

## Honorable Mention

(continued)

blustery morning  
acorns make it difficult  
to practice *tai chi*

Clark Strand

*I was attracted by the acorn, and with the practice of  
tai chi there is a humorous feeling.*

wobbly acorn  
floats in the shallow puddle  
of afternoon rain

Clark Strand

*This is well observed, and clearly sketched.*

## the Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

*This contest is for writers of English-language haiku using a traditional seventeen-syllable form arranged in three lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables. Each poem must contain one (and only one) kigo or season word from an assigned list. This year, poets could choose from among season words referring to Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, and the New Year. In Japan, contests are often held in which all entrants must use the same specified season word. But because this might be too restrictive for some, we try to supply enough season words so that the poets who enter can choose one most harmonious with their life and practice.*

*The 1997 contest committee included Kiyoko Tokutomi, Alex Benedict, and Patricia Machmiller. The final judge was Ms. Yoko Senda, an accomplished haiku poet in both the English and Japanese languages, who lives in Yokohama, Japan.*

*The contest committee and judges thank the contestants, and very much appreciated the many enjoyable poems that were sent. Among the winning poems, we are happy to see an interesting range of point of view and feeling. May all who participated continue to write and enjoy haiku!*



## Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

### 1997

### Winning Poems and Authors

**First Place**  
**Claire Gallagher**

lying in a field  
we listen to the sunset—  
wild geese migrating

*A large scale haiku, orthodox, and with good feeling. Sharpness of senses in "we listen to the sunset"; the author fascinated by the sun going down, realizes it fully with the voice of wild geese. The movement of consciousness is written very well.*

**Second Place**  
**Louise Beaven**

at Fisherman's Wharf  
tide reaches high-water mark  
– magic of spring moon

*The last line is very witty: the word "magic" makes this haiku work well. The mysterious spring moon was evoked very well.*

**Third Place**  
**Gino Mastascusa**

a mosquito drinks  
adding to my collection  
of itchy tattoos

*Someone bitten by a mosquito who can say "my collection of itchy tattoos" is delightful. Good humor!*

**Honorable Mention**  
*(in alphabetical order)*

light through the shutters  
the mosquito on the wall  
casts a long shadow

**Jerry Ball**

*The enlarged mosquito is interesting: a spooky feeling.*

crossing with bare feet  
the mountain stream changes course  
around our ankles

**Helen K. Davie**

*Good observation, and precise expression!*

climbing a wood fence  
into the whiteness of birch  
light of the spring moon

**Claire Gallagher**

*Quiet and mysterious - like Debussy's music, fascinating and impressive.*

**Honorable Mention**  
*(continued)*

reading a novel  
about quiet English life  
I hear the wild geese

**Pat Gallagher**

*Wild geese and quiet English life match very well: the scene is vivid.*

purple shadows fall  
across the Rio Grande--  
wild geese streak the sky

**Gloria Procsal**

*Western America's large scale is attractive; use of the place name is effective.*