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,

Hello, everyone. I am Mr. X, this month’s DW (Designated Writer). I will remain anonymous because I originally came from Mars. You would not be able to tell that I am Martian if you were to see me. I look like a baby boomer that you might work with or even be married to!? I assimilated well in your society. Like HSA, I have a mission. I collect facts and send them back home. I may consider using haiku as my communication method. Or perhaps haibun would be better?

green pine in winter
sometimes I look at it
with my whole heart
Hakyo Ishida


I arrived on your planet when I was young. In my early days, everything I saw here was ‘fresh,’ ‘different’ and ‘inspiring.’ Now, many things look ‘normal’ and ‘dull.’ To be honest, I am not sure the information I send is still relevant back home. I believe when you started writing haiku, you were excited and just wrote, wrote and wrote. How do you maintain your motivation? How do you overcome writer’s block? Travelling? Attending a haiku conference and workshop? Or reading a lot of haiku?

a road
with fallen leaves swept
leading me
Teijo Nakamura


Recently, I overheard a conversation at a coffee shop in Silicon Valley. Oops. I revealed where I live, didn’t I? In a high-tech industry, changing jobs every few years is typical and suitable for my undercover work. Don’t worry. I am not a hacker or an adversary. I am just doing what I am supposed to do. Anyway, a couple of millennials talked about transformation. One guy said business should change to survive and people should reskill to adjust. Should haiku and haiku poets have to change, too? Or should I use the word
to adjust. Should haiku and haiku poets have to change, too? Or should I use the word ‘evolve.’ That sounds better. The subject matter in haiku is no longer just nature-oriented, right? I can be a pioneer in a new genre. There may be trailblazers I can follow! Metamorphosing is interesting, isn’t it?

冬薔薇は色濃く影の淡きかも 水原秋桜子
fuyubara wa iro koku kage no awaki kamo

deep-colored winter rose
its shadow may be
in a pale hew
Shuoshi Mizuhara


Something new is often good. One should not automatically cling to old-fashioned ways. Keeping a tradition, or respecting it, is important. But at the same time, we should not be afraid of testing new waters. If a thing doesn’t have a shadow, you will not enjoy the magic created by light. If a tree doesn’t shed its leaves in winter, you will not have the joy of finding a tiny new bud in spring. Thank you for listening to my monologue. Continue to have a nice haiku life! At your next reading or presentation, a Martian might buy your haiku book and ask for your autograph! Haiku will be not only global, but universal.

lullaby until a mountain hibernates

If you have not already done so, please renew your HSA membership for 2020 now.

It's easy to renew by credit card through our website here.

Timely renewals help to keep HSA membership dues low by saving on shipping costs.

Please renew your membership by December 31 so you don't miss out!

Election Results

Congratulations to the new and returning members of the Executive Committee and Regional Coordinators.
HSA President
Jay Friedenberg - 212 votes

First Vice President
Gary Hotham - 229 votes

Second Vice President
Chuck Brickley - 222 votes

Secretary
Dianne Garcia - 225 votes

Treasurer
Bill Deegan - 226 votes

Electronic Media Officer
Randy Brooks - 225 votes

Frogpond Editor
Michael Ketchek - 217 votes

Newsletter Editor
Ignatius Fay - 225 votes

Regional Coordinator
California: Deborah Kolodji
Hawaii/Pacific: Brett Brady
Mid-Atlantic: Robert Ertman
Midwest Region: Bryan Rickert
Mountain Region: Gary Shroeder
Northeast/New England: Wanda Cook
Northeast Metro: Rita Gray
Oregon: Shelley Baker-Gard
Pacific Northwest: Seren Fargo
South: Nicholas M Sola
Southeast: Michael Henry Lee
Southwest: Barbara Hay

The new HSA By-laws were adopted. In a few days, they
The new HSA By-laws were adopted. In a few days, they may be seen on the HSA website.

Bill Deegan
HSA Treasurer
hsa.treasurer@yahoo.com

As of September 30, we had taken in 55% ($15,944) of our budgeted 2019 membership dues and are $5,171 ahead of this time last year. This is because many members renewed late (after January 1).

Contributions of $2,833 from our generous members and friends (thank you!) are near last year’s levels.

Sales of single copies of Frogpond are way up versus prior years and $1,216 (194%) ahead of this time last year.

Overall, revenues are expected to meet or exceed expectations, assuming sufficient numbers of members renew before January 1, 2020.

Expenses overall are in line with expectations.

Cash is at a very healthy level.

Please renew your 2020 membership NOW, even if you joined/renewed mid-year. It will save us extra shipping costs and
Kristen Deming died on October 21 at her home in Bethesda, Maryland, after a long battle with lung disease. A Florida native, she was a liberal arts graduate of Rollins College in Winter Park.

Artist, teacher, poet, Kristen discovered haiku in the 1960s, but found her focus during her 13 years in Japan. She was in close contact with leading Japanese haiku, tanka and renku poets, and frequently hosted haiku and tanka gatherings. She served as English consultant for Tomoshibi, a collection of tanka by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. She initiated and co-authored (with Koji Suzuki) co-"Haiku Moments," a column of translations of modern Japanese haiku for The Japan Times. She served on the organizing committee for two historic HIA-HSA haiku conferences—the first in Chicago in 1995 and the second in Tokyo in 1997. Kristen was a member of The Poetry Reading Circle of Tokyo, The Poetry Society of Japan, The Haiku International Association, and the Association of International Renku.

Returning to the Washington DC area, Kristen was active in Towpath haiku study group. She was president of HSA (1998), and Japan Advisor/Liaison to the Tanka Society of America (2000-2006). Her haiku received 1st prize in the initial Mainichi Haiku Contest (1997) and the 56th Ueno Bashō Festival Contest (2002), 2nd prize in the Harold G. Henderson Awards (2008), and 3rd prize in the 12th Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Awards (2014). A brief selection of Kristen’s haiku:

water whisper . . .
an osprey stirs
the river mist
above the clamor
of starlings
... star stream
blossoms...
the baby’s bare feet
pedal the air

Kristen’s haiku collection, *plum afternoon* (Red Moon Press, 2017), was a Finalist in both the Touchstone Distinguished Books Awards (2017) and the HSA Merit Book Awards (2018). She was also author of *Eyes of the Blossoms* (privately published, 1997) and *Portrait of a Haiku Master* (From Here Press, 1997). With William J. Higginson and Tadashi Kondo, she was co-editor of *Red Fuji: Selected Haiku of Yatsuka Ishihara* (From Here Press, 1997).

submitted by Ellen Compton-Tejera

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**Regional News**

**Oregon**

Shelley Baker-Gard

### Joint Portland Haiku Group and HSA members

The Joint Portland Haiku Group and HSA members met on October 11, 2019 at the Friendly House. Our meeting was hosted by Jacob Salzer. He provided the lead for the kukai and also provided a great exercise on writing haibun. He began a preliminary conversation on putting together an anthology of just haibun for all Oregon and SW WA haibun poets - we will start organizing this in 2020.

Many high quality haiku/senyru and 2 haibun entries were submitted for the kukai. Shasta Hatter had the most votes for 1st place for her classic haiku “on red leaf...”; tied for 2nd was a senyru “college white board...” by Jacob Salzer and another by Ray Caliguuri “ain’t no sunshine...". Of the two haibun entered, Jacob Salzer took top honors with “Shadow.”

### Music and Haiku Concert

On October 13th, many in the group and many friends attended the “Music and Haiku” concert. The first part of the program was a piano performance by Joshua Pearl playing music and song composed by Vincent Persichetti using 17 of the haiku written by several Japanese haiku poets including Buson, Basho, Issa, Shiki, Chiyo and one impostor “Hoo”. The translation of these haiku was done by Harold Steward and appeared in his anthology, *A Net of Fireflies* published in 1960. Persichetti used the same title for
collected song compositions. The pianist Joshua Pearl is well-known in the Northwest for his own compositions and talent, and did a great job with his improvisational technique. For half of the songs he also sang; the other half, Shelley read the words as he played the music. Shelley Baker-Gard will provide a historical commentary on the music, brief biographical notes on the poets and contemporary translations of the haiku. Joshua Pearl also played other short piano pieces and traditional Koto music.

For the second half of the performance Carolyn Winkler did a fabulous job of introducing our group and providing introductions on the readings. The poets reading were Ellen Ankenbrock, Shelley Baker-Gard, Linda Sawaya, Jory Fory, and Carolyn Winkler. While we read our poems, James Rodríguez on the flute, Jacob Salzer on the table drums, and Joshua Pearl on the piano created music to match the mood of our haiku. The concert was well received by a very appreciative audience – one of whom came up to Linda and told her that Linda’s haiku on figs brought tears to her eyes. We also had a great time! A Youtube recoding was taken and will soon be posted for anyone to enjoy.

The last week of October brought Seabeck and many of the Oregon HSA members attended (not sure where they are in this picture, but they are)

Don’t forget — if you are in the Eugene area and want to attend that group’s meeting, contact Barbara Snow; and if you are in the Bend area, contact Nancy Bright.

Barbara Hay
Austin Haiku Group

The Austin Haiku Group met Saturday, October 12.

Attending the meeting were (pictured from the top, left to right):

Agnes Eva Savich, Christa Pandey, Robert Gilliland, Christine Wenk-Harrison, Claire Vogel Camargo, and (not pictured) Liz Wells.

We began by each reading one of our poems aloud, some from the HSA Anthology, and some from other sources. We then had a robust discussion about handling writer's block. Strategies include just letting it pass through, looking at pictures or your personal journal for inspiration, going on a walk and jotting simple notes, reading others' haiku, following *The Artist's Way* (by Julia Cameron), writing stream-of-consciousness with a timer, using prompts from the NaHaiWriMo group on Facebook, and putting your mind into an open receiving state for spontaneous haiku from your direct environment.

We spent the latter half of the meeting workshopping our poems with a round-robin silent critique. Each person wrote two of their own poems in the center of a blank piece of paper, then we kept passing them to the left, adding appreciative notes or impressions and take-it-or-leave-it suggestions. It was very enlightening to focus quietly on evaluating others' work in progress as well as get one's annotated poems back with encouraging and useful commentary to see how they landed.

Our next meeting will occur **Saturday, December 7 at 11 a.m.** at Illuminate Coffee Bar located at 12129 RR 620, suite 102, Austin, TX 78750. The group meets every other month. Interested members are always welcome.

submitted by Agnes Eva Savich
Austin, TX, USA

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Program For The 23Rd Annual Autumn Haiku Conference
Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas
At the Arlington Hotel

A pdf file with photos and short bios for some of the guest speakers can be downloaded [here](#).

Friday, November 1, 2019
9:00
Welcome by Howard Lee kilby, president and co-founder of the Arkansas Haiku Society

9:05
Introduction of committee members and guests

9:30
“Haiku and Tanka” Thomas Murphy of Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Texas; author and poet.

10:00

11:30
Discussion with tba

12:00
Lunch hosted by the Arkansas Haiku Society

2:00
“No Longer Fighting The Threads: The Creative Process As Self-Discovery” applying the wisdom of the weaver to our haiku practice. Kelly Sauvage Angel

3:30
“Haijin Playtime” Judy Watson Michaels, M.D.

4:30
Discussion with tba

5:00
Adjourn: evening options: gallery walk, restaurants, oaklawn racing casino resort, Jazz at the Ohio Club.

6:0
A renku party with Stacy Pendergrast

Saturday, November 2, 2019

9:00
Introduction of guests and world travelers

9:15
“Japanese Aesthetics and Junk Haiku: A Talk and Workshop.” Lee Gurga, past HSA president, author and haiku mentor extraordinary

10:45
Panel discussion with tba

11:15
Kai Coggins, “Wednesday Night Poetry” a view of the longest running weekly poetry reading in america and memorial for founder bud kenny.

12:00
Lunch Hosted By The arkansas haiku society.

2:00
Welcome by Erin Holliday, emergent arts gallery owner, artist, City Director District 1, And exchange artist with Hanamaki, Japan.

2:3
Calligraphy workshop with Chiemi Shimizu, Japan Outreach Initiative Coordinator (joi)

4:30
White elephant gift exchange: bring a $10 wrapped gift for hilarious fun.

5:00
Adjourn

For information, contact Howard Lee Kilby
by email or call 501.767.6096 Home or 501.282.2466 Cell

South Region Coordinator Margaret Dornaus was one of three featured poets reading at the Poet's Corner during the South Central Modern Language Association's Conference held in Little Rock, Arkansas, Oct. 24.

South Wind: A Haiku Anthology featuring South Region members’ haiku, haibun and haiga —published in 2018 to commemorate HSA’s 50th anniversary—will be available at a special discounted price of $10 (plus shipping) through the end of the year at www.lulu.com. Proceeds from the book’s sale will be used to endow future South Region projects.
Mississippi Mud Daubers
of Southwestern Illinois and St. Louis, MO

The Mississippi Mud Daubers Haiku Group of Southwestern Illinois and St. Louis, MO met on October 4, 2019 at Sacred Grounds Cafe in Edwardsville, IL. Members present included Ben Moeller-Gaa, John Han, Lisa Porter, Lori Becherer, Bryan Rickert and John J. Dunphy.

We congratulated Bryan for serving as guest editor for issue 46 of *failed haiku*. Ben's *Wishbones* received an honorable mention in the Haiku Society of America's Merit Book competition. On the very day of our meeting, John J. Dunphy learned that his senryu published in issue 50:2 of *Modern Haiku* had been selected as favorite senryu by an anonymous donor. John said he'd use the $50 award toward paying bills.

Lori, Bryan, Ben and John J. Dunphy all have work in the current issue of *Frogpond*.

Lori had purchased on line a copy of *Haiku '64*, published by Japanese Airlines, which she shared with us.

Ben had recently completed a book tour of New England, where he promoted *Wishbones* and introduced audience members to haiku. Bryan told us about attending Haiku North America, which was held August 7-11 at Winston-Salem, NC. Bryan is currently a candidate for the HSA’s Midwest Regional Coordinator. We assured Bryan that he has our votes.

John Han distributed copies of *Cantos*, a literary and arts journal published by Missouri Baptist University where John teaches. John is the editor of *Cantos*. He recently gave readings of his work at North Arkansas College and taught a haiku workshop. John brought copies of his work *More Thunder Thighs*, which he signed and sold to us.

A senryu by Lori that appeared in a 2017 issue of *Modern Haiku* was featured by Ted Kooser, U.S. Poet Laureate Emeritus, in column 751 of his on line *American Life in Poetry*. We are happy for Lori and so very proud of her.

Respectfully submitted by John J. Dunphy,
founder and coordinator of the
Mississippi Mud Daubers Haiku Group
The Haiku of Contemporary Wisconsin Poets

Lee Gurga and Kelly Sauvage Angel are editing an anthology of haiku written by poets who have influenced the landscape of our beloved Badgerland to be published in mid-2020. The anthology will include work by poets who meet at least one of the two criteria as follow: (1) They have at any point, past or present, resided in the state of Wisconsin and/or (2) they have participated in a Wisconsin-based haiku group/workshop. If there are others you know of who meet these criteria, please forward this invitation to them. We have great respect for your work and your contribution to our legendary haiku heritage; thus, we would appreciate the opportunity to consider your work for this gathering of diverse yet harmonious voices. Please send us up to 15 of your finest haiku, previously published or not, a 50-word bio, describing your connection to Wisconsin, and a good-quality photograph (headshot preferred) by January 31, 2020. Previously published submissions should include publication data. Submissions should be sent to wisconsinhaikuanthology@gmail.com. We look forward to considering your work!

Save The Date: August 7, 8, 9, 2020 at the Walker House in Mineral Point, Wisconsin for the next Cradle of American Haiku. More details to follow in the coming months.

Midwest Members In The News

One of Charlotte Digregorio's haiga with art by Lidia Rozmus was recently featured at "Westival," Westport Music & Arts Festival in Westport, County Mayo, Ireland. It was showcased on the Festival's promotional literature, thanks to HSA Member Roberta Beary who was one of the literary stars of the event.

Charlotte will also have a haiku/haiga exhibit at the Glenview Park District in Glenview, IL from Oct. 2 through Dec. 31.

StudyGroups
Evergreen Haiku Study Group (Michigan)

This is just a heads-up that our fall meetings are scheduled for the following Saturday dates:
November 16
December 7

Our meetings will be held at Michigan State University in C310 Snyder Hall, 362 Bogue Street, East Lansing, MI. 48825, starting at 1pm. Many thanks to the Center for Poetry, RCAH, for hosting us. Parking free on campus on Saturdays. Contact Michele Root-Bernstein.

Haiku Waukesha (Wisconsin)

Haiku Waukesha met October 30 with a great mix of conversation about what makes haiku effective, and an hour of work-shopping. We meet again December 4th, 5-7pm at First United Methodist Church Waukesha, 121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186 in room 216. Next month bring a poem to workshop. Perhaps something you are considering submitting to the Wisconsin Anthology. Guests are welcome. Direct questions to Dan Schwerin. Thank you.

The Haiku Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society (Illinois)

In October the group met and had a lively conversation about haiku and the place of punctuation in haiku. Lee Gurga helped the group understand the role of different punctuation marks.

The Haiku Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society is meeting next on December 15, 2019 from 1pm-4pm at the Northbrook Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois in the Civic Room. In addition to our critiquing we share resources and discuss published haiku from recent journals. Contact Jim Sullivan for more information.

Ohaio-ku Study Group (Ohio)

The Ohaio-ku Study Group met Saturday, October 12, from 10am to noon at the Dover Public Library. The following poets were present: Joe McKeon, Barbara Sabol, Larry Shircliff, Susan Mallernee, Dana Mallernee, Kari Davidson, Colette Cosma, Kelly Sauvage Angel, Tia Haynes, Nicky Gutierrez, Joshua Gage, Ronald Craig, Phyllis Lee, Lee Elliott, Bethany Kessel and Julie Warther. Lee Gurga, author of *Haiku: A Poet's Guide*, was our guest speaker. Our kukai theme was “Candy”. Kari Davidson, Susan Mallernee and Colette Cosma won book awards from Modern Haiku Press provided by Lee Gurga.

Afterwards, many from the group enjoyed lunch at Sammie Sue’s BBQ then hiked the Forest Haiku Walk at The Inn at Honey Run on what proved to be a beautiful fall day after a rainy start.

Our next meeting will be held Saturday, November 9, from 10am to noon at The Cuyahoga Falls Public Library located at 2015 3rd Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221. Our kukai theme is a “grotesque poem”. All are welcome! We'd love to see you there. Contact: Julie Warther.
Columbus Haiku Group (Ohio)

The Columbus Haiku Group meets the fourth Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. Locations around the Columbus area vary. Please contact Jennifer Hambrick.

Peregrine Haiku Society (Ohio)

The next installment of the Peregrine Haiku Society will be held at noon on Thursday, December 5, 2019 at The Mercantile Library located at 414 Walnut Street, 11th Story, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Formerly the Haiku Workshop, renamed for the peregrine falcons that live in downtown Cincinnati, and that frequently hunt outside the Mercantile Library. Join us for Haiku writing and read around, led by Patti Niehoff. Forget 5-7-5, this group is for anyone interested in focusing on those tiny moments of illumination, honing their craft, or just curious about the art form. The Workshop is free and open to both members and non-members of the Mercantile Library. Please contact Amy Hunter at the Library (513-621-0717) to make a reservation. Lunch will be provided.

Officers and Coordinators of the Haiku Society of America Help Celebrate

The following HSA officers and coordinators celebrated the 100th issue of New England Letters by submitting a poem for the 100 poem challenge: Gary Hotham, Diane Garcia, Bill Deegan, Ignatius Fay, Deborah P. Kolodji, Julie Warther, Steve Tabb, Rita Gray and Michael Henry Lee. Founder of Haiku North America, Michael Dylan Welch, also submitted a poem in celebration. Many thanks to these fellow poets for their kind support.

Notice: New England HSA Members

New England Letters is a monthly e-letter, edited by Wanda Cook, that serves the New England members of HSA. It focuses on sharing regional haiku news, meetings, happenings and poetry. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to be, just send an email with the subject line: NEW ENGLAND LETTERS SUBSCRIPTION. The subscription is free. Be sure to include your name, full mailing address and email address.
While supplies last, you can still order copies of the HSA Members' Anthologies for the following years: 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

Please order through our website here:
http://www.hsa-haiku.org/member-anthol.htm

Soka Matsubara
International Haiku Competition
Guidelines

Please go to the following website to see the detail.

Guidelines

Title

- Free phrases
- Theme phrases ("pine" or "pine grove")

Categories

- Japanese haiku [general category; elementary, middle and high school student category]
- Foreign language haiku [English category, French category]

Submission

Foreign language haiku can only be submitted via the Homepage.

Fees

Foreign language haiku, English and French categories are free.

Prize
• Soka Mayor's Award (4 verses, 1 from each section)
• Oku-no-hosomichi Soka Matsubara Award (3 verses from each category theme, 12 in total)
• Oku-no-hosomichi 330th Year Anniversary Award (limited number from each category as a special prize)
• Other selections among the winners, excellent works, etc.

Awarded prizes and souvenirs will be given for these works.

**Submission period**
October 1 (Tuesday) to November 30 (Saturday)

**Contest results**
About mid-February, 2020. (The award ceremony will be held around May 2)

**Department**
1-1-1 Takasago, Soka City, Saitama Prefecture 340-8550
Soka City Hall Culture and Tourism Division, International Haiku Competition.
電話番号: 048-922-2968 FAX: 048-922-3406 E-mail:  bunkakanko@city.soka.saitama.jp

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**2019 Porad Haiku Award**

The winners of the 2019 Porad Haiku Award were announced on October 26th at the annual Seabeck Haiku Getaway. Eighty-five poets submitted a total of 566 haiku for consideration by this year's judge, Tom Painting. Congratulations to the winners!

Michele Root-Bernstein 1st Place
Marietta McGregor 2nd Place
Lon Risley 3rd Place

Honorable Mentions (unranked):

Kanchan Chatterjee
Raquel D. Bailey
Kath Abela Wilson

To read the winning haiku and the judge's commentary, please visit the [Haiku Northwest website](#).

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**All the Way Home**
Robert Epstein is pleased to announce the publication of *All the Way Home: Aging in Haiku*, which is available online only at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

- Paperback: 344 pages
- Publisher: Middle Island Press (Oct. 18 2019)
- Language: English
- Product Dimensions: 15.2 x 2 x 22.9 cm

He is pleased to announce the publication of his own book of haiku on aging, *Turning the Page to Old: Haiku & Senryu*, which is likewise available online only at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

- Paperback: 156 pages
- Publisher: Red Salon, The (May 28, 2019)
- Language: English
- ISBN-10: 1733597956
- Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Finally, he would like to announce the publication of a nonfiction, non-poetry book, *Poor Robert’s Almanac: Little Observations on Life*, which is available online only at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

- "Poor Robert’s Almanac" Little Observations on Life
- Paperback: 174 pages
- Publisher: Red Salon, The (March 22, 2021)
- Language: English
- ISBN-10: 1733597964
- Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches