

Indianapolis Haiku Group continues to meet monthly. For details (because we change location each time) you may email Kyle D. Craig at kcra4ig@gmail.com

Ohaio-ku Study Group

The Ohaio-ku study group met Saturday, November 11 from 10am-noon at the Cuyahoga Falls Library. The following members were in attendance: Joe McKeon, Larry Shircliff, Sharon Ohnmeiss, Elliot Nicely, Susan Mallernee, Phyllis Lee, Tia Haynes, Holli Rainwater, Kevin Rainwater, Dan Smith and Julie Warther. Joe McKeon led a study and discussion of characteristics of quality haiku as outlined in recent books, *The Haiku Life* by Michele Root-Bernstein/Francine Banwarth and *The Wonder Code* by Scott Mason. Then we participated in an activity where, as editors of the fictitious journal, *The Cuckoo's Nest*, we each had the opportunity to nominate one poem from our handouts for “inclusion” and offer reasons for our
handouts for inclusion and other reasons for our choices as related to the characteristics previously discussed. Julie Warther reminded attendees of the upcoming November 30 deadline for submissions to the haiku path at Holden Arboretum in Kirtland, Ohio. We held a kūkai with the theme, "Black Friday, Small Business Saturday or Cyber Monday". Tia Haynes and Phyllis Lee won book awards.

The next meeting will be held Saturday, December 9 from 10am-noon at the Cuyahoga Falls Library. 2015 3rd Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The kūkai theme is "children". Bring along haiku to workshop and some of your favorites from recent journals to share in a reading. All are welcome! For more information, contact: Julie Warther at wartherjulie@gmail.com

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**Introduction to Haiku**

Charlotte Digregorio will give an introduction to haiku, Tuesday, March 13, in the metro Chicago area, at the Women's Exchange in Winnetka, IL.

The event is being publicized to draw people from 40 communities. For advance information, contact Charlotte at c-books@hotmail.com

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**Southeast**

**Michael Henry Lee**

Our S.E. regional anthology to celebrate HSA's 50th is in process. Our project
head is David Oates.

Interim coordinator, Michael Henry Lee, was awarded 1st place in The annual Yuki Teikei Haiku Society's Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest. See results here and here.

Lastly Michael Henry Lee's Mini Chapbook: *Happy Hour* has just been released from Stanford Forrester's wooden nickel press, and is available only direct from Mr. Lee. Price is 5.00 per copy including postage. Inquiries may be made by email to: michaelhenrylee@bellsouth.net.

Submitted by Michael Henry Lee

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**UpComing Contests**

**2017 San Francisco International Competition Rengay**

**Sponsored by:**
Haiku Poets of Northern California

**Deadline for Rengay:**
In hand, January 31, 2018

**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. 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 April, 2018 and in the HPNC Newsletter. Winning poems will be published in the Autumn/Winter issue of Mariposa, the membership journal of the HPNC. All rights revert to authors after the contest results are announced.

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 HPNC, c/o Fay Aoyagi, 930 Pine St. #105, San Francisco CA 94108. Entries from outside U.S. can be submitted by email. Contact Fay (fayaoyagi@gmail.com).

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 acceptable. Enclose a business-size SASE (U.S. first class postage or an IRC) for notification of contest winners. Participants living outside U.S. can pay via Paypal. 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 Fay Aoyagi (fayaoyagi@gmail.com) for Rengay http://www.hpnc.org.
HSA 2018
Einbond Renku Contest

Do you write renku? Now is the time to ready your submissions for next year’s Einbond Renku Contest.

HSA’s 2018 Bernard Lionel Einbond Renku Contest will be accepting two formats:

20-verse Nijyuin, and

36-verse Kasen

The contest deadline is February 28, 2018.

Full details of the contest will be posted on the HSA website at the beginning of the new year.

submitted by Beverly Acuff Momoi
HSA 2nd Vice-President

Print Publications

On The Edge
by Tim Gardiner
On the Edge, Tim Gardiner's first collection of haiku, was published by Brambleby Books in May 2017. See the publisher's website for more information and to purchase the volume.

On the Edge is also available from U.S. Amazon.
Ignatius Fay
HSA NEWS Editor
Haiku Society of America
hsabulletin@gmail.com

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

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