

Dear Members:

Thank you for your comments about last month's KUKO(句稿). We were particularly interested in the variety of responses to #28.

Family puppies  
at tug-of-war in kitchen  
Thanksgiving wishbone

Some of you objected to the idea of feeding turkey or chicken bones to dogs and cats. To tell the truth I was reared in Japan and I did not know about this until I received the letters. When I was a kid in Japan, I think we used to give bones to dogs and cats with their foods. We were so poor at that time we did not eat much chicken. So our dogs and cats did not experience many chicken bones. While they may have had problems with bones but I was not aware of them. In fact I am still feeding chicken bones to our family cat and have not had any trouble yet. She has lived with us for more than ten years. She eats only soft parts and leaves the rest. I think some of you might have seen a cat catch and eat a bird in the dusk. Some hunters' dogs eat a small bird before they bring it to the hunter. If we may move beyond the chicken controversy, I would like to clear one point. The quality of this Haiku is good. The KIGO(季語) "Thanksgiving Day" is very well expressed. This Haiku is not simply a cute Haiku. As I wrote in our November KUKO(句稿), KIGO(季語) should make your HAIKU(俳句) remarkable and your HAIKU(俳句) should make the KIGO(季語) remarkable. This mutual relation is essential in composing HAIKU(俳句).

In the November issued "俳句"(HAIKU) magazine which is most widely read in Japan, I have noted that one of the authors, Tooru Udoo, has commented that "..... the Haiku overseas is no longer 俳句 (HAIKU) or 俳諧 (HAIKAI) as is called in Japan. It is haiku or haikai entirely different from ours.....". I agree with him. Much that is labeled "Haiku" in this country is not 俳句 (HAIKU) in the traditional sensitivity and form in Japan. Many Japanese 俳句 poets now read English even though they do not write Haiku in English and they are quite skeptical about the trend of American haiku which does not conform to the YUKI TEIKEI(有季定型) tradition. We are proud in our group to have accepted the challenge of "finding the limitless freedom within the strict restriction of the traditional YUKI TEIKEI form — Shugyo Takaha".

Members who wish to refine the quality of their 俳句 would benefit from reading the work of James Hackett, referred to in the most recent Haiku Journal on p. 29.

We are also very happy to hear from one of our members, Dr. Eric Amann, commenting about our voting lists. He said in his letter that "I agree with Mr. Botelho regarding the voting lists. I can find few really good Haiku in these lists although form and season-word may be correct. I believe greater stress should be laid on content, evocation of emotions and depth. Members should become more self-critical and avoid superficiality."

In view of the comments of Dr. Amann and others, we are considering a change in voting method. The current plan is to have each member select the three best Haiku and comment on the selections. A summary of the results of the voting for each month including a few of the best Haiku (5 to 10) will then be published in our next Newsletter to you. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions before the system is changed.

In addition to reading good 俳句, one of the best ways to improve your 俳句 writing is to memorize good 俳句. It is not unusual for the average Japanese Haikuists to have memorized more than 100 famous 俳句.

The form of YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU(有季定型) is easy to start but depth of content is difficult to master. That is why it is worth to challenge.

Sincerely yours,

*Kiyoshi Tokutomi*

Kiyoshi Tokutomi

KIGO: Frost  
Fireplace or hearth  
Old calendar

December, 1978

1. Listen to this wind howling through fields laid fallow frost coats lone cornstalk
2. My memory drifts reading special-day remarks on old calendar
3. Tonight's company, are welcome, although not asked crickets by our hearth
4. Moonlight on the trees each twig shimmering with frost takes my breath away
5. The old calendar I have something to tell you before the page turns
6. In front of the hearth the dainty glass horse keeps ~~leaping~~ <sup>Before the fireplace</sup> ~~leaping~~ shadows <sup>rearing high</sup>
7. Abandoned cabin, old calendar on the wall-- dates... and memories
8. Figure-eight patterns in the early morning frost-- December skateboard!
9. Warm against the bricks, hanging on the fireplace: four tiny stockings
10. Frost on the window, a sparrow pecking among the toyon berries?
11. Grandmother knitting by the hearth... only the click, click, of her needles
12. Smell of plum pudding from the kitchen - taking down the old calendar
13. The cat's tail twitches when wind whips down the fireplace... Now a puff of smoke
14. On my aging roof the frost is now collected... Not inside my house!
15. Happy to discard the faded old calendar -- a toast; and goodbye
16. Heavy frost on grass... My laughing child claps hands, shouts, "Looks like just-iced cake!"
17. FIREPLACES WASTE HEAT... Wire Screen and plywood liner must stay closed again.
18. Pictures of Morris This old calendar brings tears, smiles. I must keep it.
19. In moonlight quiet snowbirds through the window frost on silver birches
20. Blaze from the fireplace drowns out louder and louder the lonesome wind sound
21. The old calendar: turning the pages over last year's memories
22. Woods buried in frost with a bird voice rebuking the world that is lost
23. Her needle quiet, hearth shadows accompany her inner journey
24. The old calendar rests on the morning garbage; the egg-timer sifts...
25. Into the fireplace among the farmhouse ruins softly falling snow
26. First morning of frost: the sound of the old man's cough in the waiting-room
27. The old calendar: twelve brightly burning months leave just a heap of ash
28. Frost on the window begins to melt as the steam whistles from tea pot
29. Axe in back of car carries the scent of Christmas on its sap-stained blades
30. Leaning against fence... forgotten old broom, buried in depth of winter
31. On a frosty pane of glass my thumbnail designs a face with a smile
32. Among the ashes in the fireplace a small flame fights against the dark
33. The old calendar's crayon-colored date -- our child's birthday reminder...
34. in old beach cottage insulated from the sea frost on the window
35. late night arrival at rented mountain cabin an empty fireplace
36. a tree bent and shaped by winds long since forgotten - the old calendar
37. Hawk's shadow crossing last round of summerfallow - a frost-bound morning
38. In the rumpus room a spray of fireflowers lighting up the hearth
39. A disco dancer livelier than usual; the old calendar
40. The old calendar is alive with memories in the garbage can
41. The old brick fireplace crackling with logs tells its tale in burning embers
42. The frost glazes streets summer takes a last curtain closing for the year

*abstract*

- 43. Silver frost droplets cling like death to damp tree boughs ... confused ponderings
- 44. Christmas cards hanging on hearth yet something amiss... distant deep longings
- 45. Dog-eared last page of coffee-stained old calendar... past, present, future
- 46. The gardener's footsteps erase frost from the pathway; the cat skips behind *E. Dunlop*
- 47. Bouncing silently fireplace shadows trace on walls the flame's noisy dance
- 48. My old calendar: still its binding remains coiled in the waste basket
- 49. Their edges etched white the cupped leaves lie covered in frosty stillness
- 50. The crackling flames spread over the neatly stacked logs as I watch, dreaming
- 51. The old calendar removed from peg on the wall time worn shadow stays
- 52. Cricket on the hearth? We have a luckier charm ... Baby son chirps there
- 53. The steaming teapot ... frost pictures on the window melting into the mist *T. Fowler*
- 54. Dreaming fireplace dreams logs collapse in crumbled ash ... my phone does not ring *needs new last line*
- 55. First hearth in cold cave captive lightening for use still flames defiance
- 56. A popsickle world greets rising sun with beauty that melts in cold tears
- 57. Numbered days spinning off into unnumbered days Time's bits and pieces
- 58. North winds rant and howl -- frost star forming on windows -- how cozy the hearth
- 59. Another year ends -- flames leap high in fireplace -- old calendar burns *common*
- 60. Days coated by frost -- old calendar burns in hearth another year ends *common*
- 61. Crisp frosty morning; a film of transparent ice covers the stock tank
- 62. In the bay window glowing through the frosty panes red geraniums ... *A. Brice*
- 63. Bright frosty morning; Blue jays scolding a squirrel raiding the feeder *common*
- 64. On the frosted pane winter's images sparkle the rainbowed sunlight

- 65. snow drifts quietly against the frosted windows lit by hearth-held sparks
- 66. the flare of a match -- flames curl the old calendar to the summer months *conflict*
- 67. Funny how my zeal rarely freezes impulse. It travels wide acres
- 68. Blue shadows on trees - naked until frost and ice present jewelry *logical*
- 69. Now season's hoar-frost sets hard like icing on cake. Trees are wedding guests *cute*
- 70. The view finder sees the edge of the roof is frost and the birds are gone *ordinary*
- 71. The glowing fireplace casts shadows across the room. Grandfather rocks on *common*
- 72. Dusk enters the room. I light the old calendar to kindle the fire *A. Evans*
- 73. Marigolds remain in all this frost, but snowbirds come and go
- 74. Neighborhood tomcat permitted to the hearth, swings a disdainful tail *logic*
- 75. With mother's shears, misshapen valentines from an old calendar
- 76. Frost on the windows: amazing pictures of ferns and tropical trees!
- 77. A full harvest moon: Soft, lowing from the cow barn -- frost on the pumpkins
- 78. Frost on the Sumach; All the red leaves lie crumpled under its branches *ordinary*
- 79. First frosty morning -- fingers gripping the handle of empty milkpail
- 80. Hands around broth cup; spatter of thawing mittens on the worn hearthstone
- 81. While pecking to move finding an old calendar... leaving it behind
- 82. Under the first snow appearing to disappear frost heaves in the road
- 83. Frost spun icicle hanging from the mansard roof sword of Damocles
- 84. Blackened chimney stands abandoned, burned down farmhouse fireplace filled with snow
- 85. Fire cheers the hearth sparks explode and fly upward in search of the star
- 86. Frost blooms on branches of winter trees, begging for immortality

4/2

2  
0  
→  
→

1/4

1/2  
15

common  
1/4

87. A note of farewell;  
in the fireplace this evening  
ashes -- just ashes *ordinary*
88. The old calendar:  
crosses -- crosses -- all ~~crossed~~ through  
except one last day *AD?*
89. Stream and I -- silent;  
frost has covered the bottoms  
with white tracteries *W*
90. This old patchwork quilt,  
pulled tightly around my head --  
Sunday morning frost...
91. Hey! Rustling of wings,  
rising above frosty fields...  
ring necked pheasant!
92. Yesterday's bright leaves,  
fallen, rustling underfoot --  
covered with frost now...
93. Spittle on his beard,  
the old man puffs fog from lips,  
crackled from night frost
94. Split and stacked on hearth,  
best oak logs for Christmas day:  
this one small thing -- done!
95. Old calendar dates  
remind me that I should spend  
much more time with you *1/4*
96. Ashes on the hearth  
scenting the gray morning air  
without the warm fire *conflict*
97. The thin trace of frost  
melts from the road so quickly  
with the speeding cars *common*
98. The sun is melting  
frost on roof and doorstep, my  
neighbor's warm handshake *subject*
99. Cold chimney smoke spires  
from log-flaming hearth, scribe adds  
fuel to rising dream
100. Transferring memos  
from old calendar to new  
using same old pen *1/4*
101. The old calendar  
hangs limply beside the clock  
awaits tomorrow *common*
102. Windows frost-covered  
picture lane of fern and palm -  
a wren sings outside
103. At the cozy hearth  
tonight flaming coals burn high -  
tomorrow gray ash *common* *New* *1/2* *9*
104. Out of a sound sleep...  
hearing the frosty echo  
of a train whistle *M. Richardson*
105. Howling wind outside --  
I move closer to the hearth...  
wind through window cracks

106. Throwing it away  
last page of old calendar...  
such a pretty scene! *ordinary*
107. On ~~an~~ autumn morning  
frost welcome silent partner  
with rooster crowing
108. Can for garbage needs  
new lines - old calendar  
appears custom made *spoke!*
109. Crackle of pine logs  
breaks evening stillness - shows  
content for winter
110. Christmas balls reflect  
darting "Yule Log" flames in hearth  
carolers outside
111. Frigid sun shines through  
frost patterns on window pane  
Sleds race down the hill
112. Upon opened page  
of old calendar -- Spring date  
but it was with death *horror*
113. Every bush and tree  
sparkles with nature's art work  
frost is the painter
114. Old dog sleeps on hearth  
whimpers as leg muscles twitch -  
dreams of hunting days
115. Pencilled pages torn  
from old calendar reveal  
year's unfinished plans
116. Late grandmother's voice  
still in my ears, fairy tales  
by the old fireplace
117. I still remember  
the large fireplace in our house  
destroyed by the war
118. The old calendar  
leaving a space on the wall  
disappeared from sight
119. ... California;  
I greet the warming sunlight,  
cold hands scraping frost...
120. ... cleaning hearth tile work  
gives strong impression to me  
how warm I become...
121. ... on splashed kitchen wall  
much stained old JAL calendar  
bridges East to West...
122. Caged in solid stone,  
a lark sings for the sculptor S. Markoff  
to chisel it free
123. A lone gull flying *cute*  
empty skies, seeking its flock  
in tea-touched twilight
124. On this littered street  
a last ray of sun hiding  
in an empty can *big?*  
*S. Markoff.*

Please choose 12 Haiku from 124 listed Haiku and send your vote to us by  
December 25th, 1978.

When submitting your Haiku, please use an 8½ X 11 white paper.

1978

Results of November Votes

T. Murphy  
1. --- 1  
2. --- 8  
3. --- 0

M. Elliott  
4. --- 5  
5. --- 3  
6. --- 6

J. Currier  
7. --- 4  
8. --- 5  
9. --- 4

P. Scher  
10. --- 0  
11. --- 0  
12. --- 1

M. Lyon  
13. --- 10  
14. --- 5  
15. --- 5

S. Stone  
16. --- 4  
17. --- 0  
18. --- 2

J. Ball  
19. --- 5  
20. --- 5  
21. --- 12

K. Fickert  
22. --- 3  
23. --- 4  
24. --- 3

B. Haas  
25. --- 2  
26. --- 0  
27. --- 2

E. Falkowski  
28. --- S.  
29. --- 0  
30. --- 9

L. Hornbeck  
31. --- 0  
32. --- 4  
33. --- 9

D. Braida  
34. --- 9  
35. --- 4  
36. --- 5

E. Holmes  
37. --- 0  
38. --- 9  
39. --- 8

D. Wright  
40. --- 1  
41. --- 5  
42. --- 1

T. Fowler  
43. --- 1  
44. --- 2  
45. --- 1

J. Youngblood  
46. --- 2  
47. --- 1  
48. --- 2

S. Youngdahl  
49. --- 2  
50. --- 2  
51. --- 3

B. Cameron  
52. --- 2  
53. --- 0  
54. --- 0

L. Winder  
55. --- 2  
56. --- 6  
57. --- 5

G. Swede  
58. --- 3  
59. --- 9  
60. --- 15

K. Hale  
61. --- 0  
62. --- 0  
63. --- 3

M. Henn  
64. --- 2  
65. --- 1  
66. --- 3

O Tranbarger  
67. --- 3  
68. --- 3  
69. --- 7

E. Botelho  
70. --- 5  
71. --- 6  
72. --- 1

E. Dunlop  
73. --- 3  
74. --- 0  
75. --- 1

B. Sweeney  
76. --- 3  
77. --- 0  
78. --- 2

F. moore  
79. --- 1  
80. --- 2  
81. --- 9

I. Wolfe  
82. --- 2  
83. --- 5  
84. --- 2

J Lamson  
85. --- 6  
86. --- 0  
87. --- 3

R. Roseliep  
88. --- 6  
89. --- 5  
90. --- 4

B. Leiser  
91. --- 5  
92. --- 4  
93. --- 1

G. Adams  
94. --- 1  
95. --- 1  
96. --- 2

E. Amann  
97. --- 6  
98. --- 2  
99. --- 0

C. Buckaway  
100. --- 1  
101. --- 8  
102. --- 5

R. Stewart  
103. --- 8  
104. --- 0  
105. --- 1

P. Machmiller  
106. --- 9

B. Wolfe  
107. --- 0  
108. --- 2

B. Cameron  
109. --- 1  
110. --- 1

M. Richardson  
111. --- 4  
112. --- 4  
113. --- 7

B. Falkowski  
114. --- 0  
115. --- 2

E. Gilliam  
116. --- 6  
117. --- 10

H. Dumas  
118. --- 3  
119. --- 6  
120. --- 3

T. Yamagata  
121. --- 2  
122. --- 2  
123. --- 3

N. Fitzpatrick  
124. --- 1  
125. --- 3  
126. --- 0

Delayed and new members:

H. Dumas  
1. --- 0

M. Ann  
2. --- 4  
3. --- 0  
4. --- 0

P. Schuck  
5. --- 7  
6. --- 0  
7. --- 8

T. Suraci  
8. --- 4  
9. --- 3  
10. --- 6

44  
3  
138  
5  
139

季語 (KIGO) for 1978<sup>9</sup>

Haiku Journal

- January - 一月 : New year morning - 元旦 ( GANTAN )  
ICHIGATSU
- February - 二月 : Remaining snow - 残雪 ( ZANSETSU )  
NIGATSU
- March - 三月 : Grafting - 接木 ( TSUGIKI )  
SANGATSU
- April - 四月 : Spring evening or night - 春の夜 ( HARU NO YO )  
SHIGATSU
- May - 五月 : Early summer - 初夏 ( SHOKA )  
GOGATSU
- June - 六月 : Short night - 短夜 ( MIJIKAYO )  
ROKUGATSU
- July - 七月 : Suntan - 日焼 ( HIYAKE )  
SHICHIGATSU
- August - 八月 : August - 八月 ( HACHIGATSU )  
HACHIGATSU
- September - 九月 : Autumn butterfly - 秋の蝶 ( AKI NO CHO )  
KUGATSU
- October - 十月 : Red leaves hunting - 紅葉狩 ( MOMIJIGARI )  
JUGATSU
- November - 十一月 : Early winter - 初冬 ( HATSU FUYU or SHOTOO )  
JUICHIGATSU
- December - 十二月 : Frost nipped - 霜枯 ( SHIMOGARE )  
JUNIGATSU

Please write one 俳句 with the given 季語 (KIGO) for each month along with two others with your own choice of 季語 .

Please use 8½ X 11 white paper as follows:

<p>Your Votes: Your Haiku assignment for coming month:</p> <p>#1.</p> <p>#2.</p> <p>#3.</p> <p>Your Name:</p>
---

Deadline:

25th of each month  
To Haiku Journal

When submitting your 俳句 , please enclose SASE to save our time, work, and expenses.