




HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA

March 2,
2015

Volume 30
Issue 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT, DAVID LANOUE

Dear Members,

Last year's Fourth Quarterly Meeting, organized by Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator Robert Ertman, was held in Washington D.C. last December. The keynote address by Roberta Beary tackled the problem of gender bias in the haiku community: instances of sexism in conference agendas, editorial decisions, and contest judging. A key point of her stimulating presentation was that gender bias may be conscious, or, perhaps more insidiously, unconscious. The take-away message was for all of us to remain vigilant. If we believe that an editor, contest judge, or HSA officer is treating anyone unfairly based on gender; that person needs to be challenged. I agree wholeheartedly.

At our Business Meeting in D.C., I invited HSA members to brainstorm ways to improve our Society. Julie Bloss Kelsey suggested that we should do more to get our message out via social media. Young people, she pointed out, are more likely to hear of HSA from social media than from our website. Julie specifically suggested that we start an HSA Twitter account, and over the Christmas holidays, with her help, we did this. Our Twitter feed, @hsa_haiku, is intended to promote English-Language Haiku, telling the world about HSA contests, meetings, members' anthology, *Frogpond*, educational materials, and the like. Our only rule is that Twitter posts from HSA should not promote any individual's works or publications. In January, I sent the Twitter password to all Regional Coordinators, so that they could post information—and several of them have begun to do so. If you use Twitter, please follow us. And, if you use Facebook, please "friend" The Haiku Society of America.

FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED

Last month, I contacted several members who checked the “Willing to Volunteer” box on their 2015 renewal forms, inviting those who have experience in media, marketing, and education to serve on a Media Advisory Committee. I also invited Michael Dylan Welch to help on this committee, given his experience with the HSA Facebook page; he kindly agreed to do so. (By the way, in addition to Michael, the HSA owes a debt of gratitude to Tim Singleton and Jimmy “the Peach” Aaron for keeping our Facebook page going.) Others who’ve agreed to serve on this committee, so far, include Julie Bloss Kelsey, Dianne Garcia, and Alyson Whipple. The committee’s charge will be to have an e-mail discussion once a month, focusing on ways to improve HSA’s outreach via our website, Twitter, Facebook, and possibly other social media. They’ll send their suggestions to our Electronic Media Officer, Randy Brooks, who’ll bring ideas for action to the Executive Committee. I’m especially keen on improving our outreach to teachers: a topic that came up last year at quarterly meetings in Atlanta and New York City. One pressing need is a more complete set of downloadable educational materials on the HSA website for all levels—from pre-school through college. If you’d like to join this media think-tank, or if you simply have an idea or two that you’d like me to pass on to the Media Advisory Committee, let me know.

Once again, the EC has voted to provide mini-grants to support projects that promote the mission of HSA in 2015. We have already approved two mini-grants. The first, a grant of \$200, will go to Midwest RC Julie Warther, who’ll use it to create a haiku path at The Inn at Honey Run in Millersburg, Ohio. Julie will have ten haiku engraved on aluminum plaques, which will be fixed to boulders that already exist in this beautiful natural setting. She has sent an e-mail to HSA members of the Midwest Region, inviting them to submit haiku for the path. Submissions are limited to Midwest Region members.

The EC also approved a mini-grant of \$100 for Chris Patchel, so that he can pay the entrance fee for a graphic arts contest for which he’ll submit some of the designs that he created (and contributed at no charge) for *Frogpond*. Given Chris’s long service to HSA and the possibility that winning a prize would bring recognition to our Society and our mission, the EC felt that this would be a good investment.

If you have an idea for promoting the writing and appreciation of English-Language haiku in your region or hometown, please don’t hesitate to apply for a mini-grant. All that’s required is a paragraph describing how much money you’re asking for, and how it will be spent.

By the time this issue of *Ripples* goes out, I’ll be in Japan, preparing for the First Quarterly Meeting in Tokyo on March 14-15—a joint meeting of HSA and the Meguro International Haiku Circle. I’m hoping that this meeting will benefit the HSA members who reside in Japan as well as MIHC members, who for the most part are Japanese poets who choose to write haiku in English. My keynote talk will outline HSA’s mission, and I plan to cap it off by presenting to everyone in attendance a copy of *Frogpond*, our latest member’s anthology (*Take-Out Window*), a handout about HSA that includes recent winners of the Henderson prize, and, importantly, a blank form for joining HSA. Fortunately, my university will pay for my travel, so I can save my own HSA travel funds (\$2,000 annually) to attend the Second and Third Quarterly meetings in Orlando (May 16-17) and Santa Rosa, California (July 19). Our First Vice President Mike Montreuil will attend the Fourth Quarterly meeting—and run the business portion of that gathering—in Walnut Creek Ohio (September 18-20). The HSA

website has information on all of these quarterly meetings with their exciting agendas. I do hope that your schedule and budget will allow you to attend one.

FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED

On the topic of meetings, we continue the precedent set by Ce Rosenow, offering an HSA panel at the American Literature Association conference. This year that large, important academic conference takes place in Boston (May 21-24). The panel on “Nick Virgilio and American Haiku” will consist of Tom Morgan of the University of Dayton (chair), Raffael DeGruttola, Kathleen O’Toole, Elizabeth Moser, a graduate student at George Washington University who has done work with the Virgilio archive at Rutgers. I’m very appreciative that these four individuals have volunteered for this history-making session, the first-ever Virgilio panel at a scholarly conference.

Finally, a word on mentoring. In the past two years our mentoring program has matched 37 less experienced poets with HSA volunteers who’ve agreed to read their haiku and help them improve. These mentoring arrangements have been for the most part positive experiences for students and teachers alike. I want to thank all mentors who stepped up to this task, but we need more. I have a waiting list of three HSA members in line for mentors, all of whom have been waiting for over a month. So, before I can invite more members to request their mentor match-ups, I’m hoping that more of our experienced, talented, wonderful, published poets will volunteer to serve by shooting me an e-mail.

Thank you!

David Lanoue

david1gerard@hotmail.com



Roberta Beary, Haibun Editor, *Modern Haiku*, at the 4th Quarterly Meeting in Washington, D.C. Photo taken by David

HSA NEWS

Join the Tanka Society of America

The Tanka Society of America invites HSA members to join its sister organization devoted to the publication, study, and appreciation of tanka poetry. Membership benefits include three annual issues of the TSA's journal, *Ribbons*, occasional member-only email announcements, and the right to submit to the members-only "Tanka Café" column in *Ribbons* and to the TSA Members' Anthology. Annual membership is \$30 in the United States, \$35 in Canada, and \$42 elsewhere. For more details, please visit www.tankasocietyofamerica.org/how-to-join, where you can join or renew online using PayPal.

- Margaret Chula, President, Tanka Society of America



HSA Mention in The Washingtonian!

We thought you might want to check it out!

Just click on the link below:

<http://www.washingtonian.com/blogs/capitalcomment/local-news/meet-downtown-dcs-most-famous-haiku-poet.php>

Best,

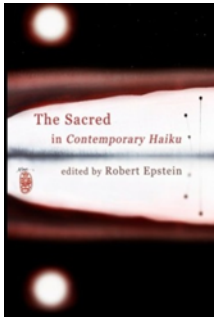
EMILY CODIK

202.739.2448

ecodik@washingtonian.com

[@emilycodik](#)

Print Publication Announcements



The Sacred In Contemporary Haiku Paperback – December 3, 2014

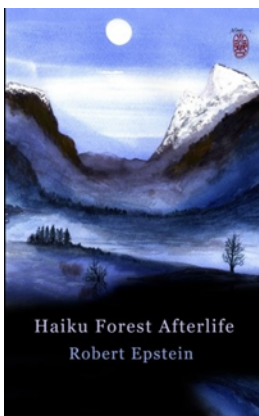
by [Robert Epstein](#) (Author)

Product Details

- **Paperback:** 266 pages
- **Publisher:** CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform; First edition (December 3, 2014)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1500993018

- **ISBN-13:** 978-1500993016
- **Product Dimensions:** 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Horace, the ancient Roman poet, declared that “every old poem is sacred.” Whatever could he have meant by that? The contributors to this haiku collection pour forth their contemporary poetic response by calling our attention to unassuming moments in church and temple; meadow and mountain; on the train and on the trail; where they find their hearts brimming over with reverence, awe, wonder, silence, joy, affection and love. No moment or event is too fleeting or too small to embody the sacred; indeed, as the English poet William Blake famously observed, the universe itself may be found in a single grain of sand. There is even a place for doubt, uncertainty, sensuality and humor in a world that is infused with the sacred. Be the first to behold with the haiku poets in these pages the abundance of sweetness and holiness that surrounds us wherever we are, whatever our circumstances. In doing so your very life may become a blessing or a poem, as the test of time hallows the poetry here.



Haiku Forest Afterlife Paperback – August 13, 2014

by [Robert Epstein](#) (Author, Editor), [Ron C. Moss](#) (Cover Design)

http://www.amazon.com/Haiku-Forest-Afterlife-Robert-Epstein/dp/0692221700/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1417761069&sr=1-1&keywords=haiku+forest+afterlife

Paperback: 132 pages
Publisher: Middle Island Press; 1st edition (August 13, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0692221700
ISBN-13: 978-0692221709
Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.3 x 8 inches
Shipping Weight: 7 ounces ([View shipping rates and policies](#))

CONTEST RESULTS

The 2014 Tokutomi Contest Results Announced by the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

The winners of the 2014 Kiyoshi and Kiyoko Tokutomi Haiku Contest are announced by the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. The judges this year were Professor Makoto Nakanishi (Ehime University, Matsuyama, Japan) and Kaoru “Hana” Fujimoto (Councilor of the Haiku International Association (HIA) in Tokyo, Japan; for ten years with the Tokyo Bureau of the New York Times).

1st Place:

morning solitude
on a rippling mountain stream
two fly fishermen
- Linda Papanicolaou

2nd Place:

early summer rain
Mom hums some forgotten tune
in a minor key
- Gregory Longenecker

3rd Place:

an apple blossom
landing in the outstretched hand
of my little boy
- Mimi Ahern

An Honorable Mention was awarded to each of the following poets, who are from England, Canada, Taiwan, and “from sea to shining sea” of the USA: Sheila Windsor, Neal Whitman, Priscilla H. Lignori, Kyle Sullivan, Christine Lamb Stern, Desiree McMurry, Beverly Acuff Momoi, Debbie Strange, Deborah P. Kolodji, Poppy Herrin.

Congratulations to all these poets and great gratitude to the judges.

The illustrated brochure of all the haiku and the judges comments on the winners is available from the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society site (www.youngleaves.org) through its index or at this URL:

<https://yukiteikei.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/tokutomi-nov-7-2014.pdf>

The kigo and rules for the 2015 contest (coordinated by Gregory Longenecker) are also available at that site, specifically:

<http://youngleaves.org/2015-tokutomi-memorial-haiku-contest/>.

CONTEST RESULTS

Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival 2014 Haiku Invitational Winners

The following are the winners of the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival's 2014 Haiku Invitational, judged by Marco Fraticelli, and presented by Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel Ltd. You can read complete results, with many dozens of additional Sakura Awards and honourable mentions, at <http://vcbf.ca/haiku-invitational/winning-haiku/2014-winning-haiku>. Additional comments on the top six winning poems are also available at <http://vcbf.ca/2014-winning-haiku-commentary>. Congratulations to each of the winners, and plan now to enter the 2015 Haiku Invitational contest this coming spring.

Vancouver

subway platform
she brushes cherry petals
from her black umbrella

Garry Eaton

Port Moody, British Columbia

British Columbia

rusting baby buggy
fills with pink
cherry blossom petals

Cheryl Ashley

Nanaimo, British Columbia

Canada

Wild Horse Shakes its Mane
the Tai Chi group moves
through cherry petals

Harvey Jenkins

Winnipeg, Manitoba

United States

without thinking . . .
she brushes cherry blossoms
from a stranger's sleeve

Julie Warther

Dover, Ohio

CONTEST RESULTS, CONTINUED

International

bridge crossing . . .
the full moon sprinkled with
cherry blossoms

*Helen Davison
Lismore, Australia*

Youth

cherry blossoms
interrupting
her fairytale

*Andreea Cirligeanu, age 12
Botosani, Romania*

The haiku that resonate with me the most are very often those for which I cannot explain the reason. They touch me on a level that lies deeper than the more obvious, cerebral level. They give me the shivers, even if I am hard pressed to tell you why. For the 2014 Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival, most of my selections seem to fit this category, and I invite you to discover if some of them (it is a very personal reaction) might give you the shivers too.

The VCBF Haiku Invitational received 1,099 entries this year, and it was a challenge for me to make selections. I read each entry many times on four different days to try to make the best selection possible. I encourage everyone who participated to do so again next year. Until then, I invite you to enjoy this year's selections. Congratulations to each of the winners.

*Marco Fraticelli
Pointe-Claire, Quebec*



CONTEST RESULTS

2014 Porad Award Winners

Haiku Northwest has sponsored the annual Porad Haiku Award since 2004. It is named in memory of Francine Porad, who founded Haiku Northwest in 1988, and was a past president of the Haiku Society of America. Results are announced each autumn at the Seabeck Haiku Getaway.

John Stevenson, Judge
Richard and Kathleen Tice, Contest Coordinators

Sponsored by Haiku Northwest

First Place (\$100)

cold floor . . .
stepping barefoot
on broken moonlight

Judt Shrode
Tacoma, Washington

It is probably not physically painful, stepping on broken moonlight, but this poem suggests pain at a deeper level of sensation. Buson's famous poem about stepping on his dead wife's comb, reportedly written while she was very much alive, partakes of this same sensation. The current poem is likely be read by knowledgeable haiku readers as a corollary to Buson.

Since Buson's poem seems to have been fictional in some part, we might wonder whether he experienced a physical pain and then created a context in which it would have meaning. Or if he began with the emotion and imagined physical circumstances that would most effectively communicate his feeling. The current poem seems to extend this, saying that because of what Buson accomplished we can take the next step within the context he created. We no longer need the physical pain to invoke or explain the deeper sensations.

Some may think that it's wrong for us to presume to put ourselves in the company of Buson or anyone that others have designated as great poets. But this is a mistake. We are all in this together. We are all in this alone. These are not contradictory statements. In fact, they are a single statement. We are alone together. By taking a walk with Buson, this poet seems to put the emphasis on "together" and that is why, for me, it belongs at the top of this list.

Second Place (\$50)

slowly sizing up
her graduated pearls

Scott Mason
Chappaqua, New York



The “O negative” of women’s fashion, strings of pearls go with a wide variety of outfits and strike a note of class for a range of informal and formal occasions. This poem embodies some of that versatility and elegance.

CONTEST RESULTS, CONTINUED

Are the pearls natural or cultured? Are they of the highest quality or lesser? There are professional systems for grading the quality of pearls, just as there are for diamonds and graduate students. We are always judging and ranking each other and everything around us. The result is like neatly strung strands of pearls. It is simultaneously absurd and beautifully touching. The use of a familiar idiom (sizing up) in a literal fashion effectively invokes this dichotomy. That the poem is then submitted to a contest creates an irony to which I could not resist responding, with a second prize.

Third Place (\$25)

all my irons in the fire out

*Julie Warther
Dover, Ohio*

A somber thought for anyone who hopes to “have it all.” It is not just that individual irons in the fire may be neglected in favor of others but the fire itself may go out through our distraction and neglect of what is most essential. Read in other ways, this could express a moment of ultimate accomplishment, in which all projects have been completed. Or a moment of frenetic activity, in which all projects have simultaneously reached a critical stage. Or a moment of ultimate surrender, in which all schemes have been abandoned. Written in a single line, I read it as all of the above, hammered into a poem of tempered steel.

Honorable Mentions

(unranked)

my day at work | her air violin

*Alan S. Bridges
Littleton, Massachusetts*

Sunday drizzle
the rattle
of empty bottles

*Glenn G. Coats
Prospect, Virginia*

cold sea against rocks . . .
the names I would have given
my children



*Meik Blöttenberger
Hanover, Pennsylvania*

CONTEST RESULTS, CONTINUED

cancer spreading . . .
my cell phone's
single bar

*paul m.
Bristol, Rhode Island*

inside the frozen waterfall water falling

*Julie Warther
Dover, Ohio*

Sponsor's Thanks

After a decade of being sponsored or cosponsored by the Washington Poets Association, this year the Francine Porad Award for haiku is now sponsored solely by Haiku Northwest. Our thanks to John Stevenson, former Haiku Society of America president and Seabeck Haiku Getaway guest speaker, for judging this year's contest and for commenting on the top three winning poems. Thanks also to Richard and Kathleen Tice for serving as contest coordinators. Congratulations to each winner, and thank you to all the poets who entered 403 poems for consideration. We hope that you will enter the 2015 Porad Award for haiku. We also welcome haiku poets in the Seattle area and beyond to join Haiku Northwest at its monthly meetings, and to attend our annual Seabeck Haiku Getaway retreat each autumn. Please explore our website for more information.

*Angela Terry
Haiku Northwest President*

Note: Please visit the Haiku Northwest website at www.haikunorthwest.org for information about the 2015 Poard Award, which will have a deadline of August 15. The next Seabeck Haiku Getaway will take place October 1-4, 2015, with Randy Brooks as featured guest.



FROM THE TREASURER, BILL DEEGAN

HSA 2014 Financials

	FY 2014	Adjusted	Budget	f/(u)
Beginning Balance	70,451			
Dues / Contributions	26,131	32,719	31,500	1,219
Members Anthology Sales	(614)	(614)	500	(1,114)
Contest Fees	1,704	1,704	1,500	204
Frogpond Sales	745	745	1,000	(255)
Miscellaneous	6	6	0	6
Income	27,971	34,560	34,500	60
Frogpond Expenses	15,887	15,887	15,600	(287)
Newsletter Expenses	1,299	1,299	1,800	501
Administrative Expenses	2,882	2,882	3,900	1,018
Members Anthology Expenses	5,050	5,050	6,700	1,650
Contest Awards / Expenses	2,664	2,664	1,825	(839)
Meeting/Travel Expenses	3,460	3,460	3,500	40
Grants	550	550	0	(550)
Miscellaneous	0	0	400	400
Expense	31,792	31,792	33,725	1,933
Ending Balance	66,630			
Gain / (Loss)	(3,821)	2,768	775	1,993

The HSA netted \$3,318 versus a slightly profitable budget. It is important to look at the "Adjusted" column which backs out 2014 dues payments paid in 2013 and 2015 dues paid in 2014. Members Anthology Sales includes refunds given on the 2012 anthology which was never produced. Overall Administrative expenses came in lower than expected, and the members anthology was produced under budget. Contest expenses include the 2013 Kanterman awards which were paid in 2014. Finally, we began paying grants to local haiku groups this year.

I would like to thank out-going Treasurer, Paul Miller for preparing the above financial statements and commentary for 2014 and for his 10+ years of service to the HSA as Treasurer. Under his guidance the Society has established solid financial footing as we start 2015.

On a personal note, I thank Paul for his generosity with his time and the tremendous help he's given me during the transition as I try to fill his shoes.

Sincerely,
Bill Deegan

FROM THE SECRETARY, MOLLIE DANFORTH

2015

Haiku Society of America

Total Ballots Submitted **227**
including 225 electronic and 2
paper

President

David Lanoue -- 220 votes
Roberta Beary -- 2 write-ins
Abstained -- 5

1st VP

Mike Montreuil -- 211
Michael Dylan Welch -- 3 write-ins
Roberta Beart -- 1 write-in
Abstained -- 12

2nd VP

Charlotte Digregorio -- 215
Abstained -- 12

Treasurer

Bill Deegan -- 215
Paul Miller -- 1 write-in
Abstained -- 11

Secretary

Mollie Danforth -- 214
Abstained -- 13

Frogpond Editor

Francine Banwarth -- 219
Jim Kacian -- 1 write-in
Tom Painting -- 1 write-in
Abstained -- 6

Ripples Editor

Adrienne Christian -- 214

Election Results

someone else -- 1 write-in
Susan Antolin -- 1 write-in
Michael Dylan Welch -- 1 write-in
Abstained -- 10

Electronic Media Officer

Randy Brooks -- 219
Melissa Allen -- 1 write-in
Abstained -- 7

Regional Coordinators:

Alaska

Billie Wilson -- 2

California

Debora P. Kolodji -- 29

Hawaii/Pacific

Brett Brady -- 1

Mid-Atlantic

Robert Ertman -- 17

Midwest

Julie Warther -- 37

Northeast Metro

Rita Gray -- 16

Northeast/New England

Wanda Cook -- 23

Oregon

Shelley Baker-Gard -- 5

Plains & Mountains

no candidate
Karen O'Leary -- write-in 1 (has
declined to serve)

South

Carlos Colon -- 11

Southeast

Terri L. French -- 17

Southwest

James M. Applegate -- 15

Washington

Angela Terry -- 17

Abstained from voting
for a Regional Coordinator -- 36

Certified:

Mollie Danforth
HSA Secretary



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society Announces the Annual:

Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

In-hand Deadline: May 31, 2015

Prizes: \$100 \$50 \$25

Contest Rules:

- Haiku must be in English.
- Haiku must each have 17 syllables in a 5-7-5 pattern.
- Each haiku must use only one kigo from the contest list.
- Haiku with more than one recognized kigo will be disqualified.

2015 Contest Kigo List

New Year: first dream, young year

Spring: vernal pool, plover

Summer: golden hills, summer fog

Autumn: quail, wild grape

Winter: heavenly bamboo, snowboarding/skiing

Entry fee \$7.00 per page of three haiku. No limit on entries. Entries will not be returned. No refunds. For paper submission, put three poems per page and send 4 copies of each page, with your name and address on only one copy, typed on 8 ½ x 11 paper. (Email & PayPal option will be available).

Make checks or money orders payable to “**Yuki Teikei Haiku Society.**” Overseas entrants please use International Postal Money Order, in U.S. currency only. For a paper copy of the results (which will also be Web-available) send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) marked “Contest Winners.” Writers abroad: Please enclose a self-addressed envelope (SAE) plus enough postage in international reply coupons for air mail return.

Entries must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere. No previous winning haiku are eligible. This contest is open to anyone, except for the YT President and Contest Chair. Final selection will be made by a distinguished haiku poet. The Society may print winning poems and commentary in its newsletter, web site, annual anthology, and brochures.

If not pre-paying by PayPal, send entries with entry fee by mail to:

YTHS Tokutomi Contest

G. Longenecker – Contest Chair

1560 Scenic Dr.

Pasadena, CA 91103

Email entries, PayPal payment & all guidelines will be available soon on the YTHS web site, <http://youngleaves.org/>.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Japanese poet, Maki Starfield, is collecting 10,000 Tsubuyaki (3 line poem) verses from 10,000 people over the world in order to publish as New Manyoshu, or Collection of Ten Thousand Tsubuyaki verses (poems) in the future.

Contact Information:

Maki [Starfield.com](http://www.makistarfield.com)

<http://www.makistarfield.com/blog/>

Call for Submissions:

Haiku, senryu, tanka and black-and-white haiga related to the theme of the afterlife.

Please send up to 20 poems to Robert Epstein at afterlifehaiku@gmail.com

or, via US mail with a SASE: 1343 Navellier St., El Cerrito, CA 94530.

No compensation for inclusion.

Deadline March 31, 2015

Robert Epstein

Call for Submissions:

Linda Palmero, HSA Arizona member, has started a new haiku journal.

Send Linda your haiku at speedbumpjournal.wordpress.com.

See website for compensation and deadline information.

Dear Members,

Please log onto our website, hsa-haiku.org, check out the contests, and enter! We have contests for haiku, senryu, haibun, renku, students' haiku, and published books. Please note that the deadline for the first contest, renku, is coming up fairly soon, Feb. 28. Please follow the guidelines closely. I am delighted to report that we have expert judges and poets who have graciously agreed to read entries and select winners. The judges are, in no particular order: Tom Painting, George Dorsty, Gayle Bull, Jerry Cushman, Marjorie Buettner, Marsh Muirhead, Kristen Deming, Ellen Compton, Aubrie Cox and Mike Rehling. Mike Montreuil is in charge of the book awards' contest and the selection of those judges.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Charlotte Digregorio
Second Vice President

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Butterfly Dream: Call for Haiku Submissions

Send your best published haiku (please provide publication credits) or new work and a bio sketch (50 words max.) with the subject heading "Published or Unpublished Haiku, Your Name, Submitted Date" to Chen-ou Liu via email at neverendingstory_haiku@yahoo.ca And place your haiku directly in the body of the email. DO NOT SEND ATTACHMENTS.

No more than twenty haiku per submission and no simultaneous submissions. And please wait for at least three months for another new submission. Deadline: December 1, 2015.

Please note that only those whose haiku are selected for publication will be notified within three weeks, and that no other notification will be sent out, so your works are automatically freed up after three weeks to submit elsewhere.

The accepted haiku will be translated into Chinese and posted on NeverEnding Story and Twitter (You are welcome to follow me on NeverEnding Story, <http://neverendingstoryhaikutanka.blogspot.ca/>, or on Twitter at @storyhaikutanka). The best 66 haiku will be included in the anthology, which is scheduled to be published in July of 2016, and the poet whose poem is chosen as the best haiku of the year will be given a 3-page space to feature the haiku of his/her choice. Each poet in the anthology will receive a copy of the e-book edition.



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

A Midwest Haiku Path

We are pleased to announce the creation of a Haiku Path on site at The Inn at Honey Run in Millersburg, Ohio. The owner, Jason Nies, is in the process of fundraising for an Open Air Art Museum. (<http://www.innathoneyrun.com/open-air-art-museum-planned-holmes-county-ohio/>)

The Haiku Path will be one of its first installations. A mini-grant provided by HSA will cover the cost of the metal haiku plaques and the Inn will supply the stones and publicity.

As many as twenty poets will have their haiku included on stones along the Haiku Path in this permanent display. The Haiku Path and Open Air Art Museum will be free and open to the public. A anthology of selected haiku will be made available for purchase on site. All poets of selected haiku will receive one free copy of the anthology.

To submit:

Please send no more than five unpublished haiku in the body of an email to wartherjulie@gmail.com with "Haiku Path" in the subject line. Deadline: March 31, 2015.

Please include your name, full mailing address and email address with your entry.

Submissions are open to Midwest Regional members of HSA only. (If you haven't renewed your HSA membership for 2015, please do so before the entry deadline to be eligible. <http://www.hsa-haiku.org>)

Some considerations when sending:

This path winds through an Ohio woodlands. Please match your haiku to this setting. You can view some photographs on the inn's website. <http://www.innathoneyrun.com>

We would like all four seasons to be represented in the haiku, so please send a variety.

For the hikers, this Haiku Path may be their first exposure to contemporary English-language haiku. We will be looking for quality, accessible haiku with a seasonal aspect. Three lines only, please.

Notification:



An email, listing all selected haiku poets, will be sent no later than June 15, 2015.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rattle Japanese Forms Tribute

Rattle, a mainstream magazine with a circulation of over 5000 edited by Timothy Green, is having a Japanese Forms Tribute in its Spring 2015 issue, due out in March 2015. This issue will feature haiku, senryu, haibun, tanka, tanka prose, translations, and renku by Roberta Beary, David Bowles, Helen Buckingham, Billy Collins, Michael Luis Dauro, Peter Fiore, Richard Gilbert, Jeff Haas, Mariko Kitakubo, Deborah P Kolodji, Jee Leong Koh, Timothy Liu, Bob Lucky, Michael Mejia, Marsh Muirhead, George Swede, Kenny Tanemura, Charles Tarlton, John Samuel Tieman & Walter Bargaen, Jack Vian, Jonathan Weinhart & Debra Kang Dean, and Michael Dylan Welch. The issue also features "A Conversation with Richard Gilbert" as well as some mainstream poetry.

Three readings are scheduled to coincide with the launch of this issue at the Flintridge Book Store and Coffee House, 1010 Foothill Boulevard, La Cañada-Flintridge, CA 91011, Featured readers – Richard Gilbert (from Japan) and Marsh Muirhead (from Minnesota)

Sunday, March 8, 2015 – Lina Ferriera, Richard Gilbert, Marsh Muirhead

Sunday, April 12, 2015 – Jackson Burgess, Mariko Kitakubo, Deborah P Kolodji,

Sunday, May 10, 2015 – Debra Kang Dean, Timothy Liu, Amber Rambrose

Haiku Be-Bop

Spring Quarterly Meeting

Haiku Society of America

Orlando, Florida

May 16 - 17, 2015

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, May 16

8:00 - 9:00 am Registration, Rollins College (room number TBA)

9:30 - 10:30 am "The Haiku Be-Bop of Jack Kerouac & the Beats," special guest speaker, Stanford M. Forrester

11:00 am - 1:00 pm Tour of the Jack Kerouac House www.kerouacproject.org with lunch on the grounds (please bring cash for lunch) and short business meeting

1:30 - 2:30 pm ginko walk at park near Kerouac house

3:00 - 3:30pm Back to Rollins, time to peruse book table

3:45 - 4:30pm "Howling Hipsters reading Haiku," audio presentation, with Q & A

Dinner on your own

8:00 pm - until Open mic haiku reading at Stardust Video & Coffee
(they have light fare and bar)

UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

Sunday, May 17

ginko boat cruise for those interested (please let me know if you are interested as I'll have to reserve for group of 10 or more. \$12 pp)

Lodging:

Park Plaza Hotel <http://www.parkplazahotel.com>, Alford Inn <<http://www.alfond-inn-winter-park.hotel>

Comfort Inn & Suites Winter Park Village Area, <<http://www.comfortinn.com/hotel-orlando-florida>>

Contact: Terri L. French, terri.l.french@knology.net, and Paula Moore paulamlt@comcast.net

The Haiku Poets of the Garden State

Haiku Poets of the Garden State will hold a reading on:

Sunday, April 26 at 2 p.m.

at the Summit Free Public Library, 75 Maple St., Summit, NJ 908-273-0350.

There is ample parking and the library is one block from NJ Transit train and bus lines.

There will be an open reading as time allows. Please keep up-to-date with our group at hpgs.weebly.com

Diane Lynch

**The Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park
presents "Desert Haiku Writing in Joshua Tree National Park"
March 7, 2015 at the Black Rock Visitor's Center
9 am to 4 pm.**

\$70 (\$60 for Joshua Tree National Park Association Members). Includes admission to Joshua Tree National Park.

Joshua Tree, CA – Spring is coming soon, and March is an ideal month to visit the Mojave Desert as wildflowers begin to bloom! Be inspired by the power and beauty of the desert setting to learn how to write haiku as well as other nature-based forms of poetry in this writing-intensive field seminar. Participants will take brief walks and be introduced to the ecologic and cultural/historical richness of the desert at Joshua-Tree-studded Black Rock Campground. In addition to writing haiku that stems from the direct experience of this natural desert wonderland, participants will also be led in writing other short forms of poetry and some short prose stemming from creative writing prompts. This workshop is open

to writers of all levels, from beginning to advanced, and is suitable for ages 14+. The workshop is led by desert poet/writer Ruth Nolan, MFA, Professor of English and Creative Writing at College of the Desert, and poet Deborah P.

UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

Kolodji, moderator of the Southern California Haiku Study Group, and California Regional Coordinator for the Haiku Society of America.

TO REGISTER / receive for more information: Contact Kevin Wong, program director via email at desertinstitute@joshuatree.org or by phone (760) 367-5583

You can also register online on The Desert Institute website: <http://www.joshuatree.org/desert-institute/field-classes/desert-haiku-writing-in-joshua-tree-national-park/>





UPCOMING EVENTS

Haiku in the Teahouse
Japanese Friendship Garden, Kelley Park
Saturday, May 9, 2015

Featured Artists/Poets:



Ripples

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society's Presidents (Past and Present) :

Jerry Ball, Patricia J. Machmiller, David Wright, June Hymas, Alex Benedict, Roger Abe, Anne Homan, Carol Steele, Alison Woolpert

Schedule:

- 11 AM to 12 Noon – Friendship Garden Tours (meet at the Teahouse).
- 12 Noon to 1 PM – break, on your own for lunch and/or ginko walk.
- 1 PM to 4 PM – Featured Poets/Open Reading – free/open to the public.
- 5 PM to 8 PM – YTHS 40th Anniversary private dinner, preregistration required.

Best parking at: 1300 Senter Road, San Jose. Parking fee: \$10.

For further information contact Park Ranger Roger Abe at: roger.abe@sanjoseca.gov



REGIONAL NEWS

CALIFORNIA

Southern California Haiku Study Group

The Southern California Haiku Study Group has had a busy autumn and winter and is looking forward to a number of spring events. On November 2nd, the group hosted its reading of the annual group anthology. This year's anthology is

called “Apology of Wildflowers” after a haiku by Kimberly Esser:

after the storm
an apology
of wildflowers

- Kimberly Esser

The group’s November 15th meeting focused on sound haiku and was attended by 19 people. The December 20th meeting was a rengay workshop, attended by 11 people. In January, the group’s annual post-holiday party was held at the home of group moderator, Deborah P Kolodji, in Temple City. Attendees brought “haiku gifts,” made with their haiku, which they shared with the group. The January 17th meeting was attended by 18 people and focused on winter season words. After generating a list of winter season words for Southern California, the group wrote haiku that was entered into an anonymous haiku workshop. February brought a ginko at the Los Angeles Arboretum, where the aloe garden was blooming profusely.

Upcoming events include:

Saturday, February 28, 2015 – Ginko/Cherry Blossom Viewing at South Coast Botanical Garden

10:00 a.m. Meet inside the garden in the Koi Pond Patio. The garden is located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA 90274. Bring a cherry blossom haiku to share.

Sunday, March 7, 2015 – Joshua Tree Desert Workshop

9 am to 4 pm Workshop through the Desert Institute, \$70. Instructors are Deborah P Kolodji and Ruth Nolan. Black Rock Visitor Center, Yucca Valley.

<http://www.joshuatree.org/desert-institute/field-classes/desert-haiku-writing-in-joshua-tree-national-park/>

Saturday, March 21, 2015 – Workshop – USC Pacific Asia Museum, 2-4 pm

Sunday, March 29, 2015 – SCHSG Member Genie Nakano will be launching her book, Storyteller, a poetry performance with music and dance. Editor Amelia Fielden, visiting from Australia, will also be participating. **2-4 pm.** Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall, 1964 W. 162nd Street, Gardena, CA

Saturday, April 4, 2015 – Haiku Workshop, “And it is Spring: Writing in the Arboretum”

10:30 to 12:00 p.m. Fullerton Arboretum. Program put on by the Fullerton Arboretum. Cost: \$18. Deborah P Kolodji will facilitate class.

Saturday, April 11, 2015 – Haiku Station at the Garden of Verses Event at the Santa Ana Botanical Garden, 10 am to 3 pm.

1500 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711. Readers include Victor Ortiz, Don Baird, Greg Longenecker, Bill Hart, Genie Nakano, Kathabela Wilson, Mariko Kitakubo, Peggy Castro, Deborah P Kolodji and others.



Saturday, April 18, 2015 – Workshop – USC Pacific Asia Museum, 2-4 pm

Saturday, May 16, 2015 – Workshop – USC Pacific Asia Museum, 2-4 pm

Saturday, June 20, 2015 – Workshop with John Stevenson, USC Pacific Asia Museum, 2-4 pm

There are also plans for an April Haiku Open Mic in honor International Haiku Day and National Poetry Month. All are welcome to attend Southern California Haiku Study Group Events.

The Haiku Poets of Northern California

The Haiku Poets of Northern California gathered for their winter quarterly meeting at Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA, on January 18, 2015. The meeting was opened by president Fay Aoyagi at 1:45 p.m. The following people were present: Rober Abe, Sue Antolin, Fay Aoyagi, Stephanie Baker, Susan Diridoni, Garry Gay, Johnny Johnson Hafernik, Patricia Machmiller, Renée Owen, Linda Papanicolaou, Sharon Pretti, Joseph Robello, Lois Scott, Michael Sheffield, Carol Steele, Eric Stoelting, Michèle Turchi, and Alison Woolpert. We began the meeting with a round of introductions and haiku.

Due to some scheduling issues, we had the unusual good fortune to have two featured readers, Patricia Machmiller and Roger Abe. Patricia J. Machmiller is a haiku poet, artist, and teacher of haiku. With Jerry Ball she writes a column of haiku commentary in GEPPPO, a publication of the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. She has a number of books, including a book of haiku, *Blush of Winter Moon*, (Jacaranda Press, 2001) and with Fay Aoyagi, translations from the Japanese of Kiyoko Tokutomi's haiku, *Kiyoko's Sky*, (Brooks Books, 2002). Her web site (patriciajmachmiller@msn.com) has some of her artwork including a series called "Haiku Etchings." Roger Abe is an urban park ranger in San Jose and is also a Yuki Teikei Haiku Society member and past president. Before reading their individual work and in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society, Patricia and Roger read brief excerpts from the letters of Kiyoko and Kiyoshi Tokutomi published in the book *Autumn Loneliness* (translated by Tei Matsushita Scott and Patricia Machmiller, Hardscratch Press, 2009). Patricia then read a haibun titled "A Meditation of Days," which will appear in *Modern Haiku*. From Patricia's reading:

snow moon—
within the tunnel of trees
the wind takes refuge

The Moss at Tokeiji, ed. Lidia Rozmus (Deep North Press, 2010)

From Roger's reading:

in the sound of the trees
walnut leaves are falling--

their paths through the air

Following the reading Fay made several announcements, the first being the results for the haiku, senryu and tanka portions of the HPHC-sponsored contest. She presented certificates to two of the winners who were present at the meeting, Garry Gay and Renée Owen. Next Fay announced that the HSA had requested that HPNC host an official quarterly meeting for the HSA, which we will do in conjunction with our own previously scheduled summer meeting on July 19. Details will be hashed out by the officers of both HPNC and the HSA, so keep an eye out for more information later in the spring.

Garry Gay passed around information on the upcoming Haiku North America conference that will be held in upstate New York on October 13-18, 2015. The Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY is offering a group rate for HNA reservations (use the attendee code 6615 when booking). This hotel is where most of the attendees will stay and where some of the evening events will take place, so if you want to be in the center of the action during HNA, this is the place to stay. The website for the conference is <http://www.haikunorthamerica.com/blog/haiku-north-america-2015-union-college-ny>. HNA 2015 will be hosted by members of the Route 9 Haiku Group: Hilary Tann, Yu Chang, John Stevenson, and Tom Clausen. Most of the conference events will take place on the campus of Union College (founded in 1795), where both Hilary Tann and Yu Chang are professors. Garry noted that the timing of the conference was carefully planned so that it would coincide with the spectacular fall colors in the Schenectady area.

Renée Owen passed around a new anthology published by Red Moon Press of haiga by Ion Condrescu, *Something Out of Nothing*, which contains haiku by several HPNC members, including Renée, Carolyn Hall, and Garry Gay.

Following the announcements, as we were beginning a break for refreshments, the fire alarm sounded and we all headed out of the building until the fire department came and declared it safe to reenter. Once we were back in the building and had had a chance to have some snacks (a tasty array provided, as always, by our much appreciated hospitality chair, Michael Sheffield), we began our afternoon workshop, a fukuromawashi (“pass the envelope”) writing exercise led by Fay Aoyagi. Fay distributed envelopes with a word printed on each that we were instructed to use in writing a haiku (or as many haiku as we could manage in the short time provided for each envelope). Instead of placing our haiku inside the envelope as we have done in the past, this time we kept our haiku in our own notebooks and then passed the envelope whenever the three-minute timer went off. Fast-paced and challenging, the fukuromawashi kept us busy writing without pause until most of the envelopes had made it a full circle of the group. We then went around the circle and read any haiku we felt were worth sharing. Some remarkable work was generated and shared, a testament to the good preparation Fay did in advance in selecting the words and the power of fast-paced writing to shut off our inner critics and let some surprising work emerge. The meeting closed at 4:40 p.m.

To find more information about HPNC and view the schedule for the upcoming year, please visit us online at www.hpnc.org. All HPNC meetings and events are free and open to the public, so if you find yourself in the Bay Area when one of our events is taking place, you are welcome to join us.

Submitted by Susan Antolin



Haiku Poets of Northern California

25th Anniversary

“Two Autumns” Anthology

2014 marked the 25th anniversary of the Haiku Poets of Northern California’s “Two Autumns” reading series—the longest ongoing public reading series outside of Japan. Each year four outstanding poets are invited to share with us the best of their haiku and senryu, and we have the great pleasure of experiencing these poems in the poets’ own voices. A published anthology accompanies each reading. In addition, this year we have published a beautiful anthology (edited by Garry Gay) representing all of the past and present “Two Autumns” readers: four readers each year for 25 years. One hundred poems by some of the finest English-language haiku poets. Also included is an engaging history of HPNC and Two Autumns by Garry Gay (in conversation with David Grayson). The design and production was done by Susan Antolin. Gorgeous photographs by Paul McKown grace the cover and inside pages.

Two Autumns Press, 2014, 72 pages, 5 ¼ x 8 ½ inches, ISBN 978-1-63443-616-8. \$10 plus shipping from Susan Antolin, susantolin@gmail.com.

“Garry Gay calls the Two Autumns readings ‘the crown jewel of our society,’ but he is too modest. For 25 years now, each reading and subsequent publication has offered the very best work of the Haiku Poets of Northern California and guests, but has also showcased the Bay Area as the epicenter of West Coast haiku and led the way for haiku writing and presentation for the rest of the country. This is a landmark book.”

Charles Trumbull, Editor emeritus, *Modern Haiku*

“*One Song* will be remembered as a lovely celebration of a significant achievement in American haiku. For an uninterrupted 25 years, as HPNC founder Garry Gay explains in a nimble interview at the back of the collection, the “Two Autumns” reading and anthology series has purposefully drawn together emerging and seasoned poets, voice and print presentations, and traditional and contemporary poetics. The dual nature of the enterprise succeeds brilliantly. At 100 haiku, sampling each poet in every reading from 1990 to the present, *One Song* sings with the sensory immersions, colloquial insights, and grassroots energies of what has become, under HPNC’s watch, a thoroughly American form of art. Bravo!”

“The Two Autumns reading series has featured a who’s who of leading haiku poets in the United States over 25 years. This book celebrates HPNC’s remarkable accomplishment—with ‘many voices, but one song.’ It also serves as a testament not only to the vision of Garry Gay, the series founder, but to the Haiku Poets of Northern California and its considerable influence on North American haiku poetry. Long may the series continue.”

Michael Dylan Welch, Editor and Publisher, *Woodnotes*, *Tundra*, and Press Here



Submitted by Carolyn Hall

CENTRAL VALLEY HAIKU CLUB

Sacramento, California

1.

Waiting for fall to arrive, on Saturday, October 11, 2014, the CVHC held its annual Poetry Reading, “Dragonfly Dance”, at the Gekkeikan Sake Factory, in Folsom, California.

Member w.f. owen was MIA, suffering from the effects of a flu virus, but members Yvonne Cabalona, Ricardo diBernardi, Mark Hollingsworth and his wife, Nancy, Lynne Sperry, and Leslie Rose carried on.

With an array of snacks, provided by our good friends of the Sake Factory, we nibbled, and each member shared poems, from haiku, to senryu, to tanka, to haibun. After the members had shared, the audience was invited to read as well.

Reading finished we held a quick meeting of members, checking on the progress of our haibun contest, and setting the date, Saturday, December 20th, for our Christmas meeting at The Eastern Empire Bar and Grill in Sacramento.

2.

On Saturday, December 20th, with the holiday rush in full swing, The CVHC celebrated the season and the end of another year in grand style at the Eastern Empire Bar & Grill in Sacramento. Members Yvonne Cabalona, Ricardo diBernardi, Mark Hollingsworth and Nancy, Lynne Sperry, and Leslie Rose raised a tea toast to friend and fellow member w f owen who was unable to attend.

It was a raucous gathering with much eating, much picture taking and much laughter.



The one bit of important business was the announcement that the 12th annual Jerry Kilbride Memorial 2014 English-language Haibun Contest had reached its December 1st deadline and that the entries had been sent to the judges for their consideration, and the winners would be announced by mid-January.

After sharing recent haiku, and before leaving, the date of Saturday, February 28th, 2015, was set for the first meeting of the New Year. It will be held again at the Eastern Empire Bar & Grill (460 Howe Ave., Sacramento, CA 95825).



CVHC Christmas Gathering, December 2014

At the Eastern Empire Bar & Grill, Sacramento, CA

(l-r) Yvonne Cabalona, Ricardo diBernardi, Nancy Hollingsworth, Mark Hollingsworth, Lynne Sperry, and Leslie Rose (Picture taken by Restaurant Waitress).

3.

The CVHC is proud to announce that the winners of the 2014 haibun contest have been notified. Congratulations were sent to our First Place winner, Renee Owen for her haibun entitled, "Manna", and our Second Place winner, Terri L. French for her haibun entitled, "Out of the Hat." As our President, Yvonne Cabalona said, " We thank all who entered the contest and look forward to your participation in 2015. We appreciate all of those who continue to support this beautiful expression of prose and poetry. Jerry Kilbride, spirited founding member and haibun mentor to the Central Valley Haiku Club would have been standing on the sidelines cheering each and every one of you for your efforts."

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Rose, CVHC Secretary

**YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU SOCIETY NEWS
JULY-DECEMBER 2014**

JULY In July to celebrate
Tanabata Matsuri, members of the Society and companions met at the home of Anne and Don Homan, high on the

foothills of Mount Diablo, where to the west one looks over Los Vaqueros Reservoir to the Central Valley. As usual, the three donkeys who live on the adjacent acreage came to the fence to join the celebration. After an enjoyable potluck dinner, sky gazing began. The first observation was the full moon rising over the distant Sierras; then as the night darkened, Vega, the Weaver Girl star, and Altair, the Shepherd star, appeared. There was no rain so the magpies could bridge the Milky Way to allow the lovers' tryst. In celebration the Tanabata story was read, then the poets wrote and read haiku, with each transcribed onto a rectangle of decorative paper which was then hung by a thread from a bamboo stalk.

—Patrick Gallagher

SEPTEMBER

An almost autumn afternoon in Palo Alto, California, on the Stanford University Campus:

ROAR of the fans in the football stadium as the Cardinals take on the USC Trojans;
QUIET of the poets in the Cantor Arts Museum as they take in the exhibit: "Mapping Edo—The Social and Political Geography of Early Modern Japan."

*first football game
on the empty campus
artists play*

Patrick Gallagher

A long table in soft afternoon light at the Museum Café:

WRAP UP by the twelve YTHS poets (Ann Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Alison Woolpert, Linda Papanicolaou, Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vrooman, Clysta Seney, Patricia Machmiller, J. Zimmerman, C. Holbrook, Susanne Smith, and Mimi Ahern) as they share their impressions of the art and the resulting haiku, haiku inspired by the beautiful prints and painted maps of the Edo period. More interesting yet are the comments and haiku from a second exhibit in the same room: "Within and Without Transformations in Chinese Landscapes" by modern Chinese painters. One provocative painting, "untitled (landscape no. QSH22)" by artist Qiu Shihua, appearing totally white at first, sparks the most comments and haiku.

*winter canvas
beyond the white
the darkness*

J. Zimmerman

—Mimi Ahern

OCTOBER

Where is the Moon?

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society held its annual Moon Viewing Party on October 11, 2014, at Carol Steele's cozy place in Capitola. Attendance: Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vrooman, Carolyn Fitz, Joan Zimmerman, Roger Abe, Kae Bendixen, Ann Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Peg Shelton, Kristin E., Carol Steele and Yukiko Northon. We enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner in Carol's backyard. As we were clearing dishes, we heard explosions and went out to the street to see the nearby beach fireworks show. We hurried in from the chilly night to share a few rounds of haiku. As we said our goodbyes and left Capitola, the tardy moon came up to brighten our journeys home.

snaking dragons



*explode red, green, yellow
where is the moon*

Eleanor Carolan

—Roger Abe

NOVEMBER

“It was for the birds!”...and for all the thirty-three birder haiku poets (new and veteran) who gathered together for the **YTHS Retreat at Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, California.**

Thursday the retreat begins at Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve with a picnic, information at the visitor center, and the first ginko. (The slough is one of the few relatively undisturbed coastal wetlands remaining in California, “a haven for a wide variety of birds...”)

*Phillip

Kennedy and Amy Ostenson, registrars for the event, greet us in the Historic Asilomar Social Hall. *The Bat, a book/poem is read by Alison Woolpert, President, to officially open the conference. *Warmth and welcome continue in a circle of chairs, as Betty Arnold, Program Chair, invites us all to introduce ourselves and share one haiku.

*Featured speaker of the night, Patricia J. Machmiller, explains her process of writing haiku for the book, Sweet Reverence of Little Birds, a collaboration with painter Floy Zittin and calligrapher Martha Dahlen. “Through my words,” Patricia says, “I try to add something to the image picking something that isn’t the first thing you would notice.”

Friday morning begins with birding instructor Nancy Adam’s philosophy of “noncompetitive supportive birding appreciation for local birds.” With a light side to her expertise (birding in all fifty states and in locales worldwide) she states: ““Who cares if you saw a flamingo and it’s really a hummingbird.” Leading us outside, she helps us to “see” all the birds in front us.

*Lunch is followed by Patricia Machmiller’s: “Bird Sounds in Haiku,” how to incorporate the actual sounds a bird makes into a poem. The afternoon continues with time for a ginko.

*A jam-packed evening begins with Patrick Gallaher reading the dedication in YTHS’s 2014 Anthology Scattered Acorns to Jerry Ball who then shares his appreciation to a tear-filled audience.

*Joan Zimmerman, organizer of the YTHS Haiku Contest, announces the winners and to a loud long applause reads the first place haiku by member Linda Papanicolaou, who was unable to be with us.

*Commemorating the fortieth anniversary of Sister Cities, Shingu, Japan, and Santa Cruz, CA, four locals: Carolyn Fitz, Carol Steele, Alison Woolpert, and Joan read their and their sister city’s haiku.

*With lights dimmed, Michael Sheffield reads information about cranes as Carolyn Fitz, behind a blank fabric canvas she has framed, brush paints cranes that appear before our very eyes.

*Haiga concludes the evening with a video by Ed Grossmith and art work by individual members.

Saturday morning we sketch birds as Floy Zittin demonstrates how to “get a basic bird down” and capture a feeling (elegant, cute, disturbing...). We add haiku to our sketches under Martha Dahlen’s direction to have a focal point (the sketch or the calligraphy) and to think of the emotional feeling of both.

*A traditional kukai is held in the afternoon; the reading of the submitted haiku is done by Chris Stern and Betty Arnold. Receiving the most votes is this bird haiku:

*the silence of crows
waiting for the argument
to resume*

Christine Horner

*A renku party fills the evening and into the night with Patrick Gallagher and Debbie Kolodgi leading, assisted by Carol Steele and Alison Woolpert. Asked by Patrick to dress festively for the occasion, Ann Bendixon shows up as a skunk and Toni Homan as a cat.

Sunday morning we read the renku, share our art and poetry, and then are led by Betty Arnold in a closing ceremony; with our eyes closed, she guides us in reflecting back on our four days. Finally rising to stand in a circle, she asks us to share bird sounds: “a way for our flock to voice its JOY with the retreat.”

*For those who can stay longer, Patricia Machmiller holds an afternoon haiku writing workshop.

Other participants included: Sandy Ball, Peg McAulay Byrd, Eleanor Carolan, Johnnie Johnson Hafernik, Bev Momoi, and Sandy Vrooman.

—Mimi Ahern

DECEMBER

It was an evening of haiku friendship, the holiday dinner at the home of Alison Woolpert, our YTHS President, expressed through her words: “...luminarias outside, holiday lights inside, and a living room filled with the lively talk among friends (Patricia & Al Machmiller, Judith & Lou Schallberger, Joan Zimmerman and friends from Japan Miki and Shun Kamata, Eleanor Carolyn, Carol Steele, Carolyn Fitz, Jean Mahoney, Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vrooman, Roger Abe, Ann Bendixen, Kae Bendixen, Amy Ostenso Kennedy, Phillip Kennedy, and Alan Leavitt). Candles and Carol’s Ikebana center-piece decorated the dining room table, a table laden with delicious pot-luck offerings. We feasted, and then shared our haiku/haiga cards.”

And to sum it all up in Joan Zimmerman’s words: “It was filled with Joy.”

—Mimi Ahern

submitted by Mimi Ahern



Photo by Mimi Ahern of Jerry Ball and Patricia Machmiller at the YTHS Asilomar Retreat in Pacific Grove, California

MID-ATLANTIC

Towpath

JAS-JICC Panel Discussion. In early October the Japan America Society of Washington and the Japanese Information and Culture Center were hosts to "Transformations: Haiku from Japan to America," a discussion of haiku as written in Japan and the United States. Towpath's Roberta Beary and Kristen Deming were panelists along with Jim Kacian and Abigail Friedman, an American diplomat who had served in Japan. The panelists spoke of their experiences learning and writing haiku in Japan and then at home in America. They shared their perspective regarding the traditional form of Japanese poetry and its transformation, both from one culture to the next, and from one personal writing style to the next. The panel was moderated by Matt Levitas. If you missed the video on youtube, go to <http://youtu.be/7P5ck4wtxkM>

The HSA 4th Quarterly Meeting. Towpath's regular October meeting took place at Kathleen O'Toole's, with Jimmy Aaron (Peach), Roberta Beary, Elizabeth Black, Ellen Compton, Kristen Deming, Lee Giesecke, Bill Sette, Penny Showell, Richard Titus, and Mary Wuest in attendance. We discussed the HSA 4th quarterly meeting scheduled for early December in Washington, and were excited. Plans were well underway for Towpath's participation in haiku readings and presentations. We knew December would be a busy month, so before the workshops began we voted that the HSA meeting would take the place of Towpath's last regular meeting of the year.

Accordingly, a December Saturday morning found us deep underground, hanging up wet umbrellas in a comfortable room on the third level of the Smithsonian's S. Dillon Ripley Center on the National Mall. Regional Coordinator Robert Eartman had provided a book table displaying copies of our *fresh paint* and *a few stars away* along with Turtle Light Press' *Nick Virgilio: A Life in Haiku*, as well as gifts for attending poets—colorful cards from Turtle Light publisher Rick Black.

First Presentation. The meeting got underway shortly after 10:00 with Roberta Beary's presentation, "The Mad Woman in the Attic: Curbing Gender Bias in the Haiku Hierarchy." From her research Roberta found that within the haiku hierarchy women are treated as second-class citizens at best. In many cultures they are not allowed any place in the hierarchy—are not permitted, for example, to hold office in a haiku organization, review books, or even write blurbs for book covers. This is true of women who are ranked among the finest poets writing haiku in any language or culture.

Roberta received report after report of the pain of bias, both in this country and abroad, but most of the women who have experienced it would not allow her to tell their stories for fear of reprisal—and Roberta gave them her word that she would not divulge what she had learned. One exception was Annie Bachini, former President of the British Haiku Society, who prepared a written statement on her involvement with the Society. Roberta read excerpts from Annie's statement. Among those was a brief history of the dominance of activities led by men and how this came to change over time through the effort of women haiku poets such as herself. Part of the Q&A was a discussion of Annie's difficult tenure as BHS president, which started in January 2007 and culminated in her resignation in the autumn of 2009. She left the Society at the same time, having been a member for 18 years (one of its earliest). Because the Society's Rules did not allow for elections to take place at that time, the Society was without a president for at least a year.

Lunch on the Mall. After a brief HSA business meeting and discussion, led by President David Lanoue, we broke for lunch. A number of poets headed down the Mall through a chilly rain to the Pavilion Café at the lovely National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden & Ice Rink. Those less hardy chose the Castle Café, next door at the Smithsonian Castle, where we scrambled for seats among the tourists.

Readings and the Open Mic. The afternoon began with haiku readings by Towpath poets Kathleen O'Toole, Mark Brager, Lee Giesecke, Jimmy Aaron (Peach), Bill Sette, Roberta Beary, and Ellen Compton. The readings reading included Bill's

pale moon
on Chesapeake Bay

ghost of the oyster

from *Fresh Paint*, Towpath's 2014 anthology. Roberta and Ellen combined their time to read a renga on their experiences as guest poets at Haiku Circle—but six years apart! Most of the audience accepted the invitation to an open mic (including one poet who read a set of delightful sci-ku).

Virgilio Presentation. Rick Black and Kathleen O'Toole gave us "Between Words and Silence," a presentation on Nicholas Virgilio, build around Sean Dougherty's film, *Remembering Nick Virgilio*. Rick talked of Nick's poetry and the research that led to his publishing *Nick Virgilio: A Life in Haiku*. Kathleen was among the many friends featured in the film. She shared memories of Nick, and told us it was he who had encouraged her in her poetry although she did not begin to write haiku until after his death.

Through film and discussion we moved from Nick's early life as a radio announcer in Texas through his return home to New Jersey, his almost monastic life as a poet writing haiku on an old Remington typewriter in the basement of his Camden home, his heart attack during a radio interview in Washington, and his death in George Washington University Hospital. We learned how poets now come to Nick's tomb to read from a podium engraved with his famous lily haiku.

In her afterword to *Nick Virgilio: A Life in Haiku*, Kathleen said of his poetry, "The music is integral to the perception of Nick's experience, every bit as essential, I believe, to his art as the elegiac beauty of his Vietnam era poems."

having come this far
alive at fifty-five:
the morning star

A Workshop, and Dinner. Dave Lanoue closed with a workshop on "Writing Like Issa." Then, after a day so full and rich, most of the poets left for home or hotel and bed. A few of the hardy, however, followed Dave and Bob to Penn Quarter for dinner at Teatism.



Nick Virgilio Haiku Association

A Ginko, and Lunch. Last but not least was the Sunday morning ginko on the Mall at the U.S. Botanical Garden across from the Capitol. The garden is a living plant museum showcasing approximately 4,000 seasonal, tropical, and subtropical plants. The morning ended with lunch at the nearby National Museum of the American Indian.

An Omission, with Apologies. In the last issue of *Ripples*, Towpath announced the publication of *fresh paint*, its 2014 anniversary anthology. In submitting the announcement, we inadvertently omitted the name of the anthology's editor, Roberta Beary. We regret the omission and offer our sincere apologies to Roberta.

Ellen Compton



MIDWEST

MINERAL POINT HAIKU GROUP

1.

Saturday, January 17 Lee Gurga led the haiku workshop JAPANESE AESTHETICS AND JUNK HAIKU. We discussed Ma, Kire, Kigo and Kokoro. We then discussed some of the haiku being considered for the new book Lee and Scot Metz are working on. We met before the fireplace in the Historic Walker House. Approximately 20 people attended the workshop.

Upcoming events in Mineral Point include: a book signing and book launch party [Sunday, March 8](#) for Dan Schwerin's first book of haiku – ORS, published by Red Moon Press; the HAIKU RETREAT, [July 10-12](#) featuring Tom Painting (more details to follow soon.); haiku poets participation in PAINT THE POINT (a plein-air painting celebration) [August 6-10](#) (details still being discussed).

For more information, please contact Gayle Bull at info@foundrybooks.com or jgbull@mhtc.net.

2.

Ohio Haiku Meeting - April 25, 2013

The newly formed Ohio Haiku Group will be meeting [Saturday, April 25 from 10am - noon](#) at the Mansfield Public Library in Mansfield, Ohio <http://www.mrcpl.org/>. Ekphrastic poetry, or poetry written in response to a work of art, will be the focus of the presentation by Sharon Hammer Baker, artist and poet from Findlay, Ohio. The presentation will cover the history and form of ekphrastic poetry, including haiku, and participants will have ample opportunity to try their hand at writing ekphrastic haiku.

A critique session will also be held. Please contact Julie Warther at wartherjulie@gmail.com to RSVP or with questions.

Ohio Haiku Facebook Group

The newly formed Ohio Haiku group now has a closed critique group on Facebook for Ohio haiku writers to securely share their haiku for feedback and support. If you would like to be added to the group, please send a friend request on Facebook to Julie Warther.

3.

HSA Fall Quarterly Meeting - September 18-20, 2015 - Walnut Creek, Ohio

We would like to invite everyone to the Haiku Society of America's Fall Quarterly Meeting Friday through Sunday, September 18-20, 2015 in Walnut Creek, Ohio, right in the heart of Ohio's Amish Country. The event will include presentations by Mike Montreuil (HSA 1st Vice President and haibun editor for *A Hundred Gourds*) and Ohio's own Joshua Gage. We'll also receive a hands-on calligraphy lesson with Phyllis Lee.

Both HSA members and non-members are invited. Haikuists at every skill level will benefit, and are strongly encouraged to attend. We are hoping our members in neighboring states will carpool and share hotel accommodations to keep costs low.

The weekend will begin with dinner at an Amish restaurant Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. We will hold a full day of presentations and workshops on Saturday beginning at 9:00am. While the workshops and presentations are free and open to the public, we have also included some optional meals and activities for our weekend. A cost of \$35, will cover a catered lunch and our Saturday evening "Night at the Museum" (an after-hours tour and catered dinner at the Warther Carvings Museum with an open mic to follow) www.warthers.com. A ginko walk and kayaking trip are planned for Sunday, wrapping up at 4 p.m. For a registration form and hotel information, please contact Julie Warther at wartherjulie@gmail.com.

Illinois

Last autumn, Charlotte gave two haiku/senryu presentations. On Oct. 25, she was the guest speaker at Poets & Patrons of Chicago, for their annual awards program, held at Hinsdale Public Library in Hinsdale, IL. On Nov. 9, she gave a haiku/senryu presentation at Glenview Public Library in Glenview, IL. She was also featured in an article on the Chicago Women's Alliance website for her work in haiku.

Among upcoming programs, on Saturday, April 11, Charlotte will give a presentation on "The Fun Art of Haiku and Senryu" from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Deerfield Public Library, 920 Waukegan Rd., Deerfield, IL. After the program, Charlotte will sign copies of her new book, *Haiku and Senryu: A Simple Guide for All*. Admission is free, but pre-registration is required. Visit www.deerfieldlibrary.org.

Tuesday, April 14, she will give a haiku presentation, followed by a reading, at The New Studio in Evanston, IL from 7-8:30 p.m. (Contact Charlotte for the location at c-books@hotmail.com.)

Saturday, April 25, Charlotte will be a guest speaker at the North Carolina Haiku Society's Holiday Weekend in Chapel Hill, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Her presentation will be "Finding Your Distinctive Voice in Haiku." Visit nc-haiku.org for details on the entire event.

Charlotte Digregorio, Midwest Region



MIDWEST, CONTINUED

The Mississippi Mud Daubers met on December 12 at Sacred Grounds Coffee House in Edwardsville, Illinois. Members present included: Natalie Coleridge; John J. Dunphy; John Han; Whitney Howeland; Richard Keating; and Ben Moeller-Gaa.

Natalie announced that she has decided to join the Haiku Society of America. John J. Dunphy noted that he had served as a judge in the Gerald Brady Senryu Contest, the results of which are contained in the current issue of *Frogpond*. John J. Dunphy's scifaiku chapbook *Stellar Possibilities*, which was originally published by Sam's Dot Publishing in 2006, will be reprinted with much new material in 2015 by Alban Lake Publishing. Ben Moeller-Gaa's chapbook *Wasp Shadows* has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. John Han translated twenty scifaiku written by John J. Dunphy for republication in a Korean-language magazine. John Han also noted that he's looking for material for inclusion in the 2015 issue of *Cantos*, the literary magazine of Missouri Baptist University, which he edits.

Natalie, John Han, Whitney, Richard and Ben all shared unpublished poems for critical feedback.

Submitted by John J. Dunphy for the Mississippi Mud Daubers.

NORTHEAST METRO

ROCHESTER AREA HAIKU GROUP

Submitted by Carolyn Coit Dancy

At the October meeting, Pamela Babusci reported on the first annual haiku weekend hosted by Evelyn Land and Robin White (editors of *Akitsu Quarterly*) in Deerfield, NH. As a featured reader, Pamela shared selections of tanka from her book, *A Solitary Woman* (2013).

Plans for RAHG's 10th anniversary members' anthology were discussed by co-editors Michael Ketchek & Carolyn Dancy. This first-ever anthology will feature haiku & senryu by all members as well as some tanka, haibun and haiga.

In November, we discussed Pamela Miller Ness's article on prosody. And once again, in December, we met with Rochester Poets for a joint reading and refreshments. In January, we read and discussed award-winning haiku from the 2014 Peggy Lyles Willis Contest.

Members' News

Michael Ketchek, editor of Free Food Press, received HSA's 2014 Mildred Kanterman Merit Book Award for *Laughing to Myself*, a collection of haiku by Tom Clausen.

Carolyn Dancy's haiku "water striders" appeared on the cover of *Mayfly 57* (Summer 2014) with a sumi-e painting by Lydia Rozmus.

Deb Koen's haibun "A House of One's Own" was awarded Second Place in HSA's 2014 Haibun Contest. This haibun appears in *Frogpond* Vol. 37:3 (Autumn 2014).

NORTHEAST NEW ENGLAND

The Haiku Poets' Society of Western Massachusetts has continued its regular meetings despite nature's extra show of strength in New England this winter.

At a recent meeting we read haiku from current journals and explored the emotional impact they had on us. We started by choosing a single word summary. Often the emotion was quite different for different readers of the same poem. At another meeting we looked at published poems and considered ones that do not seem to match our sense of a haiku or senryu. As we discussed them, some of the poems revealed greater depth and felt like haiku, while others seem to be a different kind of short verse.

Throughout this year we have had ten active members, gaining one and losing one through the year.

The group's members have kept busy in a number of ways beyond of the haiku journals where you may have seen their work.

Denise Fontaine-Pincince, Belchertown artist/poet, has facilitated month-long Art with Poetry workshops in local schools.

Eric Arthen has had his seasonal haiku sequence published in the premiere issue of *Stone Walls II: the literary and art journal of the Hilltowns of Western Massachusetts*.

Suzanne Niedzielska's new book was released, *peach-hued: a collection of haiku and short poems*, published by rain puddle press.

Submitted by Eric Arthen

Bangkor Haiku Group

Submitted by Bruce Ross of Hampden, Maine

The cluster of autumn haiku events, including the 3rd annual 2014 International Moon Viewing Contest, were more than expected, and also included looking for the full moon in the wrong part of the sky during our autumn ginko.

The contest attracted over 100 entries from about 20 or so countries, with a group of haiku from Kenya schoolchildren. The 3 winning haiku are:

First Prize:

full moon
the baby turns



under her hand

Vera Constantineau, Canada

Second Prize:

Two in the morning -
faithful to our rendez-vous
the fox and the moon

Josette Pellet, Switzerland

Third Prize:

no more chemo
through the thin curtain
the blood moon

Florin Florian, Romania

Honorable mentions: Helen Buckingham, Great Britain; Anne LB Davidson, USA; Gerard Dumon, France; Kirsty Karkow, USA; Catherine Lee, USA; Cynthia Rowe, Australia; Sneha Sundaram, India; Andre SurrIDGE, New Zealand; Jhanvi Tiwari, India; Gaspar Trcek, Slovenia.

The BHG is in the planning stage for a winter ginko.

Bruce Ross is in the final stages as principal editor of "A Vast Sky, An Anthology of Contemporary World Haiku" which should appear in early 2015.

Because of off and on blizzards the Bangor Haiku Group (Maine) Winter ginko was postponed until the end of winter. A bi-yearly ginko schedule has been proposed: one in Summer (to avoid the Spring mud season) and one in Fall (to coincide with the annual Moon Haiku Contest). Bangor Haiku Group member Catherine Lee has been chosen as the HSA 2015 Members Anthology editor. A profile of her will appear in the HSA Regional Series on the HSA website. Bruce Ross's contemporary world haiku anthology, "A Vast Sky," co-edited with Koko Kato (Japan), Dietmar Tauchner (Europe), and Patricia Prime (The Rest of the World), will be printed and ready for purchase in March 2015. Bruce is the general editor and editor of the North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean (The New World) section of the book. Bruce is also involved in forthcoming haibun projects in Romania and India.

OREGON

REGIONAL NEWS OREGON

Maggie Chula spent the month of November in Kyoto with her husband visiting friends, seeing favorite temples and gardens, and giving poetry readings. On November 15, Stephen Gill (leader of the Hailstone Haiku Circle) arranged a tour of Sumiya, Kyoto's last remaining pleasure house. Their guide was Mr. Kiyoo Nakagawa, whose family has owned the establishment for thirteen generations, beginning in 1641, just a few years before Basho was born. Buson used to come here often with his poet friends to eat, share poetry, and relax in the company of geishas. Several of his paintings are displayed in the dark rooms. One of the most impressive rooms was the "fan room," which featured sixty fans painted on the ceiling with *waka* and haiku written on them. Because fans expand, they symbolize growth and abundance.



Sumiya pleasure quarters (Photo by John Hall)



After the two-hour tour, poets warm their frozen feet in the sunshine and view the garden.

Following the Sumiya tour and lunch, about fifteen poets (including Joan Stamm and her sister visiting from Washington) gathered at Ryokoku University. John Dougill, author of *Kyoto: A Cultural History*, hosted the meeting and haibun was the topic of the afternoon. Buson's haibun "A Visit to Uji" was featured along with some of his haiku. Stephen Gill invited



Maggie to read “The Well of Beauty,” Grand Prix winner of the 2014 Genjuan International Haibun Contest. Organized in 2009 by Nobuyuki Yuasa and a group of Japanese poets, this contest was formerly called the Kikakuza after Kikaku, Basho’s disciple in Edo. The contest welcomed both Japanese and English tanka. In 2012, the Hailstone Haiku Circle took it over and renamed it the Genjuan after the hut in Shiga where Basho had written haibun. In its first three years, the Genjuan drew more than eighty entries from more than a dozen countries. The Hailstone Haiku Circle has published a collection containing the winning haibun from the Kikakuza, along with insightful judges’ comments. A book of the Genjuan contest winners is forthcoming. Organizers and judges Nobuyuki Yuasa, Stephen Gill, Hisashi Miyazaki, and Nenten Tsubouchi deserve kudos for their continuing dedication to promoting haiku and haibun worldwide.

On November 16 John Einarsen, founding editor of *Kyoto Journal*, hosted a reading by poets Gregory Dunne, Linda Russo, and Maggie Chula at a lovely *machiya* (townhouse) near the Imperial Palace in Kyoto. There could not have been a more beautiful setting for poetry and the audience was very attentive, especially since everyone was sitting on tatami. *Kyoto Journal*’s managing editor, Ken Rodgers, made a video recording of the event.



Maggie Chula, Gregory Dunne, Linda Russo (Photo by John Einarsen)

SOUTH

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas

The 19th Annual Autumn Haiku Conference in Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, will be the first weekend in November (November 6-7), when the sasanqua are in bloom and the sugar maples are at their most brilliant, at the historic Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa . There is no registration fee, and everyone is welcome to attend. For information, please contact hkilby@hotmail.com and use Haiku Conference in the subject line or telephone Howard Kilby at 501.767.6096.

June Rose Dowis of Shreveport, Louisiana, won the 2014 Verna Lee Hinegardner Award. Her poem was published in the February 2015 issue of *Ouchita Life*, and she received \$100.00.

Her winning poem:

firewood
one less log than
I used to carry

The award's namesake, Verna Lee Hinegardner, was appointed to the post of Poet Laureate of Arkansas by Governor Bill Clinton in 1991 and served until 2003.

Howard Lee Kilby

SOUTH, CONTINUED

New Orleans Haiku Society

Poets of the New Orleans Haiku Society continue to meet on the third Monday of every month, at 6:00 p.m. in Latter Library, 5120 St. Charles Avenue. We invite all HSA members who find themselves in New Orleans to join us.

We don't have much news to report, other than to mention our recent parade-watching, haiku-writing Mardi Gras party hosted by Nicholas Sola. Composing haiku while screaming for beads is a multi-tasking challenge, but doable. We all "passed a good time," as we say down here in the City Care Forgot.

Johnette Downing and David Lanoue

Shreveport, Louisiana

Nadine Charity, a member of the North Louisiana Haiku Society, won the CRITICAL MASS 3 "\$2000 Best of Show" Award in the Literary category. Her manuscript *Disengaged* was selected by juror Thom Ward, a former editor of BOA Editions, where he helped edit more than 80 collections of poetry. The CRITICAL MASS series is sponsored by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council. This year's exhibition included work by more than 100 visual, literary, and performance artists.

Carlos Colón served on a three-judge panel for the city finals of the Poetry Out Loud Competition, a nationwide poetry recitation competition with winners from across the country competing in Washington, D.C. later this spring.

The Northwest Louisiana continues to meet every other month at the Broadmoor Branch of Shreve Memorial Library. The members critique each other's work and encourage submitting to journals and contests. Last year the society lost one of its members to the Southwest Region of HSA when Marian M. Poe relocated to Plano, Texas. We all wish Marian the best.

Through the HSA mentorship program, Carlos has been mentoring two students, and he wishes to congratulate the very talented Sidney Bending of Victoria, British Columbia, for having poems published in *The Heron's Nest* and *Modern Haiku* and for having the title poem in an upcoming chapbook, which will be released by Haiku Arbutus, part of Haiku Canada.

Carlos Colón





Members of the New Orleans Haiku Society enjoying a Mardi Gras parade, writing haiku in the intervals between floats. L to R: Johnette Downing, Nicholas Sola, David Lanoue, Juliet Pazera, and Paul.

SOUTHEAST

Alabama

Friday, March 6 — Birmingham Public Library, **Bards, Brew & Haiku** - Open mic poetry reading. This special night is dedicated to the haiku.

The month of March — The B'ham Public Library will host a **Twitter Haiku contest**. One adult and one teen winner will be announced each week with two grand prizes awarded in each category at the end of the contest. I will be judging this contest along with HSA members, Peggy Bilbro and Paula Moore.

Saturday, March 21 — Birmingham Botanical Gardens - **Sakura Festival**. The Haiku Society of America (HSA) will have a information table set up at this event. I will also be awarding HSA memberships to the winners of the Twitter Haiku contest.

April 3, 10 and 17 — I will be the instructor for **Learning Quest Adult Learning, "Intro to Haiku"** course.

Saturday, April 25 — Haiku Holiday, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I will present **Come to the Dark Side of Senryu**. In this workshop we will deal with [senryu's](#) darker side. Aging, death, abuse, divorce, crime, war—those moments and circumstances in life that can result in pain and suffering. Senryu can be a therapeutic tool in dealing with the bleaker events of life. By using subtle humor, wit, and irony, we can conquer the dark side.

May 15 - 17 - The Southeast Region of the Haiku Society of America will host the **HSA Spring quarterly meeting** in Winter Park, Florida. The meeting will be held at Rollins College and the Jack Kerouac House <http://www.kerouacproject.org>.

Special guest Stanford Forrester, past president of the Haiku Society of America and founder and editor of "bottle rockets: a collection of short verse, will speak about the haiku of the Beat Poet generation. Those interested in attending the meeting can find out more information at <http://www.hsa-haiku.org/quarter-mtg.htm>

Terri French

WASHINGTON

Haiku Northwest
Winter 2015

The highlight of Fall for Haiku Northwest is always our annual Seabeck Getaway, held October 16-19 in 2014 (and scheduled for October 1-4 in 2015). Our featured guest was Alan Pizzarelli, who shared his stories on haiku in the New York area in the 60's and 70's and how a small group of haiku poets played a major role in the popularity of English-language haiku as we know it today. He also discussed the history of the senryu form in the United States, and with his wife Donna Beaver, discussed the evolution and continuing journey of their *Haiku Chronicles*.

In addition to Alan and Donna, other presenters included Susan Constable, kjmunro, Debbie Kolodji, Aubrie Cox, Terry Ann Carter, Carole MacRury, RaNae Merrill, John Stevenson, Richard Tice and Michael Dylan Welch. Margaret McGee coordinated the creation of a double spiral labyrinth on the Seabeck grounds, and led morning labyrinth meditations each day. Susan Callan and members of her sumi-e group helped us create gorgeous flag books to fill with haiku from the weekend. There were anonymous haiku workshops, haiku readings by Aubrie Cox, Christopher Herold, Karma Tenzing Wangchuk, Tanya McDonald, Debbie Kolodji, and John Stevenson, a nature walk led by Ruth Yarow, a special reading of the HNW 25th Anniversary anthology *No Longer Strangers*, our annual talent show, a roast of Michael Dylan Welch and a night ginko with each participant carrying a lit lantern in the poring rain. Cartoonist in residence Jessica Tremblay the haiku caught these, and other special moments of the conference with her usual humor.

On Sunday afternoon, some of the participants continued on to the Bainbridge Island Art Museum for a tour of the museum and a public reading from *No Longer Strangers* and readings by Donna Beaver, Aubrie Cox, Alan Pizzarelli, and John Stevenson, as well as an open-mic.

After a couple weeks to recover from the frantic pace of Seabeck, on November 13, we had our November meeting at the Bellevue Library, holding elections for our 2015 officers – President, Angela Terry; Vice President, Michelle Schaefer; Secretary, Tanya McDonald; Treasurer, Dianne Garcia; Webmaster, Michael Dylan Welch. Following the elections, we had a writing exercise using paint chip names as haiku prompts and shared our results – some of which were hilarious and others quite interesting. We then shared and critiqued each others' haiku for the last part of the meeting.

On Sunday November 16th, Haiku Northwest took part in the annual Japanese Day of Culture Bunka no Hi at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center. We continued our association with the Rainier Gensha group and displayed the haiku kite offering event participants the opportunity to add a haiku to the kite.

Our first event for 2015 was a reading from *No Longer Strangers* at the Greenwood Library on January 10th. Our January meeting was held on the 22nd at the 3rd Place Commons Stadler Meeting Room. Scott Galasso, a long time member of HNW was our featured reader. He read a selection of haiku from his upcoming book, and talked about the research he has been doing on some of the little known stories of Civil War participants. Following his presentation, we shared our own haiku.

We're looking forward to our February meeting on Saturday the 21st, which will be the first of 4 quarterly Saturday meetings which will include haiku walks, presentations and a more casual sharing of haiku. This meeting will start with a walk through the Winter Garden at the Washington Park Arboretum and lunch, followed by presentations and a chance to write some haiku at the Montlake Library.

Angela Terry
Washington Regional Coordinator
Haiku Society of America



Sound Haiku: The 2014 Seabeck Haiku Getaway

by Michael Dylan Welch

A record number of people (about fifty-five) attended Haiku Northwest's Seabeck Haiku Getaway at the Seabeck Conference Center in Seabeck, Washington, October 16 to 19, 2014. This was the retreat's seventh year, directed by Michael Dylan Welch and Angela Terry, and took place over a somewhat rainy weekend amid rising fall colours. Our featured guest was Alan Pizzarelli, who gave a reading from his upcoming retrospective book, *Frozen Socks*, discussed early haiku history in New York City (did you know Alan and William Higginson used to be roommates?), and gave a masterful presentation, with his wife Donna Beaver, about their popular "Haiku Chronicles" podcasts. In the guise of Joey Clifton, Alan also led a rip-roaring roast of Michael Dylan Welch. He also gave a presentation on senryu, and he and Donna recorded several weekend activities for possible podcasting.

Other weekend highlights included a reprise of Margaret D. McGee's haiku labyrinth, a workshop in writing "sound" haiku led by Susan Constable, "A Haiku Trip to Japan" presentation by Michael Dylan Welch, a haiku revision workshop by Deborah P Kolodji, an overview of Yukon seasons by Kathy Munro, a workshop on "Musicality in Haibun Prose" by Aubrie Cox, a display and talk about "HaikUILts" by master quilter RaNae Merrill, a workshop on haiku editing led by John Stevenson (our first featured guest to make a repeat appearance), a PowerPoint presentation on the 100th anniversary of the Seabeck Conference Center by its executive director, Chuck Kraining, a memorial reading and presentation of poems written by the late Laryalee Fraser presented by Carole MacRury and Susan Constable, an exercise to compose greeting haiku by Terry Ann Carter, a "Haiku on Steroids" workshop by Michael Dylan Welch, an announcement of the winners of the 2014 Porad haiku contest (judged by John Stevenson), presented by Richard Tice, with flute music by James Rodriguez, a nature walk into the woods led by Ruth Yarrow, a presentation on "400 Years of Sound in Japanese Haiku" by Richard Tice, our annual kukai (the top three winners were Susan Constable, Barbara Hay, and Vicki McCullough), and a presentation on "Old Pond Comics: Out of the Woods" by Jessica Tremblay (our official cartoonist-in-residence). We also had one panel discussion, "Haiku as Poetry," led by Aubrie Cox, with Deborah P Kolodji, Alan Pizzarelli, John Stevenson, and Michael Dylan Welch, a magnificent craft workshop to make homemade "flag books," facilitated by book artist Susan Callan (who also made a wooden gift book for our Alan Pizzarelli, with accordion folds revealing dozens of haiku we'd all written for Alan), and featured haiku readings by Aubrie Cox, Christopher Herold, Deborah P Kolodji, Tanya McDonald, John Stevenson, and Karma Tenzing Wangchuk, plus a celebratory reading of Haiku Northwest's new 25th anniversary anthology, *No Longer Strangers*, led by Michelle Schaefer, with more music from James Rodriguez.

In addition to the preceding activities, we enjoyed a display of haiga and sumi-e by the Haiga Adventure Study Group of the Puget Sound Sumi Artists in the dining hall and our meeting room, a bookfair and silent auction, a "Haikuseum" display by Michael Dylan Welch, and other quilt and artwork displays relating to haiku. And if that wasn't enough, we also enjoyed Haiku Bingo, Renkurama, t'ai chi and hokey pokey breaks, the bouncy bridge, a group photo, a table full of freebies (haiku trifolds and more), a copious snack table, an anonymous haiku workshop, and our highly popular talent show, at which we sang and danced and played music, recited poems, played instruments, and told stories until it got late.

Perhaps the most magical new addition to the weekend was a night ginko (haiku walk). Each participant was given an eight-inch white paper lantern, a strip of ribbon to make a handle, and a small blue electric tea light to put in the lantern. Then, despite a gentle but persistent rain, we lined up outside in single file and walked silently from our meeting room

across the wooden bridge over the lagoon out to the waterfront. There we talked briefly about all the various sounds we heard, in addition to the rain. We then walked silently again, in single file, back across the wooden bridge, through the moonviewing platform by the lagoon, and then through the labyrinth. From there we walked up into the forest to visit the Cathedral in the Woods. Here we discussed the feelings we were having, and were invited to write haiku by combining sound images with the feelings we'd experienced on this procession. We concluded this transcendent and multisensory walk by sharing truffles in the rain. The parade of bluish lanterns in single file across the conference center grounds must have been intriguing to witness—and it was even more magical to be one of the participants.

Our last weekend activity was a trip to the Bainbridge Island Arts Museum, where we enjoyed an hour to tour the art galleries and write haiku in response to the artwork. Then, in the theater, we began with featured readings by Donna Beaver and Alan Pizzarelli (with Native American flute and harmonica), Aubrie Cox, Bob Moyer, John Stevenson, and Michael Dylan Welch. We also had a reading from the Haiku Northwest anthology, *No Longer Strangers*, and a brief open-mic reading, followed by a visit to a nearby Thai restaurant before many of us caught the night ferry home across the water to Seattle.

Susan Constable and Chandra Bales are already hard at work preparing the 2014 Seabeck Haiku Getaway anthology, which will also feature our kukai winners. Many photos of the weekend have been shared by participants on blogs and Facebook, with more to come. In particular, please read Jessica Tremblay's marvelous summary of the weekend, in words, photos, and comics, at <http://oldpondcomics.com/conferencesabeckhaikugetaway2014.html>, and Rick Clark's creative blog report at <http://wrenzai.wordpress.com/2014/11/01/wrenzai-attends-the-great-haiku-getaway/>.

Our theme for the 2014 Seabeck retreat was *sound*, including sound devices and sound as a subject. In 2015, our theme will be *touch*, and we plan to work through additional senses in the years to come. Dates for 2015 have been set for October 1 to 4, and our featured guest will be Randy Brooks. Please join us!

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF RIPPLES

When You Have News to Report:

Please submit news for *Ripples* in a **Word document** to Adrienne Christian via e-mail at adrienne@adriennechristian.com by June 1, 2015 for inclusion in the July 2015 issue of Ripples.

Please be sure to add your region, and in which section of the newsletter you want your submission printed. The sections are as follows:

HSA News
Print Publications Announcements
Contest Results
Calls for Submissions
Upcoming Events, and



Regional News

If your submission includes photos, please be sure they are in jpeg format. Lastly, please don't forget to include where the photo was taken, who took it, and the names of the people in it (from left to right).

I'm looking forward to this next issue of Ripples. I hope you are too.

Ripples

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