

G E P P O

the haiku study-work journal of the
Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

Volume XXXVI:1

January—February 2011

Members' Haiku for Study and Appreciation – donnalynn chase, Editor

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|---|
| 8376 | saying his name
for the kaddish*
the tree trunk's deep separations
<i>*Hebrew prayer for the dead</i> | 8384 | drummer's rhythms
stir the white haired gypsy –
scarlet camellias |
| 8377 | that old man
with his fly open. . .
I inspect myself | 8385 | my father's workboots
wait side by side near his chair –
tule fog years |
| 8378 | the cold
a flock of pigeons
waiting on cables | 8386 | New Year's eve –
tossing a crumpled intention
into the fire |
| 8379 | storm clouds
darken the afternoon –
the long drive home | 8387 | old year, new year –
balancing on a tight rope
precariously |
| 8380 | not quite spring –
sudden hail
and talk of baseball | 8388 | dabs of pink icing
on her lips and apron –
her lucky Valentine |
| 8381 | Buddha's birthday
the cats look at the new food
then at me | 8389 | 'kind of blue'
winter wind plays
the fan vent |
| 8382 | DIY spring –
the buzz of power tools
stripping screws | 8390 | spring snow
the indoor rose
drops its bud |
| 8383 | in the park quiet
children's voices more poignant –
pink camellias | 8391 | winter moon
a whiff of wood smoke
brightens the dark |
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|---|---|
| <p>8392 birds burrow
deep into shrubs
winter morning</p> | <p>8403 Winter wind debris
rattles against our windows –
car alarms blaring.</p> |
| <p>8393 cold small hours
the clocks chime
off-key</p> | <p>8404 stopping to admire
the softly shimmering branch –
winter bees</p> |
| <p>8394 at Starbucks, again
hoping for a handout
– winter sparrows</p> | <p>8405 first dream of the year –
the family leaving the building
is dressed all in white</p> |
| <p>8395 I pity myself more
after my skewed story –
winter rain</p> | <p>8406 old men in the cafe,
round tables surrounding mine –
Dad's surgery, soon!</p> |
| <p>8396 "banality of being"
suddenly –
thunder snow</p> | <p>8407 mirrors
show and tell
mirrors</p> |
| <p>8397 February sun
a cat on-the-dumpster squints
while rocking sideways</p> | <p>8408 February third
the day of airbags
plans canceled</p> |
| <p>8398 against the foothills
a red tailed hawk
and his shadow</p> | <p>8409 in her
watercolors
spring fever</p> |
| <p>8399 we say goodbye to you
under the apple tree
winter chill</p> | <p>8410 departing winter. . .
the last chunk of river ice
clings to its rock</p> |
| <p>8400 barely visible
soft fuzz of a peach bud
almost a secret</p> | <p>8411 dusk. . .
smile of the Cheshire cat
in the winter sky</p> |
| <p>8401 Light shadows abound –
a waxing white winter moon
might brighten the night.</p> | <p>8412 midwinter melt. . .
a snow bank sprouts
missing newspapers</p> |
| <p>8402 White wings unfolding –
origami in reverse,
winter birds lift off.</p> | <p>8413 Mewing to go out
yet the cat balks at the door
wind-swept snow blasts in</p> |
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- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| 8414 | My first UFO. . .
at further glance, a spider
web-rides on the wind | 8425 | depth of winter
the cormorant and I
watching cold waters |
| 8415 | Sudden, heavy rain
the roadway's now a river
chunks of ice float by | 8426 | winter clouds
are wiping the lake's face
gray handkerchiefs |
| 8416 | kitten tosses yarn
delight floods vacant faces
the winter garden | 8427 | winter morning
in a landscape painted white
one red barn |
| 8417 | in Memory Care
fluttering hands celebrate
weekly manicure | 8428 | a final gift
this small rock of gratitude
– winter mountain |
| 8418 | body warms at hearth
new kitten curled on lap
warmth suffuses soul | 8429 | winter solitude
only when alone do I
double lock the doors |
| 8419 | early spring –
a marriage proposal
written in the sand . . . | 8430 | young cherry –
the tag's ripening date reads
eight hundred hours |
| 8420 | windy autumn
in his notebook
a blond strand of hair | 8431 | windless morning
a sparrow lands on the tip
of a leafless twig |
| 8421 | early spring –
a smiling Buddha
under a cherry blossom | 8432 | hard frost –
the animal I glimpse
in the mirror |
| 8422 | a hazed winter moon
she finally decides
to find her own therapist | 8433 | a plume of snow
blown from the mountain's flank
sunrise |
| 8423 | the exuberance
of a yellow daffodil
in January | 8434 | windowless hospice
in fluorescent light
her warming face |
| 8424 | winter stone
the size, the weight
of his faithfulness | 8435 | Enlightenment Day
the monk in midlife crisis
his Armani suit |
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- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 8436 | full of opinions
the aging handyman slips
and hammers his thumb | 8447 | venturing
towards the glacier's tongue
Japanese tourists |
| 8437 | barefoot
i walk in winter rain
laughter in the thunder | 8448 | Found!
in my old navy pea coat
my lucky stone |
| 8438 | winter. . .
i crawl out of bed
on to a cold floor | 8449 | odd pair
snow goose and cackling goose
amidst the coots |
| 8439 | the nest left behind
on the branch of a bare tree
a treasured found art | 8450 | geese leaving the pond
my favorite tweed jacket
unravelling |
| 8440 | after spring rain
frogs screaming their sex song
can't get back to sleep | 8451 | Battery warning light
flickering all the way home
red cardinals |
| 8441 | in the lush field
following the tapping . . .
of green grasshoppers | 8452 | Cliff-top sea breezes
suddenly lift the fog –
my still-cluttered mind |
| 8442 | in the mirror
all those years looking
back at me | 8453 | Filming each other
at the spiritual retreat –
narcissus |
| 8443 | fewer cards this year
from the East Coast
fallen leaves | 8454 | breaking frozen
white sheets from the clothes line. . .
broken winter dreams |
| 8444 | intake of breath
braking for a squirrel
autumn reverie | 8455 | involuntary
movements can't be controlled. . .
hoarfrost |
| 8445 | bare tree –
lodged in a fork
empty bird's nest | 8456 | in and out of sleep
the sounds of gentle laughter
first dream |
| 8446 | desolate field
a single track
made by walkers | 8457 | she tries to be chaste
but finds it's better being
chased by his kisses |
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|------|---|------|---|
| 8458 | schizo Mobius
his arguments are twisted
what side is he on | 8469 | seeing the buddha
in the reflecting pool –
endless horizon |
| 8459 | haiku is precise
masters give all of the rules
a creative vise | 8470 | following Basho
only my dreams wander
the autumn woods |
| 8460 | stray grasses
at the winter festival –
hula dancers | 8471 | moonless night –
only myself
and the plum blossoms |
| 8461 | snow strips
fall off the swing set;
party night | 8472 | orange sunset
voices of sledding children
grow faint |
| 8462 | long icicles
above the rosebush
become the rosebush | 8474 | squirrel!
you bury the acorn
in artful precision |
| 8463 | shrinking farmlands
new housing development
planted in corn fields | 8475 | the house groans
in a frigid gale
my candle burns low |
| 8464 | hundreds of black birds
descend on the neighborhood –
a sign of what... | 8476 | astronomical observation
no longer manned
snow mountain |
| 8465 | Westminster Abbey
a place that gives you chills
even in summer | 8477 | drafting board
moved a little to one side
poinsettia |
| 8466 | snowy barn
a bird in the rafters
finds something to talk about | 8478 | no change in houses
along the old road
snow flurry |
| 8467 | and in the morning
nothing but snow
to the horizon | 8479 | blue winter morning
a young white pine throws
its grown-up shadow |
| 8468 | snow-white night
the path
before me | 8480 | remaining snow –
in a speckled alder clump
chickadees thronging |
-

8481 hazy afternoon –
a man in a derby hat
seated on sea rocks

8482 A crow and a gull
sharing a chimney pot
having a good smoke.

8483 Empty shell cases,
lingering acrid smoke –
another year is here.

8484 Streams of snot and tears,
frozen ears, fingers and toes –
first snows of winter.

Challenge Kigo Haiku – Hearth

hearth light flickering
over his unguarded face –
the wine cork's soft pop

~ pjm

television hearth
mesmerizes many minds –
commercial break

~ Janis Lukstein

nothing but the hearth
and chimney left standing. . .
ash rain

~ Betty Arnold

quarter moon
turning another side
to the hearth

~ Michele Root-Bernstein

Russian stove:
they forgot to pull the flap
and get poisoned by fumes

~ Zinoviy Vayman

in front of the hearth
a box of old letters
and my broken heart

~ Marcia Behar

Embers draw you in –
the glowing hearth primeval,
darkness pushed away.

~ David D. Sherertz

home town –
when did the smell of wood smoke
become unfamiliar?

~ Susanne Smith

story time
by the hearth –
but grandpa's gone

~ Barbara Campitelli

Assisted Living
left our hearth cold
new kitten warms it

~ Christine Doreian Michaels

Members' Votes for November – December Haiku

Mimi Ahern – 8292-2, 9293-4, 8294-8
Michael Sheffield – 8295-5, 8296-13, 8297-8
June Hopper-Hymas – 8298-4, 8299-4, 8300-1
Barbara Campitelli—8301-1, 8302-2, 8303-0
Gregory Longenecker – 8304-6, 8305-9, 8306-3
Marcia Behar – 8307-1, 8308-5, 8309-3
Judith Morrison Schallberger – 8310-2, 8311-5,
8312-3
Zinoviy Vayman – 8313-3, 8314-0, 8315-0
Edward Grastorf – 8316-10, 8317-1, 8318-4
Elaine Whitman – 8319-4, 8320-5, 8321-1
Laurabell – 8322-2, 8323-1, 8324-11
Alison Woolpert – 8325-3, 8326-5, 8327-1
Elinor Pihl Huggett – 8328-5, 8329-2, 8330-5
Majo Leavick – 8331-3, 8332-0, 8333-1
Jeanne Cook – 8334-1, 8335-7, 8336-1
Richard St. Clair – 8337-5, 8338-4, 8339-5
Joan Zimmerman – 8340-1, 8341-7, 8342-8
Neal Whitman – 8343-7, 8344-1, 8345-4
Michael McClintock – 8346-4, 8347-1, 8348-5
Deborah P. Kolodji – 8349-7, 8350-3, 8351-2
Steven E. Cottingham – 8352-4, 8353-3, 8354-0
Bill Peakham – 8355-0, 8356-1, 8357-0
Joan C. Sauer – 8358-3, 8359-4, 8360-0
Teruo Yamagata – 8361-4, 8362-4, 8363-3
Jean Hale – 8364-0, 8365-5, 8366-0
Yvonne Hardenbrook – 8367-4, 8368-10, 8369-3
Joan H. Ward – 8370-2, 8371-2, 8372-3
Laurabell – 8373-3, 8374-0, 8375-1

my cat sits calmly
in my lap purring
the hearth itself

~ Majo Leavick

a night light
in the cold fireplace
my heart still beats

~ Jeanne Cook

by my warm hearth
your empty chair
a lingering draft

~ Ed Grossmith

by the warm hearth
the dog as close as can be
without burning himself

~ Joan C. Sauer

an age related
environmental change
– the hearth's gas insert

~ Alison Woolpert

pool of light
even on skid row
a hearth

~ Steven E. Cottingham

charred spots
in the woven hearth rug
wind down the flu

~ Christopher Herold

friends gather
by the patio hearth –
a comfort recalled

~ Joan H. Ward

Grandpa's ritual
reading Whittier's Snow-Bound
by the warming hearth

~ Richard St. Clair

**November – December 2010 Haiku
Voted Best by GEPPPO Readers**

the hearth
of civilization. . .
women

~ Genie Nakano

winter solstice
the weight of an orange
in my palm

~ Michael Sheffield

by the cold hearth
they decide how everything
will be divided

~ David Bachelor

another birthday
the bus driver
lowers the step

~ Laurabell

big freeze
no room at the hearth
the sleeping dogs

~ Laurabell

The year's longest night
a shaft of moonlight brightens
the wreath on the door

~ Edward Grastorf

all that remains
of the settler's cottage
a brick hearth

~ Patricia Prime

rain-blackened woods
in the fog the raven breaks off
from the branch

~ Yvonne Hardenbrook

not much heat
from the gas hearth. . .
we hang around anyway

~ Gloria Jaguden

lunch
with my aging mother
deep snow

~ Gregory Longenecker

the hearth warms the hearts
coupled lovers are aglow
hot embers remain

~ Maurice H. Garnholz

morning rain
maple leaves fall
as the bread rises

~ Mimi Ahern →

Voted Best – continued

August afternoon
tall sun flowers stretching
the length of summer

~ Michael Sheffield

Off-key piano
songs my Dad
almost sang

~ Joan Zimmerman

a white cat
scurries over moonflower stalks. . .
first snowfall

~ Jeanne Cook

High moorland
an old wooden fence
woolgathering

~ Joan Zimmerman

a yowling stray
the saucer of milk
iced over

~ Neal Whitman

his oxygen tube
stretches the length of the house
winter seclusion

~ Deborah P. Kolodji

February Kukai

An informal kukai was held for the YTHS February meeting at Kelly Park, and it was a gorgeous afternoon to write outside. Our selection of kigo was large: early spring/false spring, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, pussy willow, blossom (almond, plum, camellia, narcissus), wild mustard, lambs, cats in love. The two haiku that received the most votes were written by our Dojins; shown in order of the most votes.

even in the shade
there is a brightness
narcissus

~ Jerry Ball

field of wild mustard –
how many wishes whispered
how many answered

~ pjm

Challenge Kigo - First Signs of Spring

By June Hopper Hymas

For the first time in forty-five years, we have spent the winter in a snowy climate, that of Northern Michigan. A few days ago, right in the exact middle of February, there was a sudden warm day, bright sun, no wind. The roads and sidewalks were dry. We happened to be in town, running errands. Everywhere we went, people were smiling.

first spring-like day
near the grocery store
strangers greet me

~ jhh

When I texted my grandson, who has lived here his whole life, about this, he texted back, "it's so funny how everybody is in such a good mood when it's the first sign of spring."

The coming of spring is a beloved time for anyone who lives in a temperate climate. Illustrating this, the 500 Essential Japanese Season Words have several specific terms for this time of year: Spend as much time as you can with this excellent list of season words. Just Google: 500 Essential Japanese Season Words – the link is impossible to remember. These most valuable season words were selected by Kenkichi Yamamoto, and our friend Kris Young Kondo translated them working together with William J. Higginson. Here are a few from that list:

- coming of spring *risshun*
- shallow spring, barely spring, spring is "thin"
haru asashi
- spring-like *harumeku*

And below is a translation posted by Fay Aoyagi on her very excellent blog at: http://fay_aoyagi.wordpress.com/.

all the ocean's ripples are
fragments of the sun
on the first day of spring

~ Tetsuo Hasegawa*

sazanami wa mina risshun no hi no kakera

As you can see, there is more than one good way to express this concept in English for your haiku!

*from "Haiku Dai-Saijiki" ("Comprehensive Haiku Saijiki"), Kadokawa Shoten, Tokyo, 2006

Yuki Teikei Haiku Retreat 2011
Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA
September 8-11
(Thursday – Sunday)

SAVE THESE DATES!!!! Register by June 8, 2011

Special highlights include:

- A unique opportunity to study and learn more about writing haiku from an exceptional teacher, **Christopher Herold**. In his career he has taught many classes and workshops on haiku. He is one of the founding editors of *The Heron's Nest* and has written a number of volumes of his own poetry, including *A Path in the Garden* and *The Margins of the Sea*. His most recent book is *Inside Out*, published by Red Moon Press in October 2010. Currently, he is the coordinator for monthly meetings of the Port Townsend Haiku Group and the Port Townsend Renku Club.

- A kukai by the esteemed Madame Judge—our good friend and honored guest from Tokyo, Japan—**Emiko Miyashita**.

Total cost for the conference plus room and meals for 3 nights/ 4 days is \$450. A minimum of \$100 down payment is required to reserve your space by June 8.

For further information e-mail
Carol Steele _____ Wendy Wright _____
or check out the YT web site a
or send your registration along with a deposit of \$100
(make checks payable to Yuki Teikei Haiku Society) to:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Cell: _____
e-mail: _____
Special Considerations: _____
Vegetarian Meals: Yes _____ No _____ Ground Floor Accommodations: Yes _____ No _____
Amount enclosed: _____

Trip to the Haiku Archives

Saturday, April 9, 2011, 12:00 to 2:00 PM
California State Library, 900 N Street,
Sacramento

The Library is opening just for us. We will get a special tour of the archived haiku materials usually not accessible to the public. You will get to see some of the Tokutomi papers as well as other papers, such as those of Jerry Kilbride, Kay Anderson, and Elizabeth Searle Lamb. You will learn about the process involved in archiving and cataloguing material. Hope you can make this very special trip. Since the trip from San Jose is about two hours and 45 minutes, people should consider bringing a snack to munch on the way up; then we can have lunch afterward somewhere in Sacramento before returning to San Jose. The street parking is metered; bring 8 quarters for two hours. Carpooling is recommended. Contact Patricia Machmiller for additional information.

Haiku Reading In Berkeley

Sunday, May 15, 4:00 pm
Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts

This reading will feature three poets: Susan Antolin reading from *Artichoke Season*, Bruce Feingold, from *Sunrise on the Lodge*, and Patricia Machmiller, from *The San Francisco Bay Area Nature Guide and Sajiki*.

Editor's Notes

Thank You Ebba Story for last year's Challenge Kigo column!!!

I have enjoyed working with you and look forward to your contributions in the future.

In regards to Kigo — the *San Francisco Bay Area Nature Guide and Sajiki*,

edited by Anne M. Homan, Patrick Gallagher & Patricia Machmiller, can be purchased from YTHS for \$37 (inc. shipping). Send check payable to "YTHS" c/o GEPP0 editor. Published by YTHS last year, it can be previewed at and also purchased from www.lulu.com. It is a beautiful and GREAT resource!

Submit Haiku & Haibun for the 2011 YTHS Anthology

YTHS invites members to submit haiku and micro-haibun for this year's anthology. Send submissions by April 30th, 2011 via email with subject line "YT haiku" or "YT haibun" to J. Zimmerman with copy (cc) to Judith Schällberge.
(or if no email, mail to GEPP0 editor.)

Haiku criteria:

- Send 4 to 6 unpublished haiku not in submission elsewhere. (Printed in *GEPP0* is OK.) Haiku should contain one and only one *kigo*.
- Each haiku should be written in three lines.
- Overall length should be 17 syllables or less. Send text only; no file attachments. Include contact information: name, mailing address, telephone, and email address (if available).

Micro-Haibun criteria:

- Submit 1 to 3 unpublished haibun not in submission elsewhere.
- Prose text can be 20 to no more than 180 words.
- The haiku qualities should match the haiku criteria above (including 3 lines and a *kigo*).

YTHS Membership Fee is Due

YTHS membership is for one calendar year: January to January. The fee provides each member with six issues of *GEPP0* (only members can submit), notification of events, and the annual membership anthology. Domestic dues \$26 – International \$31. Mail to: donnalynn chase

THANK YOU to all of you who have sent in donations for postage, scholarships and special projects along with your dues!

Inside Out

Christopher Herold's new book, *Inside Out*, has 146 haiku and senryu; 30 which are new to this collection. *Inside Out*, published by Red Moon Press, is a möbius strip of a book that shows that the interior is the outside as well as the inside. And vice versa. It can be ordered for \$12 + shipping & handling (\$3 U.S.A, \$4 Canada or Mexico, \$5 elsewhere). Please make your check payable to Christopher Herold, and mail it to:

Dojins' Corner
November—December 2010
Jerry Ball and Patricia Machmiller

jb: My selections are: 8294, 8305*, 8312, 8323, 8324, 8328, 8333, 8343*, 8346, 8348, 8352, 8353, 8361, 8365*

pjm: And mine are: 8295, 8296, 8299, 8302, 8305, 8310, 8311, 8327, 8328, 8341, 8346, 8347, 8349*, 8351, 8359*, 8361, 8362, 8371*.

An asterick (*) indicates haiku chosen for comment.

8305 lunch
with my aging mother
deep snow

jb: There were a number of haiku that I would like to comment upon. One of the first I selected is this one which I took for its simplicity. Having been in this position, talking to an aging mother, I can only echo the strength of feeling for me. It is expressed by the kigo "deep snow." For me, there is no need to say more. For the *GEPP0* readers I feel the need to point out the simplicity. A successful haiku doesn't have to be complicated.

pjm: In this meeting of two people, the pangs of isolation and despair are conveyed with two words: deep snow. The remoteness is not explained nor is an explanation necessary. Whatever the cause—mental illness, aging, depression, or misunderstandings long festering—the distance between mother and child, the deep and sorrowful feelings, the helplessness at not being able to bridge the chasm—all are contained in the one cold, opaque, and soundless image—deep snow.

8343 a yowling stray
the saucer of milk
iced over

jb: This is the second haiku, this month, that I've selected for its simplicity. Nothing spectacular, just a brief statement of the situation. A simple narrative. It's what T.S. Eliot calls the "objective correlative," and Shiki calls "shasei": nature sketch. No need for written explanation, the statement of fact is affect enough. No need for metaphor. Yet there is a trope, a turning.

The "saucer of milk", is "iced over."

pjm: This haiku leaves me wondering: was the saucer of milk intended for the family cat? Or was the stray anticipated? Surely in this day of ubiquitous weather forecasting, the icing could have been predicted. Perhaps the stray was later than usual. Maybe that's the subtext here: whatever our intentions, things can go a-stray!

8349 his oxygen tube
stretches the length of the house
winter seclusion

pjm: The oxygen tube is both life-giver and life-limiter, both a source of liberation and a determiner of confinement. Freedom in a box is echoed by the kigo. Winter's confinement can be a source of frustration, but also it can be a time of incubation and renewal, an oxygen tube, if you will, for spiritual growth. The poet has also skillfully constrained the haiku in the traditional 5-7-5 form adding to and complementing the central notion of the haiku of freedom within a box.

jb: Here we have a 5 - 7 - 5 haiku with kigo. At first sight, I am not strongly moved by the image, which seems to me to be a little artificial. However, the more I think about it, the better I like it. The change of heart comes with placing myself into the situation. The more into it I went, the less artificial the image.

8359 tattered scarecrow
still guarding the crops –
black bird on his shoulder

pjm: The continual battle of the human trying to manage the wild is depicted here with a little bit of understated wryness. I guess it's this tone that captured my heart—and the idea of soldiering on in spite of the hopelessness of the cause—a Don Quixote of the fields. And that blackbird—is he the enemy turned sidekick? An entrancing image making for an amusing, yet deeply profound, cogitation.

jb: I think of Iowa, or Nebraska. There are plenty of "tattered scarecrows" on family farms, and they are still "guarding the crops." Of course, the "blackbird", apparently, doesn't seem to notice.

→

8365 "after you"
the deer waits
until I pass

jb I must admit my admiration for this verse was born on a trip to Japan in 1997 when I met Ishihara Yoshioka Sensei. He expressed his view of haiku, roughly, as follows: "Some persons write the false as if it were true. That is not haiku. In haiku we express the true as if it were false." It seems he was concerned with the use of images and metaphor in a manner quite opposed to the "shasei." In any case, this verse requires some thought. What does it mean to say, "the deer waits/ until I pass"? Do we really know what goes on in the "mind" of the deer? Is the deer "waiting"? Well, we really don't know, but the consideration of the thought leads us more deeply into a truly mysterious universe. The more I probe the more I feel a kinship with the deer.

pjm: Another depiction of a human encounter with the wild. Again the wild seems to be the superior force and ultimate winner. It's as if nature, in deer form, is saying, "In the long run I will prevail." Let's hope it's true.

8371 invading my sleep
the icy tree branch rapping
at my window

pjm: This encounter of the human with nature has spiritual overtones. The tree's rapping calls the poet from sleep. Is it a warning—wake before it's too late? Is it a chiding—you sleep when you should be preparing? Or a beckoning reminiscent of the Ghost of Christmas Past? All these allusions are called up by the image. With them we are put on notice—wake up, don't dally, pay attention, be ready: change/action may be required.

jb: This is an image in sound: the "rapping, at my window." For me, this verse is a little artificial. If I hear the rapping, then how do I notice the "branch" is "icy"?

pjm: Wouldn't the sound of an icy branch would be different than a bare branch or a leafy branch?

Jerry and Patricia invite your comments. Contact us at

or send your letters to
donnalynn chase in care of *GEPP0*.

Annual Haiku in the Teahouse Sunday May 14, 2011

The annual Teahouse haiku reading will be held in the Japanese Friendship Garden in Kelley Park, San Jose on Saturday, May 14. The featured poets are: Patricia J. Machmiller, Carol Steele, Billie Dee, and Susanne Smith. This event is sponsored by YTHS, Poetry Center San Jose, and San Jose Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Service.

Preceding the reading is the garden walking tour and haiku workshop which begins at 10:00 am and ends at noon. The featured readers start reading at 1:30 pm and is then followed by an open reading. The event ends at 4:30 pm. Parking is \$6.00 or \$10.00. For more information,

Submission Guidelines for GEPP0

due date for next issue is April 10

Email (preferred) your contact information,
poems & votes to

OR mail your
poems & votes with contact info to

You can submit:

- Up to three haiku appropriate to the season; poems must be in three lines. They will be printed without your name and identified with a number for appreciation and study.
- One Challenge Kigo Haiku which uses the current issue's Challenge Kigo. Poem will be printed with your name.
- Up to ten votes for haiku in current issue that you especially appreciate. Each poem you choose will receive a point (vote); submit the number of the haiku as the vote. Poems with top number of votes are reprinted with author's name in next issue.
- Black & white artwork by email as jpg or send artwork with SASE for its return. Not all artwork will be accepted due to space and relevance as decided by editor.
- Book reviews and announcements of YTHS members publications; acceptance based on space and relevance as decided by editor.

Editor's Pick from 2010 GEPPPOs

After having the privilege of being with your poetry last year – over 500 poems; 471 submitted along with 92 challenge haiku – I wanted to give you feedback and encouragement as GEPPPO's editor. I know who routinely sends submissions, have noticed improvements, and appreciate everyone's effort. It has been a privilege to be a part of this inclusive learning community. Though it is very impractical to communicate to each of you individually, I intend this to be a letter to each of you. So – with that. . .

I reviewed all the haiku submitted to GEPPPO for the 2010 issues, including the challenge kigo haiku. It was interesting to reflect on what I selected after several readings of the six issues. As I began to make choices, I saw that I had preferences for what I thought a good haiku should consist of. I also realized that after 15 years of writing haiku, that I have a strong bias for kigo. Not because it is an element of the traditional style, but because kigo heightens my response to the poem.

My preferences, which I am sure will change or expand with time (as everything does), are:

- Needs a kigo (and only one kigo)
- The middle line is longer than the first or third (not sure if this is a breath or visual inclination)
- Resonates with my own personal experience (i.e. feels true to my senses, heart & soul)

Because of the large quantity of unique and well-crafted haiku, I imposed rules upon myself in order to limit my selection. The self-imposed guidelines:

- One haiku per poet.
- No more than three haiku per issue.
- Attempted to NOT choose haiku that the Dojin's commented on or had the most member's votes.

Hope you enjoy these poems which I have chosen. Oh – also, in response to an invitation by The Haiku Foundation, I submitted 10 haiku to be considered for the first annual Touchstone Awards for Individual Poems. At press time, they were not yet posted at: <http://www.thehaikufoundation.org/awards/touchstone-poem-awards/>. It would be great if YTHS members were awarded!

Thank you, enjoy, keep writing, and please submit to GEPPPO for our study and appreciation!

XXXV:1

winter sun –
a handsome youth emerges
from the old man's face
~ Peggy Heinrich

first plum blossoms –
the urge to try something new
with my grey strands
~Judith Morrison Schallberger

the dark
between dreams
deep winter
~ Desiree McMurry

XXXV:2

smoke streaked sunset
the last persimmon
falls
~ Michael Sheffield

ICU waiting room
the azalea plant
we couldn't take in
~ Deborah P. Kolodji

as the light fades
from the azalea blossoms
I lock the doors
~ Patricia Prime

XXXV:3

yellow hibiscus
my sister's easy laughter
as we walk along
~ Mimi Ahern

early fall
I write a poem on a leaf
and set it free
~ Stephen E. Cottingham

XXXV:4

just she and Mom
 move to the apartment
 summer's end
 ~ Gregory Longenecker

now it seems
 taller and stronger
 leafless tree
 ~ Teruo Yamagata

a new face
 turns into the drug house
 summer dusk
 ~ Jeanne Cook

Special mention
 to the haiku I shared the most with my friends:

sick bed
 the medicine label reads
 "use till gone"
 ~ Laurabell
 XXXV:4

evening primrose
 a meadow of hundreds
 defies the sunset
 ~ Yvonne Hardenbrook

One's Whole Life

A New Year's Kasen
 Written 2 January 2010
 at San Jose CA
 Led by donnalynn chase

XXXV:5

strands of white
 in windblown hair –
 wayfaring geese
 ~ Michele Root-Bernstein

Roger Abe (ra) Ann Bendixen (ab)
 Patrick Gallagher (pg) Anne Homan (ah)
 Patricia Machmiller (pjm) Carol Steele (cs)
 Linda Papanicoalou (lmp) Alison Woolert (aw)
 Judith Morrison Schallenberger (jms)

everything's a hint,
 says the watercolor teacher
 – summer's end
 ~ June Hopper Hymas

The year
 has New Year's Day
 one's whole life has Now!
 Emiko Miyashita, Lee Gurga,
 Nanae Tarmara

first frost
 on the woodsman's axe
 a rose-colored light
 ~ Michael McClintock

over the kitchen sink
 my list of resolutions lp

XXXV:6

treeless yard
 yet falling leaves passing
 our tall window
 ~ Zinovy Vayman

I remember
 what I forgot seeing
 the field of mustard ra

autumn chill
 the gang of ravens pushing
 each other around
 ~ Alison Woolpert

the thwack of her boots
 sends mud flying aw

hazy moon sliver
 rides low
 in the morning sky ah

eight raptors tethered
 on lawn perches jms



my son delights in an Alcatraz tour and then "The Rock"	pg	sorry, no time for Facebook drivel	ra
glued at the hip through his two-week leave	cs	a very long icicle hangs from the gargoyle's tongue	Imp
suddenly up after lovemaking he looks for his Game Boy	pjm	sardines can be tasted in the scalloped potatoes	pg
we celebrate tossing the divorce papers	ab	at Dos Amigos the hippies and city folk memorialize my friend	cs
on incoming tide medusa jellyfish narrowly miss the pier	pjm	girl with a pearl earring tempts the artist	jms
the pungent scent of the eucalyptus grove	pjm	moving away from home to his own love shack he asks Mom to pay	aw
firefighters down brisket sandwiches under a smoky moon	ra	from out of nowhere a horse's whinny	pjm
Katydid or Katy didn't?	ah	under the moon Tibetan monks debate	pg
at the election rally the president with his arm around "The Boss"	pg	a jack-o-lantern with a crooked smile	ab
the dragon puppet about to bite her head	ab	departing autumn on a country road gathering up speed	Imp
Sherry blossoms? No—cherry, ch-ch cherry blossoms	aw	a big haul of fossil shells displayed on my library shelf	pg
a teenager weeping in the spring drizzle	ah	living over the San Andreas Fault with no emergency kit	ab
on the balcony soap bubbles at my fingertips	jms	wouldn't you like to play Tiddlywinks again?	aw
clash of armies and each God is right	ab	with a hop, a skip, and a jump up the hill under cherry blossoms	ab
he poses proudly in his blue skin suit by the mountain bike	ah	the Jack Russell lifts her nose into the shining wind	ra

YTHS Spring Kigo*

Season: spring months: late February, March, April, and May; beginning of spring, early spring, departing spring, late spring, lengthening days, long day, mid-spring, spring dream, spring dusk, spring evening, spring melancholy, tranquility, vernal equinox.

Sky and Elements: balmy breeze, 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, spring snow, slush, warm (warmth).

Landscape: flooded river/stream/brook, muddy/miry fields, muddy road, spring fields, spring hills, spring mountain, spring river, spring sea, spring tide, red tide, first blossoming tree, vernal pool.

Human Affairs: balloon, closing the fireplace, kite, shell gathering, grafting, planting or sowing (seeds), plowing or tilling fields, soap bubbles (blown from a pipe or wand), Sleeping Buddha's Memorial Day, spring cleaning, swing, windmill, April Fool's Day/April fool, Boy's Day/ carp flag, César Chávez Day, Doll's Festival, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter (Easter bonnet/clothes, eggs, coloring/hiding eggs, lily, parade, rabbit, etc., Maverick Beach, May Day (May basket, pole), Memorial Day, Mother's Day, Passover, Saint Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day.

Animals: abalone, bee, baby animals (nestlings, fledglings, calf, colt, kitten, puppy, fawn, lamb, etc.), butterfly, bush warbler, by-the-wind sailor, cats in love, crane, flying squirrel, frog, singing frogs, gray fox, hilltopping, horse-fly, hummingbird, lizard, nightingale, pheasant, robin, mud snail, returning gray whales, rookery/heronry, soaring skylark, snowy plover, stork, surfperch, swallow, tadpole, whitebait (a fish), wild birds' return (geese, etc.).

Plants: anemone, artichoke, asparagus sprouts, azalea, bracken, bramble, California lilac/ceanothus, camellia, cherry blossoms/tree, Chinese houses, crocus, dandelion, daphne, blossoms or leaf buds of trees & shrubs (almond, apple, apricot, maple, oak, pear, pine, wisteria, etc.), Douglas iris/mountain iris, field mustard/mustard, forget-me-not, globe lily/fairy lantern, goldfields, grass sprouts, hawthorn, hyacinth, Ithuriel's spear, lilac, lily of the valley, Madrone,

manzanita, miner's lettuce, painted lady, pansy, parsley, plum blossoms/ tree, California poppy, primrose, redwood sorrel, seaweed/laver(nori), shooting star, sticky monkey flower, sweet pea, shepherd's-purse, thrift, tulip, violet, willow, pussy willows/willow catkins.

* Includes kigo from *San Francisco Bay Area Nature Guide and Sajiki*

Kiyoshi & Kiyoko Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

In-hand Deadline: May 31, 2011

Prizes: \$100 \$50 \$25

2011 Contest Kigo List

New Year:	New Year's confetti
Spring:	first crocus
Summer:	billowing cloud
Autumn:	persimmon
Winter:	winter solitude

Contest Rules:

- Haiku in English of 17 syllables in a 5-7-5 pattern.
- Each haiku must use one kigo, and only one kigo, taken from the contest list.
- Haiku with more than one recognized kigo will be disqualified.
- Entry fee \$7.00 per page of three haiku. No limit on entries. Entries will not be returned.
- Submit 4 copies of each page, with your name & address on only one copy, typed on 8½ x 11 paper.
- Make checks or money orders payable to "Yuki Teikei Haiku Society". Overseas entrants please use International Postal Money Order, in U.S. currency only. For results send an SASE marked "Contest Winners."
- Entries must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere. No previous winning haiku are eligible.
- This contest is open to anyone, except for the YT President and Contest Chair.
- Final selection will be made by a distinguished haiku poet. The Society may print winning poems and commentary in its newsletter, annual anthology, and current brochures.
- Send entries to:
Deborah P. Kolodji – Contest Chair

Attn: Tokutomi Contest

- Your membership fee for 2011 is past due.
- Thank you for your 2011 renewal or new membership.
- Complimentary issue from YTHS.

Membership information is at _____, & in this issue.

2011 YTHS Calendar

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|---------|---|------------|---|
| Apr. 9 | Tour of the American Haiku Archives in Sacramento, CA.* | July 9 | Tanabata at Anne Homan's Livermore home. |
| Apr. 10 | Next GEPPPO due date for submissions*. | Aug. | No meeting this month. |
| Apr. 30 | Anthology haiku, tiny haibun & essays due*. | Aug. 10 | GEPPPO due date for submissions. |
| May 14 | Teahouse Reading at SJ Japanese Garden*. | Sept. 8-11 | Annual YTHS Retreat at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA.* |
| May 15 | Haiku Reading in Berkeley*. | Oct. 8 | Moon Viewing Party 6:00 pm at Jean Hale's San Jose home. |
| May 31 | Memorial Contest In-hand deadline*. | Oct. 10 | GEPPPO due date for submissions. |
| June 8 | Registration/deposit due for Asilomar Retreat*. | Nov. 12 | Meeting at Markham House 1:30 - 5 pm. |
| June 10 | GEPPPO due date for submissions. | Dec. 10 | GEPPPO due date for submissions. |
| June 11 | Hayward Japanese Gardens. Tour & talk begins at 10am. | Dec. 10 | Holiday Party from 6 to 11 pm at Patricia Machmiller's San Jose home. |
| June 18 | "Haiku-For-You" Booth at the 2011 Santa Cruz Japanese Fair. | | |

*Additional information in this issue.