GEPPO

the haiku study-work journal

of the

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

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Volume XXVIIII:1			<u> Ianuary-February 2004</u>			
Members' Haiku for Study and Appreciation – Jean Hale, Editor						
5463	deep grey winter sky	5472	pea sprouts			
	doctor's piercing words confirm		the Chinese waiter's eyes			
	time for long term care		are not there			
5464	computer spilling	547 3	they ask the soldier			
	slides taken in the fifties		for his stories of Iraq			
	the spiders' spinning		goldfinches return			
5465	the North wind	5474	geese return			
	moaning at the window		the weight of water			
	crying to get in		sunset			
5466	breaking through the greyness	5475	pale winter sun			
	Valentine's Days red hearts		on the palm tree			
	flutter on the flagpole		F-16's roar			
5467	after the thaw	5476	blue heron's shadow			
	muddy country roads -		shifts			
	who will get stuck next		in the sunset			
5468	after the thaw	5477	winter birds flying			
	muddy country roads -		far across the horizon			
	who will get stuck next		her fresh-brewed coffee			
5469	in the harsh wind	5478	night stillness—			
	the sound of winter grasses		another week of cold			
	all rustling at once		another blanket			
5470	grey winter day –	5479	the neighbor's cough			
	my extended face mirrored		heard through the wall-			
	in the kettle		ice on the window			
5471	daffodils in bloom	5480	brisk clatter of hail			
	the season unrelated		on the pool-hall windows –			
	to the girl's laughter		the hustler's white teeth			

5481	Epiphany gift – a bottle of placebos for the doctor	5492	from how far away did those three kings journey Mars landing
5482	February dawn – a woman lighting red candles in the cathedral	5493	chilly night I snuggle deeper in bed toward the sweet spot
5483	clamorous Schonberg told I must listen to more – paradise unclaimed	5494	silver lines waver in the flooded stubblefields Charlie Chaplin film
5484	women in black shawls bend to explain this new place children with adult eyes	5495	suddenly slipping into the fourth-dimension winter hibernation
5485	horned orange in the Buddha's hand - the Buddha's hand	5496	teacher talks on and on about the good old days chimney corner
5486	winter wild geese the ancient chant of plain song the beat of wings	5497	beyond the next hill an observation balloon early spring breeze
5487	steaming nori cupped between my hands this fog in my heart	5498	alone together sharing Valentine's Day with the whole world
5488	fat sardines crackling over charcoal fire nudist beach	5499	January sunset - watching planes taxi from my bed on wheels
5489	an eagle screams beyond thunder the rippling sky	5500	winter day — wind wrapping itself around the houses
5490	having settled things the moonlight in his open shirt	5501	seen through plum blossom my neighbour picking last year's fruit
5491	snow flurries an old sparrow's frozen song	5502	spring frost sheltering in its blanket the busker's guard dog

5503	winter day the slow movement of chess pieces	5514	old elm shaping the sky just beyond
5504	soaking beans for soup I notice my hands dry and wrinkled	5515	in the dark one hand touching another
5505	Pungent mist from tangerine peel transports me	5516	flying upriver swan of January with his neck stretched out
5506	oyster makes pearl from irritant sand I visualize a beach	5517	the bamboo fence fallen to pieces— withered field
5507	New Year's Day dishes in the drainer	5518	quarter moon the ice creaks
5508	extreme wind chill my thoughts extend too far ahead	5519	overweight lady buys vanishing cream labeled 'use till gone'
5509	Oscar night adjusting the cuffs of my pajamas	5520	nursing home she rereads the final chapter
5510	evening snow on top of the cedar on top of the lime kiln	5521	gossip's phone call a snail crosses the patio
5511	"Happy Groundhog Day!" I mail Mom a card with the prairie in bloom	5522	warbler on the cottage railing whistle duel
5512	early spring paintball splatters on the cottonwood	5523	plum blossoms the baby's hand reaches up
5513	outside church waiting	5524	midges in the sunset the sound of two ducks snapping

5525 serving coffee winter sunrise to workers shoveling snow we whisper ourselves awake spoonsful of sugar dream eating pillow Ross Figgins 5526 after the rain Tapir pillow fog fragments on the meadow braids in a tumble become sheep sixteen again 5527 Chatauqua Gloria Procsal the speaker discussing Alps tapir pillow, please keeps looking up drink deep at the water hole in last night's forest 5528 opposite windows Janeth Ewald the snow in the southern one descends slowly dream-eating pillow a graceful bird suspended 5529 ashram hallway above the wave crest he coughs like Anne Homan his deadbeat dad tapir pillow 5530 thickening darkness a dream voyage to children empty rattle of the street car beyond the ocean Barbara Campitelli towards the last stop tapir pillow **CHALLENGE KIGO** playing around my ear tapir pillow the tip of your tongue by Fay Aoyagi Patricia Prime dream eating pillow tapir pillow waking suddenly out of breath heavy covers bring leaden dreams my pillow all bunched up release me Joan C. Sauer Christine Doreian Michaels tapir pillow tapir pillow... plumped with a satisfied hand I tried it this golden morning but couldn't sleep Graham High John Stevenson our Japanese guest tapir pillow telling a dream of Fuji-I drift off into the summer her tapir pillow of trumpet vines Richard St. Clair **Cindy Tebo** sometimes they fly two tapir pillows those birds sitting on the lake we share a dream Tapir pillow of Fujiyama Roger Abe **Ruth Holzer**

one eye open on the wrinkled pillow light of the new day

Zinovy Vayman

Members' Votes for November-December

Barbara Campitelli - 5391-2 5392-1 5393-0 Joan Goswell - 5394-12 5395-1 5396-4 Ruth Holzer - 5397-6 5398-2 5399-1 Anne Homan – 5400-1 5401-4 5402-3 Cindy Tebo - 5403-3 5404-1 5405-2 Richard St. Clair - 5406-1 5407-4 5408-7 Y. Hardenbrook - 5409-2 5410-7 5411-4 Ianeth Ewald - 5412-8 5413-2 5414-2 Joan Sauer - 5415-1 5416-0 5417-0 Una Gast - 5418-0 5419-1 5420-1 Carolyn Thomas - 5421-2 5422-3 5423-4 Carolyn Hall - 5424-2 5425-2 5426-1 Zinovy Vayman - 5427-2 5428-0 5429-6 Naomi Brown - 5430-1 5431-0 5432-3 John Stevenson – 5433-2 5434-2 5435-0 Laura Bell - 5436-1 5437-0 5438-4 Ross Figgins - 5439-2 5440-1 5441-1 Michael D. Welch - 5442-7 5443 5444-1 Yukiko Northon - 5445-2 5446-1 5447-1 Robert Major - 5448-3 5449-0 5450-1 Psatricia Prime - 5451-1 5452-1 5453-5 Teruo Yamagata – 5454-1 5455-6 5456-1 Gloria Procsal - 5457-3 5458-2 5459-3 Joan Zimmerman - 5460-3 5461-0 5462-1

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER HAIKU VOTED BEST BY READERS OF GEPPO

all this snow –
only a wandering creek
to tell me where I am

Joan Goswell

winter sparrow hopping mad

Janeth Ewald

winter wind looking for dad's new headstone

Richard St. Clair

his last illness
a favorite fishing lure
hooked to the curtain

Yvonne Hardenbrook

thoughts of marriage – the wishbone broken evenly

Michael Dylan Welch

through the prism of the suncatcher – first snowfall

Ruth Holzer

Sea of Japan. . . two windmills are humming in the wind from Russia

Zinovy Vayman

the wheelchair goes on one more outing Indian summer

Teruo Yamagata

school bell mandarin orange peel left on the playground

Patricia Prime

another day longing for spring the lengthening icicles

Joan Goswell

around midnight she adjusts the IV drip slow winter moon

Anne Homan

atop the barren tree a noisy crow talks to no one

Richard St. Clair

storm clouds skimming the rooftops Canada geese

Yvonne Hardenbrook

winter rain warp of the door

Carolyn Thomas

in the dump an old umbrella fills with rain

Laura Bell

drought-brown hills the horses in the pasture bent to yellow hay

Michael Dylan Welch

SEASON WORDS for spring

selected from the lists In the Members' Anthology

Season: spring months: March, April, early spring, lengthening days, spring dream, spring dusk, spring evening, spring melancholy, tranquility, vernal

equinox.

Sky and Elements: bright, haze or thin mist, first spring storm, hazy moon, March wind, melting snow, lingering snow, spring breeze, spring cloud, spring frost, spring moon, spring rain, spring rainbow, spring sunbeam, warmth.

Landscape: flooded river/stream/brook, muddy/miry fields, muddy road, spring fields, spring hills, spring mountain, spring river, spring

sea, spring tide.

Human Affairs: plowing or tilling fields, sleeping Buddha, spring cleaning, windmill, April Fools Day/April fool, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter (~bonnet/clothes, ~eggs, coloring/hiding ~eggs, ~lily, ~parade, ~rabbit/chicken/duckling), Passover.

Animals: abalone, bee, baby animals (nestlings, fledglings, calf, colt, kitten, puppy, fawn, lamb, etc.), bush warbler, cats in love, crane, flying squirrel, frog, lizard, pheasant, robin, mud snail, soaring skylark, stork, swallow, tadpole, whitebait (a fish), nightingale, wild birds' return(geese, etc.).

Plants: asparagus, bracken, bramble, camellia, cherry blossoms/tree, crocus, daphne, blossoms or leaf buds of trees and shrubs (almond, apple, apricot, maple, oak, pear, pine, etc.), forget-menot, grass sprouts, mustard, parsley, plum blossoms/tree, California poppy, seaweed or laver(nori), shepherd's-purse, violet, pussy willows or catkins, willow.

PIEASE NOTE:

The papers and correspondence of Kiyoshi and Kiyoko Tokutomi are being preserved in the California State Library Haiku Archives. If you had correspondence with either or both of them, which you would like to preserve, please send to:

Karen Smith Haiku Archives Special Collections Branch California State Library PO Box 942837 Sacramento, CA 942837-0001 U.S.A.

Submission Guidelines for GEPPO

Deadline for next issue is April 10!.

 Print your name, address and all poems and votes on a single, full size sheet of paper. You can include:

 Haiku — up to three haiku appropriate to the season. Poems must be in three lines.

- Challenge Kigo Haiku one 3-line haiku that uses the current issue's Challenge Kigo.
 Try to use just the one season word. The poem will be printed with your name.
- Votes Write numbers of up to ten poems from the current issue that you especially appreciate. Each of the poems you select will receive 1 point. Poems with the top number of votes are reprinted with the author's name in the next issue.

Send to: Jean Hale

Dojins' Corner

by Patricia and Jerry Nov-Dec 2003

This month we received a letter from Yvonne Hardenbrook about an experience that John Stevenson's haiku

tired gossip the taste of bitten thread

brought back for her. We thought we would share an excerpt from it.

Yvonne Hardenbrook: I'd like to comment on [Patricia and Jerry's] take on the "tired gossip" gem. When I was little, my home, the parsonage, was often the site of a quilting bee. Older women in the church sat around a large rack cranked taut so a needle could be punched through and pulled back up by the seamstress. Sometimes, though, a small child was pressed into service under the rack to push the needle back up. Sometimes me.

When a woman threaded a needle, it was often handier to bite the thread rather than reaching for scissors. Thread was cotton in those days, and cotton often picked up other odors, so either way there was a taste. The reference to "tired gossip" meant to me that what the women talked about was often the same old things—tired gossip. But since these gettogethers didn't happen often, any subject of conversation was welcome, tired or not. If I recall correctly, quilting bees were a winter event, when warm weather chores didn't call women elsewhere. Interestingly, I first read "bitten" as "bitter," yet "taste" took me to "bitten" anyway.

pjm: Thank you, Yvonne, for writing. Your experience gives a context for John's haiku that adds dimension. And now on to this month's haiku.

jb: Here is my long list: 5391, 5397, 5402, 5403, 5406, 5423, 5425, 5429, 5430, 5438, 5442, 5457, 5459. With some difficulty I choose to write about: 5406, 5423, and 5425.

pjm: My long list, 5394, 5395, 5396, 5398, 5399, 5400, 5401, 5402, 5403, 5404, 5405, 5406, 5407, 5410, 5411, 5412, 5414, 5416, 5422, 5423, 5425, 5429, 5432, 5434, 5446, 5450, 5453, 5454, 5457, and 5458, was shortened to 5400, 5401, 5403, 5404, 5407, 5410, 5422, 5425, and 5454. I chose to write about 5400, 5404, and 5425.

5410 Soft spotted breast of the young red-shouldered hawk Gaza strip checkpoint

pjm: The many layers as well as the gravity of the subject matter give this haiku depth and resonance. In the first layer we see the literal image of a young hawk on a fence near a guarded gate in the desert. Just that image of life in the stark surroundings is grippingly immediate. But this isn't just any desert or just any gate—it's the Gaza Strip, a place that even if you haven't been there, conjures up images of a no-man's-land, a place hostile to life, a place of little or no hope. In the next layer of the poem we are drawn to compare the hawk to the guards at the checkpoint. (It is interesting that the guards are not mentioned, but we know they are there.) Both the hawk and the guards are young, both are—dare we say—predators? A chilling thought. And, yes, both are vulnerable. Heart-breakingly so. Which brings us to "red-shouldered" and the third level. That one phrase pulls into our ruminations the notions of wearing one's heart on one's sleeve (the vulnerability), the "red badge of courage" which calls up bravery, brashness, and fear all at once, and finally ribbons worn by decorated military heroes. In the last layer the hawk as a winter kigo matches and deepens the feeling of desolation. Only in the word "young" as ascribed to the central figure of this haiku are we able to see a glimmer of hope that winter, too, has an end.

jb: I can understand Patricia's comments about this haiku, yet it is not one of my favorites. I'm wondering if this is an eye witness account, or perhaps a subjunctive image? I have a hard time connecting the "soft spotted breast" ...the vulnerability ...with the dirty business of running a border check point. I don't say it can't be so connected, I simply own up to my own blindness here.

5404 restaurant calendar two black swans over the high chair

pim: One of the first things I look for when I read a haiku is how does the kigo relate to the image. If I find I can explain the relationship too easily my interest in the haiku falls away. But if I find the relationship is not immediately apparent, I am intrigued and I am willing to give the haiku some time to reveal itself. At first glance, this haiku seems to present a very ordinary scene in an ordinary restaurant: a high chair against a wall with a calendar hanging above it. The calendar has an image of two black swans. The scene has an Edward Hopper quality to it. So ordinary and so mysterious at the same time, And there are no people here; only objects that people made and that people use. Every day objects. A calendar that people use to keep track of time. and a high chair. Even the swans are not real. They are a reproduction of an image. They are an image within an image. They are a kigo for winter. What have they to do with the highchair? Is the high chair empty? Has a child been lost? Birds in many cultures are symbols of passage from this world to the spirit world. And in western culture swans are transformative figures—young maidens in many fairy tales in the form of swans were free beings. If, however, they lost their protective features, they could be caught and made to marry. Then there is the Zeus as swan myth. And black swans in aboriginal lore are the two sister-wives of the All-Father. Which myth best fits the interpretation of this haiku is an open question, but one that only needs to be answered by each individual reader. For my part, I am interpreting the swans as transporters of a child's soul to the spirit world. But over time and upon more reflection I could gain more understanding of the haiku's meaning and come to a different realization. This is haiku, I think, at its best.

jb: "two black swans" over the high chair...I immediately recall the duet in Menotti's opera "The Medium" ...the black swan as a portent of fear and doom. I wonder about the mood of the author when writing this? Has a child been lost? And, why a "restaurant" calendar? I agree with Patricia's speculations, and particularly her comment "which myth best fits

the interpretation of this haiku is an open question." I feel there's something more that I need to know to understand this verse.

5406 an early blizzard no one at home to take the pizza

jb: Here is the epitome of a good humored haiku. Generically, a haiku is a "fun verse" and this one is certainly that. One can read many possible narratives into a subtext for this verse, and that makes it interesting to me. Also, I like the language. There is a natural rhythm that I find appealing: a kireji at the end of the first line, and a smooth, even, sentence to complete the verse.

pjm: From my first reading of this haiku, I conclude the pizza guy got to the house before the people who ordered the pizza. The next layer down I perceive that nature has a way of reminding us that we are not in control of the future. In the third layer I find a little resonance between the blizzard (a winter fury) and the phrase "no one at home," but for me, the last line undercuts a haiku that could have led to a deeper, more profound realization.

5423 winter rain warp of the door

jb: While I have a quibble or two with this, I still think the combination of "winter rain" and the "warp ... of the door" is a strong one. I must admit that I find the austerity of the language a little sharp...(I'd rather see something more rhythmical than just "warp" for the second line) ... but still, overall this haiku is successful. I find the central idea compelling.

pjm: The pleasure of this haiku is in its sound: the way the "winter" "warps" into "door." In a similar way the image itself turns on the word "warp." The sound of the rain comes through more clearly because the warp in the door prevents a tight seal. And, in turn, we are aware that the warp has been caused by many seasons of winter rains.

5425 news from Iraq
Orion
hugs the horizon

jb: I confess that I have an affection for the constellation of Orion. I have watched it every winter since the third grade both casually and through a six-inch reflecting telescope. To me, Orion, the hunter, signifies winter. With the phrase "news from Iraq" it is appropriate that a "hunter" will "hug the horizon." This image calls to mind a summation of the Iraq war: "it's dangerous," "keep low," "hug the horizon," ... "take care!" The hunter becomes the hunted.

pjm: Orion, the legendary hunter, a swordsman, of Greek mythology, is a winter constellation. He ended up as a constellation because Diana, the huntress, was tricked by her brother, who didn't like Diana getting involved with Orion, into killing him. This convoluted story of deceit with life-and-death consequences matches well for our present day involvement in Iraq.

Please write to us with your comments on our comments at the GEPPO or e-mail us at

Editor's Note:

I apologize for the confusion I caused by forgetting to change my address on the membership renewal slip. Mail from the old address is being forwarded to me, presumably until next July, and I received many renewals.

If, however, the P. O. slipped up and returned vours to you, send again to me at

Challenge Kigo for Next Issue Cats in Love by Ebba Story

When I saw the photographer, Hans Silvester's newest book, Cats in Love, I decided to experiment with this seemingly odd kigo. His photos of freewheeling, love-silly cats in the radiant light of the Greek Isles enchanted and inspired me. Such languorous grace and ease in courtship as well as the raw compelling necessity to mate can lead our minds in many directions. Cats are cats - in Greece, Japan, the backyards of America. Their squalls and screeches give voice to the rising of the sap in spring and announce the new lives, the kittens, to come.

Between boiled barley and romance, the female cat has grown thin

Basho (1)

The she cat – grown thin from love and barley.

Basho (2)

Cats making love – when it's over, hazy moonlight in the bedroom.

Basho (3)

Out from the darkness back into the darkness – affairs of the cat

Issa (4)

cats in love the tug of my comb through tangled hair

Ebba Story

The first two examples are different translations of the same haiku.

#1 and #4 are from A Haiku Menagerie: Living Creatures in Poems and Prints by Stephen Addiss with Fumiko and Akira Yamamoto.

#2 and #3 are from The Essential Haiku: Versions of Basho, Buson, & Issa edited by Robert Hass.

Calendar

March 13

130 PM - Meeting at Markham House, San Jose History Center, 1650 Senter Road.

Newcomers welcome.

Prepare for this meeting by

Prepare for this meeting by choosing two kigo and writing about them. You can write in paragraphs or make a list. There is no wrong way to do it.. Jot down all the connotations that each kigo brings to your mind – memories, feelings, events, colors paintings, poems, music, places, smells, etc.

Bring your ideas to the meeting and **Anne Homan** will lead a sharing.

April 10

130 PM – Haiku Teen Workshop at Martin Luther King Library, 4th and San Fernando, San Jose. All newcomers welcome. **Roger Abe** will host..

May 8

1000 AM - Writing workshop, Japanese Teahouse, Friendship Garden, Kelly Park, Senter Road, San Jose.

100 PM - Garden walk with nature leader.

130 PM - Reading by Carole Steele, Laurie Stoelting and Renku Group.
Carole Steele, the current vice-president of Yuki Teikei Haiku Society, is a student of both haiku and ikebana.
Laurie Stoelting, is an award-winning poet and author of Light on the Mountain (Swamp Press, 2000).

June 12

130 PM - Meeting & Garden Walk, Hakone Gardens, Route 9, Saratoga

July 10

600 PM - Tanabata Party at home of Anne Homan. Newcomers welcome.

Aug. 28

600 PM - Moon Viewing celebration at home of Patricia Machmiller,

Newcomers welcome.

Oct. 9

130 PM – Haiku Workshop & Kukai, Markhm House, San Jose History Park, Senter Rd.

Nov. 12-15

Asilomar Retreat

Dec. 11

Christmas Party – TBD

Visit the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society website at youngleaves.org.

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society 2003 Members Anthology

Migrating Mist

including a special section of haiku honoring Kiyoko Tokutomi is available for sale at \$7.00 including postage.

Contact:

Jean Hale

Haiku Publications Available from The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

Young Leaves; An Old Way of Seeing New - edited by June Hopper Hymas and Patricia Machmiller - Writings on Haiku in English, The 25th Anniversary Special Edition of Haiku Journal. 2000. \$19.50 plus postage. A few with an inscription by Kiyoko Tokutomi are available for \$29.50 plus postage. Postage for U.S. add \$3.95; elsewhere add \$5.00

Kiyoko's Sky; The Haiku of Kiyoko Tokutomi - translations by Patricia Machmiller and Fay Aoyagi - Introduction by June Hopper Hymas - other contributors are Yukiko Tokutomi-Northon and Shugyo Takaha. 2002. Brooks Books. \$16.00*

2001 Members' Anthology; Spring Sky - edited by June Hopper Hymas. \$6.00*

2002 Members' Anthology; The Heron Leans Forward... - edited by Anne M. Homan and donnalynn chase. \$6.00*

2003 Members' Anthology; Migrating Mist - edited by Anne M. Homan and donnalynn chase - includes haiku honoring Kiyoko Tokutomi. \$7.00*

Haiku Live! This performance by Emi Goto and YT members in October, 2003, can be appreciated by a program created by Patrick Gallagher of all the "written words" in both the Japanese and English. It features the lives and poetry of Basho, Santoka, and Hosai & haiku from contemporary poets. \$5.00*

Blush of Winter Moon - haiku by Patricia Machmiller. 2001. Jacaranda Press. \$17.00*

How Fast the Ground Moves - haiku by D. Claire Gallagher. A Virgil Hutton Haiku Memorial Award Chapbook Contest Winner 2001-2002. \$5.00*

Found copies - limited quanities!!!

Haiku Journal, Vol. 1 (1977). \$25.00 plus \$1.00 postage

Haiku Journal, Vol. 2 (1978). \$10.00 plus \$1.00 postage
Haiku Journal, Vol. 3 (1979). \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage
Haiku Journal, Vol. 4 (1980). \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage
Haiku Journal, Vol. 5 (1981-82). \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage
Haiku Journal, Vol. 6 (1986). \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage
Haiku Journal, Vol. 3 through 6. \$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage
Haiku Journal, a complete set. \$50.00 plus \$3.00 postage

Season Words in English Haiku by Jun-ichi Sakuma and Yuki Teikei Haiku Society (1980). This work lists the results of a survey of all the haiku in English language literary journals to determine what kigo was being used in the United States, Canada, and Australia. \$6.00*

To order any of these publications, make your check out to Yuki Teikei
Haiku Society

and mail to: Jean Hale,

