### The Kiyoshi and Kiyoko Tokutomi Haiku Contest

This contest is for English language haiku written in three lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables. Each poem is required to contain one (and only one) season word from an assigned list:

New Year:

New Year's Confetti

Spring:

first crocus

Summer:

billowing clouds

Autumn:

persimmon

Winter: wi

winter solitude

#### FIRST HONORABLE MENTION

early morning light gently your hand sweeps away new year's confetti

Roberta Beary

the billowing cloud metastasized with lightning chemotherapy

Earl R. Keener

on a dark highway merging with darkening sky winter solitude

Joseph Robello

jet contrail blending into a billowing cloud vet's burial day

Richard St. Clair

#### **SECOND HONORABLE MENTION**

winter solitude no spark of recognition in mother's brown eyes

Roberta Beary

sweeping up new year's confetti – another day of rigamarole

joan iversen goswell

snuffing out candles just for the joy of their scent winter solitude

Billie Dee

we wade our way in Japantown festivities persimmon pudding

Neal Whitman

fallen persimmon but I recall the green one my father gave me

Desiree McMurry

new year's confetti the accordion player leans back on his heels Billie Dee

galloping a horse right up a hill right into the billowing clouds

joan Iverson goswell

### **Contest Judges**

TORU KIUCHI, Ph.D. is a published haiku poet in Japan and the editor-in-chief of *Ten* [*Sable*]: A Haiku Magazine; a member of the Association of Haiku Poets [Vice Chairman, International Division], Haiku Internaitonal Associaiton [Executive Committee Member and Trustee]; a Japanese translator of Richard Wright's Haiku: This Other World; a judge for the weekly English haiku contest in the English-Japanese bilingual Weekly ST; and an author of Hanazuou [Red Bud Tree], a collection of his haiku poems.

kris moon (kris kondo), co-founder & past president of the Association for International Renku (AIR) is an artist, poet, journal keeper, teacher & mom. kris studied art & education in Boston in the 60's and was influential in the early days of the Kaji Aso Studio. Kaji gave her a set of R.H. Blyth's books as a going away present when she went to Japan in 1972. She has been writing poetry for 50 years, haiku & senryu for 40 years, renku for over 30 years & tanka for about 15 years. Her activities included work with the Haiku Society of America, Haiku International Association, and Haiku North America. kris is also Regional Director for Japan of IAPT, International Academy for Poetry Therapy.

# Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

announces

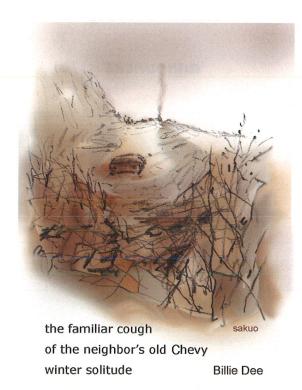


sakuo

the winners of the

**Tokutomi** 

Haiku Contest 2011



Haiga painting for the winning haiku by Sakuo Nakamura

Yuki Teikei Website: www.youngleaves.org

### First Prize - \$100

the familiar cough of the neighbor's old Chevy winter solitude

- Billie Dee

The cough is not from the neighbor but his old Chevy. Winter solitude and human cough are too much well-matched. However, a cough from an old car, and especially a familiar car, sounds like a winter cry itself. When you read from the top (the first line) to the bottom (the third line), you find yourself feeling like going back from winter solitude to a cough, as Basho said in *Sanzoshi* that one should make a haiku like going back to the first words. (TK)

Intimacy, solitude, humour, and North American landscape & culture all come through in this haiku which gives a unique twist to the kigo "winter solitude". (km)

## Second Prize - \$50

munitions worker staggering home from the pub dark billowing cloud

- J. Zimmerman

This scene painted with words makes us feel the inner turmoil of a worker. It is also a powerful ant-war haiku. (km)

A dash makes a great difference. There is produced a chemical reaction between a staggering worker and cloud. A munitions worker gets drunk at the pub, probably in England, and staggers home. He looks up without noticing and finds a dark cloud billowing as if predicting that he does not come back to the factory. (TK)

# Third Prize - \$25 (tie)

persimmon fabric folded in tissue paper Mother's kimono

### - Elaine Whitman

I feel this haiku is elegantly multilayered, sensitive, and and evocative. Yet the serious question i had to ask myself about this haiku was, "Can it stand by itself without knowing anything about the author?"

"Yes."

It also makes me want to know more. Just like with Hemingway's shortest novel, "For sale, baby shoes, never worn." I'd like to know the rest of the story. (km)

finding her letter in his old leather jacket winter solitude

### - Billie Dee

When she puts his leather jacket onto a hunger, she unintentionally puts her hand into his pocket only to find a love letter to a different woman. Or a letter a wife wrote to a husband. In either way, finding something unexpected is fit for winter solitude. One is likely to find that solitude in winter deepens this way. (TK)