

俳句ジャーナル 月報

HAIKU

JOURNAL

GEPPU

Monthly Newsletter

Editors
Kiyoko & Kiyoshi
Tokutomi

President
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Dear Members:

*The GEPPU
Monthhead
First Appears*

あけましておめでとう ございます
a ke ma shi te o me de toh go za i ma su

A Happy New Year!

We hope you have started a wonderful New Year(新年 shin nen) with many bright hopes. So many happy surprises have arrived in your letters which have expressed pleasure with the Japanese calligraphy included in our KUKO(句稿) and monthly Newsletter(月報). As a New Year(新年) begins Kiyoko and I look forward to trying our best to share with each of you our knowledge and the traditional atmosphere of YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU(有季定型俳句).

We were pleased to receive your comments about suggested changes in the evaluation system for each month's KUKO(句稿). Each of you will be interested in some of the ideas expressed in the comments.

"The new method of voting sounds good. It will force people to think about why they selected a haiku, but I would like to see you do this in addition to the regular voting. Let each member select up to 10% and write comments on his or hers 1st, 2nd, choices. I think it is more helpful if votes are arranged in order. Under the present system the one with the most votes could have been the last choice of the majority and have received no first choice votes. D.B."

"Your idea of having members select the three best haiku and comment on the selection is excellent. Besides publishing the five to ten best haiku, you might also wish to publish some of the comments of the members with these particular haiku, giving the name of the member making the remarks. R.R."

"Good idea. Stress only the haiku that truly reflect as many quality points as possible and publish those in the following month's letter. Drop the voting list of all haiku submitted. This leads to misunderstanding of what a haiku is or should be. E.F."

"In the proposed new voting, if you decide on only the three best for the choice, why not leave room for a few 'runners up' (Honorable Mentions)? It always helps the aspiring student-creator -- including ME. And there is no reason why the handful of Honorable Mentions can not be listed in order of preference -- the same as the choices of #1, #2, and #3. They would be easy to report in order of excellence from the voting. Say, a half a dozen (or whatever)(maybe less) Honorable Mention would give something to work for from a group working together toward excellence. After all, the monthly voting is different from a CONTEST, per se. I.W."

"I believe the suggested change in the voting method would be more equitable. Further, the requirement for members to state why they selected the three best Haiku from the listing will cause the readers to be more selective. The opportunity afforded members to read and criticise Haiku other than their own most certainly causes one to be more critical of their own Haiku. It serves as a disciplinary procedure. K.H."

"I agree with what Amann had to say about the haiku submitted to YHS. I think your change of plans about the voting method is an excellent idea. Having each member select the three haiku he considers good and comment on them is certainly much simpler than voting on 12 or 15 that contain inferior ones. I, for one will welcome to change of system and will be looking forward to your next Newsletter. R.S."

"As Dr. Amann commented, 'members should be more self-critical.' Tokutomi-san has been very tolerant with all of us in this respect. Personally I hardly feel qualified to vote on whether a haiku is good or not. There are few in our group who are qualified. Suppose your haiku is bad but pleases many members - you will get the wrong idea, and encourage more bad haiku. Perhaps we(members) should be invited to vote, but I feel Tokutomi-san should also be the one to select his top 10 to 15 along with 5 or 10 typical examples of mistakes and offer explanations. His guidance will be of much greater benefit to us all. Under this system, you should feel honored if your bad example is picked to help others. H.D."

"I disagree with the comments that have been made criticizing the current judging method, and I sincerely hope that it will be retained. I felt that your response in the November Newsletter explained logically and sensibly the reasons this method is used. I refer to the points that you made when you said that the current method, in use in Japan for hundreds of years

- a. provides a method to examine one's own haiku as well as others
- b. helps one develop appreciation for haiku by judging those of other members
- c. gives one an opportunity to compare judgement
- d. helps one identify weak points in order to correct them
- e. builds confidence in one's judgement
- f. sharpens one's critical skills in order to avoid becoming a "Too Sweet Prince"

You commented additionally that in the Sunday newspaper contests in Japan, 'it is interesting to note that very seldom do the judges pick the same haiku'. This is the essence of the whole judging process. While I respect Dr. Amann's comment that he could 'find few really good haiku in these lists', it must be kept in mind that he one judge voicing one opinion. It should also be remembered that we are not engaged in judging a contest to select a prize-winner. Rather, we are members of a society working together in workshop fashion to improve our ability with and our sensitivity to the haiku form.

None of us would disagree that we should 'become more self-critical and avoid superficiality'. I do not believe, however, that this will be achieved through the new method being proposed. If we are going to limit selections, we are going to limit participation, and if we are going to invite comments on reason-for-selection, we are going to provide a platform for a few more articulate members to expound on haiku principles and reduce the opportunity for those whose reaction to haiku is less diagnostic and more immediately sensitive. There are some who react because they are touched or moved or made happy or sad or contemplative by a given haiku but who are not interested in an intellectualized autopsy. It seems to me that if a scholarly explanation is needed to illustrate the reason for a successful haiku, it has already some of the sparkle of spontaneity in the process.

I believe that most of us have the same goal, and that it has already been enhanced by your assignment change for the new year, permitting two kigo of the writer's own choice and only one assigned. This additional freedom is welcome. I would also like to express appreciation for the format of the December Newsletter and the use of the Japanese language, not only as an educational process, but as an effective mood-setting for our writing. Hopefully, Newsletter space will continue to be used for the listing of the haiku written by all who submit. After all, if one's rating is zero, what better way is there to know that improvement is needed--what direct method of evaluation?

In summary, expressing my single opinion, I strongly favor the continuation of the present manner of judging the monthly writing. I am confident, however, that whatever method you finally select, your efforts to assist the society members toward improved haiku-writing will remain at the same deeply appreciated high level of dedication and integrity. B.S."

On the basis of your comments we will continue the current evaluation system. However, in addition to evaluation each month for up to 10% of the haiku listed in the KUKO 句稿, members will now SELECT THE 3 BEST HAIKU AND COMMENT FOR THEIR SELECTIONS.

The advantages of this method will be to

- a. stimulate more critical awareness of good haiku
- b. discipline your thinking
- c. generate creative appreciation of YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU

Hopefully this method of identifying superior haiku through more critical evaluation enable each of us to write better haiku. A summary of the results of your evaluations for each month will be circulated with the Newsletter and KUKO.

When you receive your Newsletter, we would appreciate prompt notice of typographical errors or omissions so that we may correct these in the following Newsletter and KUKO 句稿.

Sincerely yours,

悠富 克代子
潔

Kiyoko & Kiyoshi
Tokutomi

NOVEMBER MEETING(十一月例会)
ju ichi gatsu reikai

What a beautiful GINKO(吟行 Haiku outing)!
Held at the beautiful coastal home of Pat Machmiller.

It's hard to pinpoint the time that the meeting started, as we all arrived at different times and when enough people were there, we set up the pot luck lunch and ate. It was a delightful luncheon presented by the members for the members!

After that filling time elapsed, many of us went down to the beach to enjoy the sea, take pictures play in the sand, sit on driftwood, and even write haiku.

Reluctantly, we returned to Pat's, choose 2 of our haiku to submit and vote upon. Jerry Ball's haiku:

By the sandy path
driftwood and a pair of shoes--
the autumn sea roars...

won first place and he was given an award of haiku in Japanese calligraphy.

Mr. Tokutomi talked briefly about haiku writing... being original in composing our haiku; find something new!

Jerry Ball brought 2 of his own photographs, which we signed, to be sent to Japan and Hawaii, with thank you notes for all the lovely art and calligraphy work they gave us at the banquet in September.

The meeting was called reluctantly around five with a lot of warm feeling for everyone and enthusiasm for rushing home to compose very original haiku.

DECEMBER MEETING(十二月例会) Dec. 2, 1978
ju ni gatsu reikai

Those present seemed to be in the mood to create; there were really good haiku written and it took longer to make our choices. The SEKIDAI(席題 given subject or KIGO 季語 at REIKAI 例会) was COLD, we all wrote one haiku with the KIGO(季語) given plus one of our own choices. The winning haiku:

Ragging coat flapping
feet cold against the sidewalk
a beggar --- smiling

written by Ben Sweeney was our choice.

We read the runners ups, then went around the room so each could discuss one of his or her problem haiku and get feedback from the rest of the members. This seems to be a very valuable time at the meetings as we all feel the need for constructive criticism and this is a safe environment in which to get it.

There was a discussion about punctuation marks used in haiku, the feeling being that it is the responsibility of each writer to be informed in good construction.

Kiyoshi again stressed the "special moment" of haiku, of being able to grasp the ordinary and transposing it into the unusual haiku. These are the other valuable moments of our meeting, when the "words of the master" ring in our head to reverberate later in our quieter moments of contemplation!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

1. The International Women's Writing Guild is holding a conference at Vallombrosa Center in Menlo Park, CA on February 9 - 12, 1979. We have been asked and has agreed to conduct a session on haiku. The plans include an introduction to traditional haiku including the concept of a KIGO 季語, then GINKO 吟行, and finally a reading and critique of the GINKO 吟行 haiku 俳句.

(We are very happy that Mrs. Patricia Machmiller has been asked to conduct the haiku session at Vallombrosa. We will expect a full report in the February Newsletter. Kiyoshi Tokutomi)

2. In reviewing the financial posture of our organization, it is clear that the dues of \$10 do not adequately cover our expenses now that the Newsletter and KUKO 句稿 have become so large. At the present time, our membership in the YUKUHARU organization costs us \$5/member. We are proposing, and hope you will agree, to drop our membership in YUKUHARU so that the funds now sent to that organization can be invested in improving the Newsletter and KUKO 句稿 without raising the dues.

Patricia Machmiller
President

1978

Results of December Votes

C. Adams	L. Hornbeck	S. Stone
1. --- 2	49. --- 4	95. --- 3
2. --- 1	50. --- 0	96. --- 2
3. --- 1	51. --- 4	97. --- 1
T. Murphy	T. M. Fowler	B. Haas
4. --- 1	52. --- 1	98. --- 4
5. --- 3	53. --- 7	99. --- 0
6. --- 9	54. --- 1	100. --- 3
B. Sweeney	L. Babbitt	M. Elliott
7. --- 8	55. --- 1	101. --- 3
8. --- 4	56. --- 1	102. --- 0
9. --- 2	57. --- 0	103. --- 0
R. Stewart	M. Henn	M. Richardson
10. --- 3	58. --- 0	104. --- 8
11. --- 4	59. --- 1	105. --- 2
12. --- 3	60. --- 0	106. --- 2
I. Wolfe	D. Braida	J. Hitchcock
13. --- 2	61. --- 2	107. --- 0
14. --- 1	62. --- 15	108. --- 1
15. --- 1	63. --- 6	109. --- 0
S. Youngdahl	E. Botelho	W. Fitzpatrick
16. --- 1	64. --- 1	110. --- 1
17. --- 0	65. --- 0	111. --- 2
18. --- 2	66. --- 5	112. --- 3
J. Currier	B. Cameron	K. Hale
19. --- 3	67. --- 1	113. --- 3
20. --- 3	68. --- 2	114. --- 5
21. --- 3	69. --- 0	115. --- 2
R. Roseliep	H. Evans	T. Yamagata
22. --- 3	70. --- 0	116. --- 5
23. --- 7	71. --- 4	117. --- 2
24. --- 6	72. --- 9	118. --- 1
E. Amann	L. Schuck	E. Thompson
25. --- 5	73. --- 2	119. --- 1
26. --- 7	74. --- 4	120. --- 0
27. --- 9	75. --- 1	121. --- 3
B. Leiser	L. Harr	S. Markoff
28. --- 4	76. --- 5	122. --- 9
29. --- 6	77. --- 0	123. --- 4
30. --- 3	78. --- 2	124. --- 14
K. Fickert	E. Holmes	
31. --- 1	79. --- 6	
32. --- 11	80. --- 4	
33. --- 4	81. --- 1	
P. Machmiller	H. Dalton	
34. --- 1	82. --- 1	
35. --- 1	83. --- 2	
36. --- 7	84. --- 6	
C. Buckaway	T. Ireland	
37. --- 3	85. --- 4	
38. --- 3	86. --- 0	
39. --- 2	L. Winder	
P. Scher	87. --- 6	
40. --- 2	88. --- 4	
41. --- 2	89. --- 1	
42. --- 0	J. Ball	
?	90. --- 3	
43. --- 3	91. --- 2	
44. --- 0	92. --- 1	
45. --- 0	D. Wright	
E. Dunlop	93. --- 2	
46. --- 7	94. --- 4	
47. --- 2		
48. --- 4		

1979

January KUKO

一月句稿

KIGO: New Year morning - GANTAN - and others

元旦

1. On New Year's morning
even the belfries house-guest
does not mend her web
- 11(3) 2. Tall in the ashes
of a burnt over forest - *Ethyl Dunlop*
blooms of pink fire weed
- 12(3) 3. Gray thick tule fog;
my horse appears in the field *Ethyl Dunlop*
without any legs
4. Hobo Railyard camp
in the New Year morning light -
glint from a tin star
5. Dawn of New Year Day
Goodbyes at the door - zig-zag
footprints in fresh snow
6. New Year morning light
glitters from the city dump -
cast-out tinsel trees
7. This New Year Morning -
shreds of firecracker paper
scattered in the street
8. Next to the tombstone
faded red plastic roses;
capped with the first snow
9. In the apple tree
an abandon robin's nest
brims with first snow.
10. The dark of the house
against the dark of the sky
short day's beginning
11. This New Year morning
wakes -- in vestal virgin white --
man fouls without thought
12. Crocus to crocus
wind sifting soft-snow like flour
hides early bloomers
13. Against red-fevered sky
a redder sun keeps promise
to warm fog-held land
14. Bright New Year Morning
hopes of future dims past
birds feast on bread crumbs
15. Sea shells scattering
like jewels on gleaming sand
washed in by the storm
16. The early robins
preen their yellow orange breasts
on fast melting snow
17. New Year morning wakes
to the bell sound of a bird
and a woman's voice
18. You can't hear the snow
beside the whirring music
of her spinning wheel *Raymond Roudrip*
19. The north wind motions
a mountainful of gull cry
and gulls to the sea
20. Each New Year morning,
fresh JAL Calendar charms me.
Will I travel soon?
21. Crumpled paper star
made many Christmases past...
packed away, tear-stained
22. As New Year's goose roasts,
I'll watch the Rose Bowl Parade,
Smell food, see flowers
23. New Year morning
silence is deafening . . .
horn blowing ended
24. After Holidays
needles under Christmas tree
we relax too
25. This New Year morning:
through brush on the crusted snow
shadowed rabbit tracks
26. January earth
with varied frozen echoes
folding dormant seed
27. January thaw
running through my veins ?
my father's biography
28. New Year morning's glow
of soft light on drawing board. ?
Saying, practice time
29. A blanket of fog
transforms our sun this moment
into a white disk
30. Arched symmetry
reflected in the silent pool
this wintery day
31. Birds chirping on boughs
barren of leaves now herald
the New Year morning
32. Forest winds strangely *K. Hale*
hushed in cathedral calmness -
snow enshrouds the trees
33. Tears of morning dew
falling gently on garden -
perfume wakes dead dream
34. This New Year morning
dense mist enclosing far hills
covers my footsteps
35. The stiff fir branches
Walking in cold still moonlight
the sound of snapping
36. The star-topped Yule tree
towers plastic show. I touch
Grandma's fine bisque doll
37. On New Year's morning
the shades in bedroom windows
stay lowered till noon
38. Snow in the junkyard *Kurt Fickert*
turns a wrecked Chevy into
a white Cadillac
39. The cardinal fluffs *Truth?*
his red feathers that stain but
do not melt the snow
40. Old world looks the same.
Yet --- this New Year Morning brings
an unknown promise

41. Speaking in blizzard
brings sharp needles to my lips
and a fast bowed head
42. Scribbling marks on snow
in early morning, sparrow...
waiting for bread crumbs
43. Upon opened page
of old calendar ... spring date
but it was with death
44. Winter etches with
frost the spot where a squirrel
has hidden his nuts
45. Darting fireplace flames
curl around logs red with heat
marshmallows hover
46. ... and only the dawn
still comes this New Year morning;
the sheets are colder...
47. This New Year's Champagne--
aging inside its bottle
as I am outside
48. Barely visible--
the Catalina Island
untwisting the mist
49. Alone at midnight,
just the pear on the table
and the winter fly
50. His black robes blowing,
the old padre hurries by ...
New Year morning bells
51. The Angus bull leads
the cows up the pasture lane--
the mounting snowdrifts
52. Bright New Year morning--
on top of the party's trash
an old rabbit's foot
53. Lazy summer day ?
the sun bakes organ-pipe nests
on the old church wall
54. Placing a new stick
on the rim of the old nest--
the pair of ospreys
55. This New Year morning
fresh snow and confetti
cover my sidewalk
56. Delicate patterns
of frost, melting in the sun
and running away
57. Shiny yellow slug
oozing across frosty bricks...
a silver pathway
58. New Year morning wakes
to the bell sound of a bird
and a woman's voice
59. Pacing the garden,
the girl searches for flowers
to match her suntan
60. Stooping for the leaf
stuck to my hobnail boot... oh!
autumn butterfly
61. The very first light
of budding New Year's morning --
wherever it starts!
62. Knock at my heart's door
and wake me to welcome you:
Happy New Year Morn!
63. Resolving again
on New Year Morning
"I'll see things 'Haiku'"
64. On New Year's morning:
holding a two way mirror
past and future view
65. As large snowflakes fall
happy children race about
sticking out their tongues
66. Big, fleecy, white clouds
gambol across the blue sky;
the year of the sheep
67. Poor man at my door--
sun rising beyond the hill--
the New Year morning
68. Old remaining snow--
in sheltered nooks of building--
spring is not pretty
69. A last visitor--
icy rain ripples the rakes--
an early winter
70. New Year's morning sun;
snow birds flocking for suet
find their tray of treats
71. Eyes not yet open
over night I know snow fell--
Dad stamping his feet
72. Grey twilight hour;
the snow field one with the sky,
the bird with its branch
73. On New Year's morning
Feeling lost in the parade
on television
74. A Christmas rainbow
spans the sky, colors the joy:
The birth of a child
75. Two of us in bed
Drinking coffee and reading
on New Year's morning
76. Tinsel icicles
and tree-top angels, all askew
on New Year morning
77. Kitten discovered
exploring the milk shed, licks
off the evidence
78. Sparrows and clothespins
are indistinguishable
in snowy disguise
79. Bright New Year's morning...
a clean white notebook page waits
for my first haiku
80. First resolution:
opening my typewriter
disturbed moth flies out
81. New Year's afternoon...
sprawling by the TV set
this pottet poppy
82. --- this New Year's morning,
with not much enthusiasm,
I am same old self ---
83. --- this freezing weather
is unsettling for many
Californians ---
84. --- coat around myself,
mid-winter cold gives comfort;
the days grow longer ---



Roberta Stewart

14(3)

*To Murphy
Dad's
Feeder*

L. Skinder

L. Skinder

Ho! Ho!

*Raymond
Roselee*

1(3)Y

same
as
17

11(3)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>85. The wonders of life
show on a <u>New Year morning</u>.
The sun is shining</p> <p>86. <u>Ice boats</u> sailing past
the pier where the boats tied up.
Colors <u>warm</u> the heart</p> <p>87. A blanket covered
<u>frozen lake</u> from shore to shore.
The <u>moon</u> paints the sky</p> <p>88. This <u>New Year morning</u>...
all the sun's brilliance is caught
in one small <u>dewdrop</u></p> <p>89. As the <u>snowflake</u> falls
and disappears into drifts --
another <u>snowflake!</u></p> <p>4 5(2) 90. Frayed <u>old calendar</u>...
with a hundred scribbled notes --
11(5) folded so neatly!</p> | <p><i>J. Ball</i></p> <p><i>J. Ball</i></p> | <p>91. Bright sunshine spreading
over this half of the globe
the <u>New Year morning</u></p> <p>92. The Japanese doll's eyes
shining especially bright
this <u>New Year morning</u></p> <p>93. Wishing you success
all overseas haikuists
the <u>New Year morning</u></p> <p>94. One perfect moment
capturing children's laughter
on <u>New Year's morning</u></p> <p>95. Sundogs in the sky
nothing disturbs the <u>weasel</u>
10(4) under the wheatbin <i>C. Buckaway</i></p> <p>96. Saskatchewan night;
northern lights flicker across
a star-studded sky</p> |
|---|---|--|

INSTRUCTIONS TO MEMBERS

1. Choose 10 haiku which you consider to be the best example of YUKI TEIKEI HAIKU
2. Identify the 3 best haiku by circling the number of the haiku, and comment on the reasons for your selections, if any.
3. Please write one 俳句 with the given 季語 (KIGO) for each month along with two others - from the same month or season - with your own choice of KIGO
4. Please use 8½ X 11 white paper as follows:

Your Votes:

*, ⊛, ⊛, *, *

*, *, *, ⊛, *

Your comments if any.

Your haiku assignment for coming month:

#1.

#2

#3

Your Name:

5. Deadline: 25th of each month to Haiku Journal,
6. When submitting your Haiku 俳句, please enclose SASE to save our time, work, and expenses.