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Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 3 No. 1 January 1980

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GEPPO EDITORIAL

HAPPY NEW YEAR! おりまして おめて とうこざいます。

We hope all of you have started a bright, happy New Year full of hopes for creative YUKITEIKEI Haiku!

SAIJIKI. We are happy to announce that our Society has set the SAIJIKI as their most important project for 1980. We have been most encouraged by the enthusiasm of members who have sent in example haiku for review and consideration in what is anticipated to be the first English Language SAIJIKI published overseas from Japan. One member sent us over one hundred YUKI TEIKEI Haiku to be considered as examples for the use of KIGO; other members have sent in as many as forty or fifty good haiku. Of course, not all members will have this many, but we do want to include a broad representation of KIGO and KIGO usage from as many members as possible. So, if you have not sent your haiku in yet, or you have additional haiku to send, please do so promptly. Please keep a carbon copy for yourself, as submissions cannot be returned.

We have been privileged to have Dr. Jun-ichi Sakuma visit us from Japan for the express purpose of working on the SAIJIKI with us, and assisting in the compilation of representative haiku from the United States and Canada. This initial phase will reviewed by the SAIJIKI Committee in cooperation with editorial consultants in Japan.

GEPPO Changes. Due to the increased membership, it has become necessary for us to make changes in our system for review and evaluation of haiku submitted to the GEPPO. At present we are receiving over 130 haiku each month, many of which need revision. New members often do not have sufficient knowledge as to KIGO usage and traditional YUKI TEIKEI form. Since the purpose of the GEPPO is to help haikuists improve their YUKI TEIKEI haiku, it is important to expose members to quality YUKI TEIKEI Haiku and to offer more accurate evaluation. We are hoping to offer our members the benefits of haiku reviewed by our staff with mailed return of helpful comments directly to the haikuist before printing in the GEPPO. When submissions are of sufficient quality to serve members' needs, then of course, they would be included in the GEPPO. Initially, this method may prove somewhat time consuming for the staff but we are hoping that this voluntary, additional time investment during the next few months will be fruitful for all members.

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Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi

Haiku Journal

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Patricia Machmiller

FIRST CLASS

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dr. Jun-ichi Sakuma of Yokohama, Japan, visited the United States and the YUKI TEIKEI Haiku Society at the beginning of this new year. At a special meeting of the local SAIJIKI Committee, Dr. Sakuma presented to Mr. & Mrs. Tokutomi reports which are the culmination of his extensive research into haiku written in English.

The first report which he presented is a tabulation of the frequency with which key words or phrases (such as, winter wind, winter desolation, withered grass, etc.) occur in haiku written in English. To obtain this data, Dr. Sakuma acquired virtually all of the haiku journals and anthologies which print English-language haiku. From this comprehensive library, he gathered his frequency data.

The second report presented by Dr. Sakuma was a compilation of selected haiku by KIGO to be used as sample haiku in the SAIJIKI. This work is notable both for its thoroughness and for the quality of the selections.

Dr. Sakuma's work is a major step in achieving the publication of an Englishlanguage SAIJIKI. It is difficult to describe the extent of his effort, the superb quality of the work, and his great generosity in presenting these documents to our society.

It is with both astonishment and gratitude that we thank Dr. Sakuma for his enormous contribution to the effort of the Tokutomi's and the SAIJIKI Committee.

By Patricia Machmiller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KUKO for February 1980: Valentine and your selection from any other winter KIGO.

ERRATA FOR DECEMBER GEPPO — Underlined words corrected.

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#6. I reach out an arm to turn up a blanket dial in our king-size bed.

#88. Winter rain falling...
leaden tears shed by mourners
death has no season

THE THIRD ANNUAL HAIKU CONTEST

A reminder.... the deadline for submissions is March 1st, 1980.

Note details of the contest which were published in onthly Newsletter GEPPO No. 17, November 1979.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR COMING HAIKU JOURNAL

Please send your two best <u>YUKI TEIKEI Haiku</u> which you have written since the last Haiku Journal. Please be reminded that non-YUKI TEIKEI Haiku will not be published. <u>Deadline: February 15, 1980.</u>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kent Clair Chamberlain

C. Joy Haas

Louise N. Hood

Marianne Cable

Ķ.

Helen Altvater

OUR APPRECIATION

To those of you who have been kind enough to send additional postage...

Thank you! Your stamps have been a significant help to us.

- ICHIGATSU -

January KUKO

KIGO: Icicle - TSURARA

- and other winter KIGO

- 1. Gathering kindling slowly old woman's knarled hands-icicles forming
- Enclosed in cold hands just a few dry leaves crumbling, these two become soil.
- 3. Muzak continues
 here in this shopping plaza
 after it closes...
- 4. Icicle-fringed eaves;spears of flame in dawn's light-- wood fire's curling smoke
- Gull flock's raucous cries:winged litter at County Dumpgale warning at sea
- Ice-sheathed twigs fill woods with faint sound of temple bells; brief mid-winter thaw
- 7. Rice plants spreading leaves; rack of furled umbrellas now -- bitter black-frost night
- 8. this early morning

 * squirrel tracks linking tree to tree
 in last night's soft snow

 (* my dictionary gives this 1 syllable

 -- Brit. 2)
- 9. in the first snowstorm fifteen cedar waxwing catch the fast falling flakes
- 10. giant icicle grows from roof to frozen ground crystal stalactite
- 11. Weather changed at last.
 Juncos flew in yesterday,
 Brought deep snow today.
- 12. A surprise present... Fresh <u>Roses!</u> Large mirrored vase Reflects <u>icicles</u>.
- 13. Squirrels ate birdseed?
 Scratching deep snow, birds find none.
 Concrete Owl just stares.
- 14. A widow's fingers touch the album's oldest page on Valentine's day
- 15. Naked sky: even the southbound snow goose is an intrusion
- 16. Dimly remembered:
 Kernels of winter wheat once warm in his hand
- 17. Colored light display Aurora Borealis--- swinging draperies
- 18. White bear of the North, hungry hunter of warm flesh ---scourge of the Arctic
- 19. Dogs, sled, eshime mushina over arctic snow--- above, northen lights

- 20. Blue shadows pattern snowy drifts where one redbird pecks sunflower seeds
- 21. Reverberating bells toll on icicle air across centuries
- 22. Determined squirrel falls from ice-stick bird feeder tries and tries again
- 23. First heard at midnight, the winter sea is booming in its secret caves
 - 4. To look back once more through cascades of icicles at a rising moon
 - a thousand ice crystals chime on the cobblestones
- 6. Waves of seagulls at the quiet Pearl Harbour December 7th
- 27. Bus loads of laughter to the Sierra mountains Boy Scouts skiing trip
- 28. December 7th
 far away from the West Coast
 rusted barbed wires
- 29. Dawn and winter fog:
 A barren oaktree appears,
 then disappears, then ...
- 30. Still quick to purr, Eh?
 Well then, you fat old tomcat,
 Here's Christmas dinner!
- 31. Dammed by fallen leaves ... rainwater ponds in gutters: small children's wet shoes!
- 32. Fallen icicles stand attention in the drift commandeering sun
- 33. Dropped icicles stand in a line in the snow Here come the snowballs!
- 34. On the stiff laundry the all too human wrinkles under the thin sleet
- 35. In the clawing cold even the dog turn as I smell of wolverine*
- 36. Camelia's bloom and orange trees display ripe fruit. Icicles? Not here!
- 37. Look forward! Look back at the years swiftly passing. Hurry! Do something!
- 38. In dark mind-forests dead thoughts clump like autumn leaves. New buds form for spring!
- * Wolverine (same as badger, used as winter KIGO). Also the knickname for States of Michigan and Wisconsin.

Sound of breaking glass: A fat cardinal From the eaves long icicles lights upon the hemlock branch, Glisten in the sun icicles tinkling Snow-capped Sierras . . 61. Had he stayed longer 40. the boy in the icicle the fragrance of orange blossoms (17) across the terrace would be much taller Striking the hour The old adobe; the clock brings down a petal suddenly through the sea fogs: KP(2) of holly flower (red) poinsettias Breathbeat from his lyre Pencil icicles and the word he is breathing drip in unexpected sun -4 wake her charcoal fire Birds' noisy bathing... Reluctant twilight Icicle glitter heaven sent jewels on trees Slow-falling snow; deep silence... a squirrel pauses 73 Birds under the eaves W.K Snow capped mountain peaks Rattle of my door -the cat and I bolt upright! frosting on the birthday cake Ah -- the winter wind angels hover near. 66. Evening snowfall In the slow still martyrdom of night, the stabbing icicle of winter forms. pure the never -trodden snow birth of a new year. 67. First snow: the old man 46. Dagger in winter's firm grip nails another flattened can to his old shanty icicle pierces to his old shanty. season's unseemly pretense 7 68. First frost, white confetti blown From the slanted roof to crooks and crannies <u>icicles</u> hang in the night-sun's weak fingers fail to reach. and the full moon's rays... Quick thaws and freezes Christmas tree season; 69. contour the bandstand icicles Through thick pines the sun lights up one small fir's greeness... in the village square morning storm brewing: 70. Sunlight through the pines young jackrabbit showing more strikes, glistening, bare stone slabs-of his pink lined ears December morning. B. McCay 50. sudden New Year's rain; 71. Icicles on tree flushing out the grit and leaves are sparkling crystal prisms in the old eave trough forest chandeliers 51. ancient chants drifting Frayed old calendar across the moonlit sage fields cast aside on a trash heap 6 yesteryear's diary ... then a droning plane Dripping icicle Angry frothy waves 73• quietly disappearing, crashing against frozen rocks leaving pock-mark scars winter sea erupts 74. 53. Snow falling at dusk The mule's ears turned back As he stood in the <u>snowstorm</u> covers nocturnal shadows with silent frosting Facing the north wind. Rows of icicles, A small girl crying: Lined the edges of the roofs, the snowman has lost an eye! the little boy laughs Dripping in the sun. 76. Icicles dripping Gold and silver bells from the eaves of the old church; Hung with other ornaments, Sparkled in the tree. the spire cleaving sky One more winter storm -a drop at a time the ancient bristle-cone pine the shimmering icicle bends a bit further... rehearses its fall Nighttime forzando . . nothing seasonal Listening to Beethoven inside this goose down jacket و على While icicles crash. only a bone chill 58. The old ragged pine gray lining of sun Refuses to be erased 41.K1.7(3) I wake to find you inside By the heavy fog. the drift of soft snow 59. Down from the mountain, 80.

The shephard with his wine jug,

His sheepdog and sheep

Stiff blue icicle

my strangled comments

clogging free flow in drain pipe

- 81. High in cold still air thin chimney smoke spirals stretch need ear muffs out there
- 82. Frost patterns windows of old house; child's finger scribes pattern on pattern
- 83. Icicles hanging rigidly from bare, tall trees... lone man tramps through snow
- 84. On this First Day of New Year reviewing old, new time begin again
- 85. One brisk December day in still canyon cabin... always to treasure.
- 86. Where the shed roof ends icicles, dagger-sharp, hang almost to the ground.
- 87. A beam of moonlight the snow already in drifts across the prairie.
- 88. At first sign of day how quickly you are running weasel in the snow!
- 89. Icicles glisten with the afternoon sunlight through all their stiffness
- 90. Son and grandfather ice-fishing in the same spot; white winter sunlight
- 91. Lost in aloneness:
 on my desk this candle too
 burns small in daylight
- 92. Icicles on boughs of the Hawthorn tree, glisten... How red its berries!
- 93. The children's laughtertrying to prod icicles from the bent eave troughs.
- 94. A tawny sunset gilds the cottage roof with its fringe of icicles.
- 95. This dark, stormy night:
 an old man sits by the hearth
 winnowing the past.
- 96. Morning icicles clear and fragile in the sun shrinking as I watch
- 97. Wist with presence, snow-draped hills, their chins on knees, watch over the town
- 98. Skiing in moonlight through the slope's borrowed tinsel to follow a star
- 99. Sunday afternoon; sound of the kitchen clock and dripping icicles
- 100. Seeing a rainbow in each icicle drip-drop she smiles through her tears.
- 101. Red letter date marked, I slip the old calendar under my pillow.

- 102. Toasting the New Year,
 Eyes meet over SAKE cups;
 we hear wild bells ring.
- 103. Soft click of dry leaf falling on the garden stone silence between friends

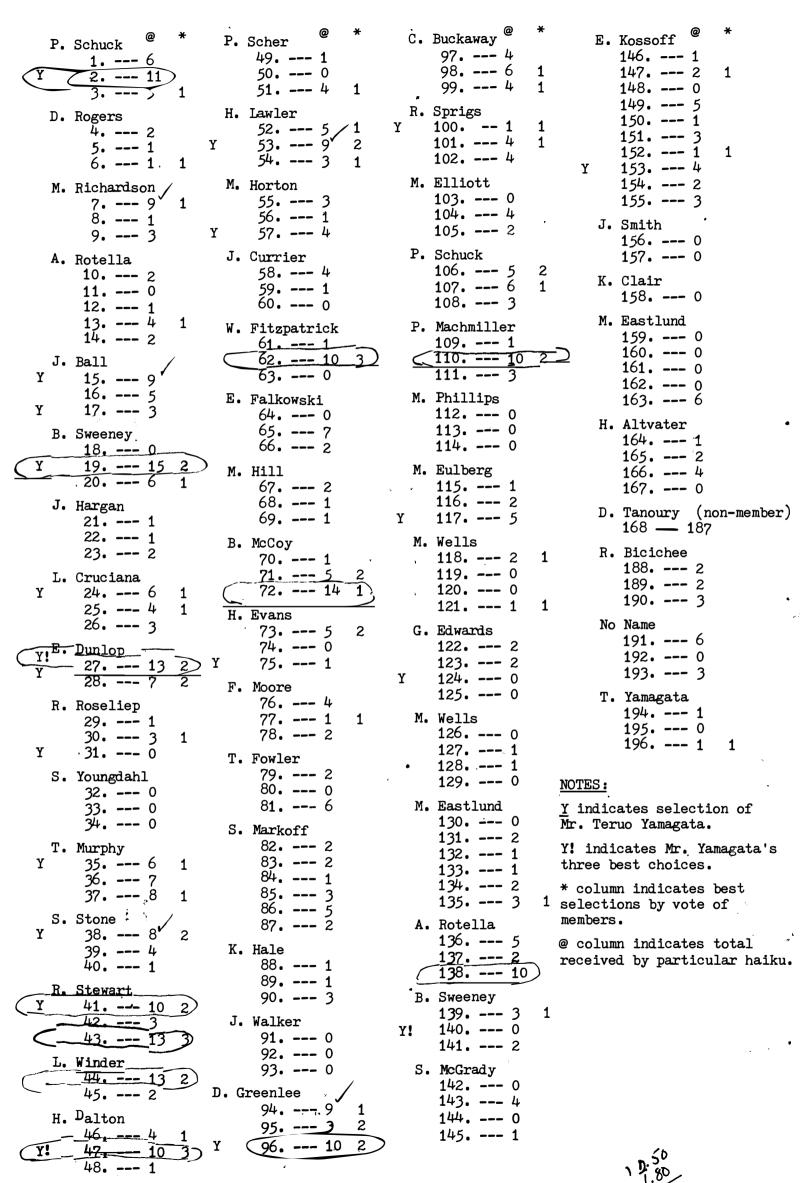
104. Under smooth white drifts leaves track their ageless cycle bird sings from bare branch

- 105. Above a warm fire north wind's low song in chimney old dog snores on hearth
- 106. Wind wails in chimney and whistles along the eaves winter blue concert
- 107. In winter vineyard old man strolls, hands in pockets blackbird dotted sky
- 108. The wild comes whooshing under my door bringing me -- delicate snowflakes!
- 109. Outside the window frozen prisms of light hang from the icy tree.
- 110. Catching the sun's rays,
 the icicles drip brightness
 into the bird bath.
- 111. Dying in the sand, the frost-nipped shasta daisy trembles in the wind.
- 112. A lone shooting star skiing down a slope of sky with its death message
- 113. Hugging each other
 Hiroshiman children camp
 in a common grave
- 114. an old man and wife pruning the dying branches: living their future
- a dying sunbeam tries to slip under my door in the winter dusk
- 116. in a cold stable
 a woman lies down, cries out:
 a new child echoes
- 117. The winter rain slants, tilting his black umbrella, he tried to shield her
- 118. Rusty icicle adheres to outside faucet just beyond sand box
- 119. Wind driven snowdrift climbs the barn's outside ladder into filled hayloft.
 - 120. Early winter storm
 Falling leaves are etched with white
 as they fall and fall.
- 121. No <u>snow--icicles</u>

 <u>frost</u> makes long barbs grow on trees
 grey fog all day long
 - 122. Cameras are out:

 <u>frost</u> barbs grow long on the trees
 old calendar turns

Results of December Evaluation



- No time to turn back 123. time to go to funeral icicles dripping
- 124. trickles cascade down glistening eyelashes wink icicled windows
- teal and doves migrate 125. caterpillars wear black wool thick ice forms on creek
- hunters' cars break through 126. ice on deep rivers and lakes chevrolet caskets
- 127. The old pioneers sit in a happy circle icicles outside
- 128. Polished and sharpened as the Great Bear starts twink 0 outdoor icicles
- 129. Going in and out the religious young and old
- under icicles アプ
- 130. his defeat hardens into lines around her mouth ኃ the taste of lemon
- 131. the stranded tow truck hung with a myriad of

CUS tiny icicles

- 132. after fifty years of marriage, I am alone -يداي the remaining snow
 - 133. The chimney smoking: icicles drip from the roof splashing muddy sprays
 - 134. The muffled figure walks warily down the road: sundogs strong and clear
 - The red togged skier 135. zigzag white covered hills eases to a halt

New Member

- 136. A weatherglass brook -glossy, or tossed by breezes -shattered by the rain
- A lunar mirage -on rumpled seas moonlets bob in frothy shadows
- An aged birch tree falls, relating a eulogy on its parchment scroll
- Enter the fireflies, stealing the show of evening, upstaking the stars

INSTRUCTIONS TO MEMBERS

- 1. Choose 14 haiku and identify the 3 best haiku by circling the number of the haiku.
- 2. Please write three YUKI TEIKEI Haiku only as is indicated in November GEPPO and submit them to us by the end of January, 1980.
- 3. Please do not forget your name on your paper.