GFPPO

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

Volume XXXIX:4 July—August 2014

Published in September 2014

Members' Haiku for Study and Appreciation - Carol Steele, Editor

9880	restless again you decide to leave autumn wind	9890	throwing a pebble I miss the pond my mind ripples
9881	you and I once were wild and young autumn wind	9891	dancing sawflies on rotten fruit do the mango
9882	a kitten cries moonlight spills across the kitchen floor	9892	Nature's abstract art mahogany to emerald madrone bark peelings.
9883	autumn stroll— the geezers on the bench are us	9893	As we reach the pass sweat is quickly gone from a swirling summer breeze.
9884	shouting match— lost songs of the crickets	9894	Magical hillside— lady's slippers, bride's bonnets, even wild ginger.
9885	autumn is clearing— I can't remember last year's crises	9895	a black umbrella the skimmer shades its new chick late Spring heat wave
9886	tree rain a blue tailed skink's lightning tongue	9896	scarlet rosebud lips pop vibrant pink bubblegum summer Lolita
9887	tea lights the floating world of our summer garden	9897	hot summer daydream— each tooth and nail a buddha everything buddha
9888	afternoon clouds between me and happiness	9898	Under moonlight The old woman Planting sunflowers
9889	old dog its bark no worse than its slobber	9899	frosted pumpkin waits in the field for a child's keen eye

9900	crimson leaves slowly drift towards winter	9913	she finds a pit in the pitted olive cocktail small talk
9901	pickup brass band blowing through the city park windy afternoon	9914	sunset— in the very next breath a tree frog
9902	he wouldn't have known how to take care of himself narcissus-edged grave	9915	eating udon— so much of the enjoyment in the noise
9903	Year of the Rabbit children wrinkle their noses over carrot sticks	9916	the redness of riverine maples travel bags
9904	stalking a fly in a jungle of geraniums greenhouse gecko	9917	calico hairs on my tweed jacket sardine clouds
9905	sizzling beach day grilled brats and corn in the husk on the hibachi	9918	quiet in the first coolness old fridge
9906	approaching sunset the Autumn breeze slowly calms as colors deepen	9919	Fickle lover Thursday and Friday, Tchaikovsky Saturday, Verdi
9907	autumn gust crashing into the window a sparrow	9920	almost dusk at the ends of tall grass sleeping wasps
9908	sidewalk café my menu blown away by the southerly	9921	bubbles above the high C opera in the park
9909	on the curb side a discarded mattress soaked with rain	9922	50 years gone by yet we laugh like yesterday high school reunion
9910	August heat a few crisp leaves on the tarmac	9923	sweeping the cabin, I startle a garter snake under the bed
9911	pouring tea into the cracked cup autumn wind	9924	my son-in-law accuses me of something thunder and lightning
9912	golden leaves drifting on muddy puddles autumn deepens	9925	color of grove gets most diluted autumn morning mist

9926	why image of buddha in Christmas ornament his enlightening answer	9939	Harrowing of leaves through the air, red and yellow—not precious jewels.
9927	Solomon's wisdom visits a first-born daughter—bird of passage	9940	surfacing submarine right in front of us espionage afoot?
9928	an autumn sky consecrates the wedding day— their promises	9941	child counts on fingers doing math homework morning glories
9929	purple-striped jelly its last response at my touch in wet sand	9442	lost child during a flower garden excursion too many sunflowers
9930	wishing you the best through the wide open window autumn wind blows, blows	9443	l've rarely seen seven flickers in a flock —autumnal cloud
9931	ten thousand storm clouds without a sound she sits drawing circles	9444	the blossoming! I stand quite motionless in a field of bees
9932	in the front window the silhouette of the dog souls in autumn rain	9445	easy chores first not the important ones —autumn wind
9933	almost touching my head with a swoop long and low— large crow of autumn	9946	summer heat— koi tussle for first place near the bubbling spout
9934	a cored apple— unable to laugh or cry	9947	excited chirping from a thicket of jasmine— midsummer sparrows
9935	back in school now the teacher's tomatoes fall to the ground	9948	a tiny black spider parachutes through the air—oh that I could fly
9936	starlit night through the telescope old ones born so long ago	9949	fog horn ghosts seep into my dreams— fall equinox
9937	I picked my age in lemons today sixty-five fine Meyers	9950	yesterday's quarrel— storm clouds exhaling darkness
9938	Milky Way thousands of light years to cross tonight	9951	black hole— small change rattling in coat hem

9952 vast blue

sky

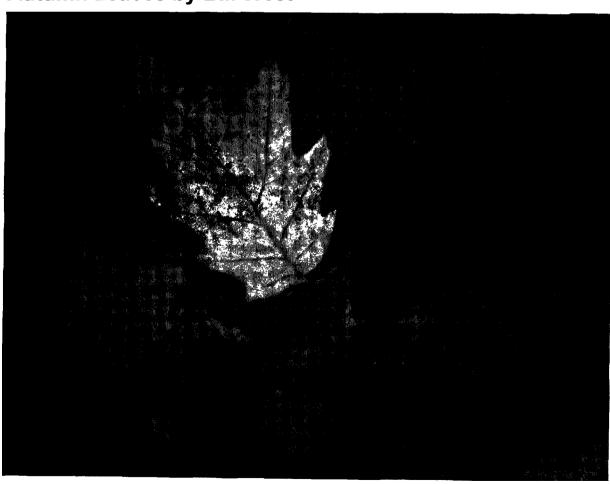
the final downpour rains the white light

9953 thick overcast

yet the watermarks of the hidden sun

9954 end of summer around her dark blue tattoo her light blue veins

Autumn Leaves by Bill West



Challenge Kigo-"Autumn Wind"

autumn wind you bring a change in me

~Genie Nakano

now on her own the youngest daughter autumn wind ~Ruth Holzer

autumn winds beginning to lose my sense of self

~Michael Henry Lee

summer mourned crispened leaves fall autumn wind

~Kevin Goldstein-Jackson

Sudden autumn wind raises goosebumps on bare legs fleeting heat fading.

~David Sherertz

leaves swirl into an open grave autumn wind

~James Lautermilch

pushing my body further than it wants to go the red autumn wind ~Joan Zimmerman

floating in the Autumn wind... spider silk

~Elinor Pihl Huggett

autumn wind out of the darkness the rusty shed ~Patricia Prime

> autumn windmy sandcastle crumbling grain by grain ~Betty Arnold

morning glories hold fast in September autumn wind

~Peg McAulay Byrd

the angel of time
chats with the angle of death
autumn wind
~Michael Sheffield

a stranger bears my dear friend's name autumn wind ~Christine Horner

> Chopin's funeral march Autumn wind

~Johnnie Johnson Hafernik

autumn wind thick with wisdom her suicide . . . why ~Judith Schallberger

through the long night
the autumn wind taps out
its own Morse code
~Janis Albright Lukstein

maple leaves rush toward winter autumn wind ~E. Luke

> autumn wind a visit from my brother while we can ~Alison Woolpert

over the ocean migrating plovers shrill cries —autumn wind

~June Hopper Hymas

a new Russian grave instead of an old one . . . autumn wind

~Zinovy Vayman

May—June 2014 Haiku Voted Best By GEPPO Readers

solitary moon
left again to
my own devices
~Michael Henry Lee

tomb sweeping day on a leaf the fly lifts its feet ~Kyle Sullivan

the hesitation
measured in our gazes—
summer squall
~Judith Morrison Schallberger

another scorcher . . . the painted on smile of the parade clown ~Elinor Pihl Huggett

still fragile
out of the chrysalis
out of rehab
~Gregory Longenecker

the shortest way follow the smell of jasmine to my old friend's house ~Teruo Yamagata summer drizzle—
the invalid's
restless fingers
~Ruth Holzer

ribbon of light beneath the storm clouds the feel of satin ~Johnnie Hafernik

following the painter's gaze heron

~Phillip Kennedy

summer bliss . . . a slice of melon smiles back at me ~Elinor Pihl Huggett

Volume XXXIX:4 July—August 2014

Members' Votes for May—June 2014 Haiku

Neal Whitman 9800-1, 9801-3, 9802-0, 9803-1, 9804-2, 9805-0 Michael Henry Lee 9806-11, 9807-4, 9808-2 Christine Horner 9809-3, 9810-1, 9811-3 Beverly Acuff Momoi 9812-2, 9813-3, 9814-5 Ruth Holzer 9815-5, 9816-3, 9817-6 Bruce Feingold 9818-4, 9819-1, 9820-3 Michael Sheffield 9821-3, 9822-3, 9823-3 Christine Stern 9824-0, 9825-2, 9826-5 Janis Lukstein 9827-1, 9828-2, 9829-1 E. Luke 9830-1, 9831-3 Joan Zimmerman 9832-3, 9833-1, 9834-2 Barbara Campitelli 9835-2, 9836-0, 9837-0 Johnnie Haffernik 9838-0, 9839-6, 9840-4 Alison Woolpert 9841-4, 9842-1, 9843-1 Hiro Murakami 9844-0, 9845-2 Elaine Whitman 9846-2, 9847-2, 9848-2 Phillip Kennedy 9849-6, 9850-1, 9851-4 Kyle Sullivan 9852-3, 9853-5, 9854-8 Gregory Longenecker 9855-0, 9856-3, 9857-7 Mimi Ahern 9858-1, 9859-4, 9860-3 Zinovy Vayman 9861-3, 9862-0, 9863-0 Judith Schallberger 9864-0, 9865-1, 9866-7 Majo Leavick 9867-1, 9868-0, 9869-0 Teruro Yamagata 9870-0, 9871-7, 9872-1 Bill West 9873-1, 9874-1 Ann Bendixen 9875-1, 9876-0, 9877-0 Elinor Pihl Huggett 9878-8, 9879-6, 9880-8, 9881-4, 9882-4



Annual YTHS Membership Dues

YTHS membership is for one calendar year: January to January. The fee provides each member with six issues of the GEPPO, notification of events and the annual membership anthology. Only members can submit to the GEPPO and anthology.

Domestic & Canada dues \$32, Seniors \$26. International dues \$40, Seniors \$31. Mail check or money order to membership

GEPPO Submission due date for the next issue is October 26.

New Submission guidelines: Email questions or comments with contact info to:

Email articles, poems and votes with contact info to:YTGEPPO@Outlook.com with GEPPO article or GEPPO submission in the subject line.

Send it as an attachment in a word document in Arial, font size 11, ink black. *OR* mail your poems & votes with contact info to:

GEPPO Editor, Carol Steele,

You can submit:

- Up to three haiku appropriate to the season. 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. The poem will be printed with your name.
- Up to ten votes for haiku in the current issue that you especially appreciate. Each poem you choose will receive a point (vote); submit the number of the haiku as the vote. The poems with the top number of votes are reprinted with the author's name in the next issue.

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society Meetings

In July to celebrate Tanabata Matsuri, members of the Society and companions met at the home of Anne and Don Homan, high on the foothills of Mount Diablo, where to the west one looks over Los Vaqueros Reservoir to the Central Valley. As usual, the three donkeys that live on the adjacent acreage came to the fence to join the celebration. After an enjoyable potluck dinner, sky gazing began. The first observation was the full moon rising over the distant Sierras, then as the night darkened, Vega the Weaver Girl star, and Altair the Shepherd star, appeared. There was no rain so the magpies could bridge the Milky Way to allow the lovers' tryst. In celebration the Tanabata story was read, then the poets wrote and read haiku, each transcribed onto a rectangle of decorative paper, which was then hung by a thread from a bamboo stalk.

submitted by Patrick Gallagher

photograph by Patrick Gallagher



YTHS Meeting, September 6, 2014

An almost autumn afternoon in Palo Alto, California on the Stanford University Campus: ROAR of the fans in the football stadium as the Cardinals take on the USC Trojans; QUIET of the poets in the Cantor Arts Museum as they take in the exhibit: "Mapping Edo—The Social and Political Geography of Early Modern Japan."

first football game on the empty campus artists play ~Patrick Gallagher

A long table in soft afternoon light at the Museum Café: WRAP UP by the 12 haiku poets (Ann Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Alison Woolpert, Linda Papanicolaoi, Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vrooman, Clysta Seney, Patricia Machmiller, Joan Zimmerman, C. Holbrook, Susanne Smith and Mimi Ahern) as they share their impressions of the art and the resulting haiku, haiku inspired by the beautiful prints and painted maps of the Edo period. More interesting yet, are the comments and haiku from a second exhibit in the same room: "Within and Without Transformations in Chinese Landscapes" by modern Chinese painters. One provocative painting, "untitled (landscape no QSH22)" by artist Qiu Shihua, appearing totally white at first, sparks the most comments and haiku.

winter canvas beyond the white the darkness ~Joan Zimmerman



submitted by Mimi Ahern

photograph by Mimi Ahern

Zigzag of the Dragonfly: A Final Note: Reflections on Where We've Been Installment #17

Patricia J. Machmiller

Dear loval readers, we have come to this. the last in the series on writing, especially as it pertains to haiku. Take a moment now to reflect on where you were when we started this process. Do you think you have moved along the path to better writing? Are you walking most every day? Is your notebook always handy? Have you and your critic become better acquainted? Have you been able to observe yourself more closely when writing? Have you gained insights into how your mind creates images and language that result in words on the page? I hope the answers you have been able to give are yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, and yes! And if not all your answers were yes, then I hope you will give yourself the gift of time and attention so that you can get to yes for each of these.

Along the way in our discussion of the writing process, we have addressed some aspects of the craft of writing haiku, such as image, kigo, form, sound, and revision. Mastery of these skills will help you to advance your writing, but the writing habits that I mentioned in the opening paragraph having to do with your own personal style and process are more important. Concentrating on the skills will enable you to become a master craftsperson. Paying attention to your own process in order to developing habits that nurture and encourage your intuitive self—this is how you become a poet! And that is my wish for you: an open and growing mind filled with wonder and appreciation for the world as you find it in your daily life.

the remaining snow in isolated patches our separate lives partly eroded summer light on petroglyphs voices and echoes

dog days of August we linger in the twilight waiting for Godot

absentmindedly eating a persimmon in the poet's house

maple on the edge of the garden at the bareest edge of turning

deepening autumn in the night's quiet my heart can hear itself think

riding the last train
I peer into the long night—
my own reflection

the puppet's master hidden in the shifting light old year turns to new

Note: Publications where these poems were first published are listed in the order the poems appear.

The San Francisco Haiku Anthology, eds. Jerry Ball, Garry Gay, and Tom Tico, Smythe-Waithe Press: (Windsor, CA, 1992)

Poems from the Fourth Annual Mainichi Contest, 2000 Basho Festival 2002 Anthology, ed. Tadashi Kondo One Hundred Gourds, ed. Carolyn Hall, Two Autumns Press. HPNC. 2003

Modern Haiku, Winter-Spring, 2002 Spring Sky, YT Anthology, ed. June Hopper Hymas, 2001 The San Francisco Haiku Anthology Mariposa, Autumn/Winter, 2002

YTHS Reaching Out at the 2014 Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music (CFCM)

Joan Zimmerman (http://cabrillomusic.org/guestartist/2014/j-zimmerman/)

The Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music (CFCM) is acclaimed as the USA's best annual festival of new music, i.e., music written recently by classically trained musicians for full orchestra. This was the 52nd festival season and the first year for a CFCM Poet-in-Residence: me! I used this opportunity to share haiku and YTHS with concert-goers:

burn-season music the scorching density of sixteenth notes

The above poem was inspired by Brett Dean's "Fire Music" composition. [All my poems here were published at the Festival's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/CabrilloFest.]

The Festival offers free public access to the inspiring Open Rehearsals. We marvel at Maestra Marin Alsop, returning for her 22nd year as curator and conductor of the Festival. The way she works through the musical scores with the composers and musicians is a series of lessons in power and grace:

the maestra singing melody for the duduk -sweet alyssum air

This was inspired by "Speranza," a piece by Mark-Anthony Turnage that included instruments (like the hard-to-control duduk) rarely used in a classical orchestra.

My invitation, due to seven haiku I wrote during the previous year's Open Rehearsals being published by *Daily Haiku*, simply asked me to provide a poem now and then, to be interspersed in the CFCM Facebook site among the photos and rave reviews of the maestra and orchestra and composers

and soloists. But I asked for a table in the lobby to display complimentary haiku bookmarks (including the Japanese kanji characters for "music") from YTHS. I showed copies of *GEPPO*, many free handouts, books for browsing, a notebook for people to write their own haiku, and an eye-catching bowl of free candy. Among the many visitors to the table were YTHS's own president Alison Woolpert, our webmaster Patrick Gallagher, and our 2013 Tokutomi Contest Honorably Mentioned Peggy Heinrich.

It was a thrill to see each Facebook "like" particularly from a composer for a poem written in response to her work. That composer was Stacy Garrop for this haiku, inspired by watching a rehearsal of her "Thunderwalker":

muscles vibrating in a young cellist's shoulder rising thunderheads

Be sure to check out CFCM each July-August and come to future Open Rehearsals and concerts.

By Joan Zimmerman

Dojin's Corner May-June 2014

Emiko Miyashita and Patricia J. Machmiller

Emiko and Patricia have selected their favorite haiku from the May-June *GEPPO* as listed below. The starred numbers have been chosen for commentary.

E: 9803, 9809, 9811, 9815*, 9820, 9839, 9840, 9841, 9848, 9849, 9852, 9854, 9857, 9859*, 9869, 9871, 9873, 9874, 9875, 9878*.

pjm: 9806, 9807*, 9808, 9811, 9813, 9815*,9826, 9829, 9850, 9851, 9852, 9853, 9854, 9855, 9858, 9863, 9864, 9871, 9878, 9879, 9882*

9807 mayfly . . .
never knowing one day
from the next

pim: Mayflies have very short lives—twentyfour hours, maybe, depending on the species. This last July I was traveling in South Dakota. In the late evening driving past the sloughs the headlights were filled with swarms of mayflies. Although we drove slowly there was no way to avoid running into them. You could hear them, as the car drove through them, their soft bodies perishing on the headlights and windshield. These short-lived adults were not alarmed by the oncoming lights: they seemed to meet death calmly. It is the same calmness that those with dementia, for example, who do not know "one day/from the next" have. The same poignancy. This is the feeling I get from this poem, a calm poignancy.

E: The mayfly is said to live only an hour to three days in its adult stage and is used symbolically in Japanese poetry to add a touch of short-lived, passing, fleeting, ephemeral color to the poem. On the other hand, the author is blessed with countless days to live, but perhaps not living the days fully as the mayfly which is determined to mate and pass its DNA to the next generation. The air in between the lines of this haiku is thin and languorous. Or, simply, the second part is

explaining the state of mayfly?

9815 on the floor snippets of white hair the heat

pjm: The image I have is of a barbershop in the south. It is a hot, humid day. A slow ceiling fan turns. It is too hot to move, too hot to talk. The haircut is finished. The snippets of white hair lie there. The moment is caught. Forever. By the "snippets of white hair."

E: Snippets, a little portion of white hair on the floor are what I find on my floor every day before sweeping. For me, to find my gray hair dropping without being noticed is a sad reality of aging and loosing hair. On the other hand, it is a result of healthy metabolism. This might also be the hair of a white dog, or a cat, they shed extra hair to cope with the heat in summer. I like this haiku because it is about me, and it can be about them at the same time. I feel the heat.

9854 tomb sweeping day on a leaf the fly lifts its feet

E: The haiku reminds me of Issa's haiku which I am quoting from David Lanoue's "Haiku of Kobayashi Issa" at <a href="http://haikuguy.com/issa/search.php?key-words=fly&year="http://wor

.やれ打な蝿が手をすり足をする yare utsuna hae ga te o suri ashi o suru

don't swat the fly! praying hands praying feet

In this famous haiku Issa sees the natural "hand-rubbing" behavior of the fly as hands praying, pleading to be spared. Adding a comic twist, he notes that the fly is praying even with its feet! Therefore, I pictured the fly lifting its feet on a leaf near the tomb to pray for the deceased, and not for its own life in this haiku. Sometimes an old haiku influences how I read the brand new haiku!

pjm: Emiko, I too heard echoes of Issa when I read this poem. Another translation of the same poem into English by Robert Hass in *The Essential Haiku* (Ecco Press, 1994) is:

Don't kill that fly! Look—it's wringing its hands, wringing its feet.

In the Lanoue translation of "praying hands/ praying feet" the fly's reaction as one of supplication whereas in the Hass translation the fly seems more frantic and desperate. So I am wondering which interpretation is closer to the original.

E: A literal translation of Issa's haiku would be something like:

Hey, don't swat! The fly is rubbing its hands, rubbing its feet

I am not very happy with the word choices of "kill" or "wring." The poem is about the mercy Issa is trying to evoke in someone with a fly swatter by focusing on the appendages of the fly—rubbing its hands and its feet as humans do when they pray. One can take it as a pleading posture, but also it can be understood that even a fly knows how to pray as a member of this merciful world of Amida Buddha.

pim: To me the word "swat" when talking about a fly is just as violent and final as the word "kill." But the difference between "pray" and "wring" is significant when reading this "tomb-sweeping" haiku which only says that the fly lifts his feet, a rather neutral and natural movement. With Issa's poem as a backdrop, however, the poem is changed and the fly's natural gesture takes on the emotional, more human act suggested by Issa. And so a closer understanding of Issa's meaning helps us better interpret the meaning of this "tomb-sweeping" poem. I take it then that even though "rubbing" is also a neutral, natural act for a fly, the tone of Issa's haiku is one of a plea for mercy. And thank you for reminding us that "even a fly knows how to pray as a

member of this merciful world of Amida Buddha."

9859 never ready for summer . . . melted butter

E: To find butter melting in the butter case is a common experience during summer; I know I should have remembered to put it in the refrigerator, but I forgot. Of course, it is easier to spread butter on my toast when it is soft, but melted butter is not an equivalent to olive oil— it gets too oily. It is not easy to change one's habit developed through the autumn, winter, and spring and to shift into summer mode, which is totally different from the other three—too hot!

pjm: So here we have a small parable—what happens when one fails to think ahead? Failure to do so has consequences. Link this image to summer, that season of laziness and irresponsibility, and we are reminded, once again, of how truly human it is to forget to put the butter in the fridge!

9878 another scorcher . . . the painted on smile of the parade clown

E: Indeed, the smiling face painted on a nonsmiling person's face can be another scorcher. Under the scorching sun, the clown in its costume, with heavily painted face must be feeling hot, hot, hot as he looks at people along the street holding ice cream and beer. But perhaps we shouldn't be so serious—let's enjoy the parade, feel the heat—it's summer!

pjm: It's summer and the circus has come to town. It's hot. But you can't tell that by looking at the clown. His painted-on smile masks any distress he might be feeling. He is perpetually happy. And it is this dichotomy that brings the melancholy we feel reading this poem.

9882 hey, pond frogs! why does your courtship have to be so noisy?

pjm: This made me chuckle. Of course, it's a silly question—if you're a frog among a huge crowd of other frogs, how else do you bring attention to your particular lily pad? Underneath the surface of this poem is a tongue-incheek commentary on urban living in the modern age of high-density housing, thin walls, and liberalized sexual mores.

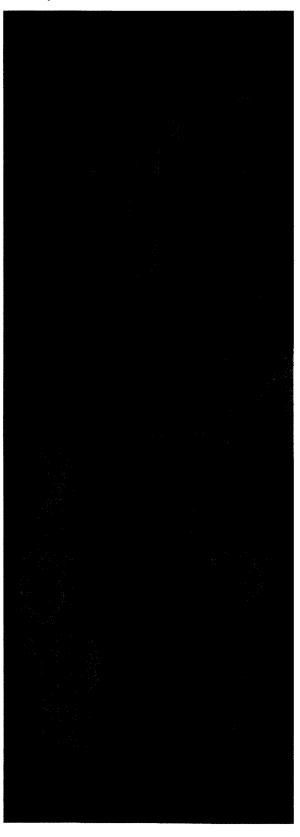
E: Noisy? Too bad you can't understand the lyrics! I like the dialogue taking place here.

Emiko and Patricia invite your response. Send your letters to Carol Steele in care of GEPPO



Downpour

PJMachmiller



Challenge Kigo – "Winter Rain"

by June Hopper Hymas

winter shower (shigure, early winter) winter rain (fuyu no ame, all winter) from the 500 Essential Season Words website

the dog of my neighbor silent forever winter rain Gabi Greve, in Yahoo Groups

Hokusai's Fuji in a bookstore window winter rain Bill K. (from a comment on HaikuandHappiness.blogspot.com

yama-bato ga nakigoto wo iu shigure kana

the mountain pigeon grumbles... winter rain Issa, translated by David Lanoue

rakuyô ya chito mo magaranu hatsu shigure

Kyoto-falling straight down the first winter rain Issa, translated by David Lanoue

First winter rain-even the monkey
seems to want a raincoat.
Basho, translated by Robert Hass.

winter rain deepens lichened letters on the grave and my old sadness Roka, from Japanese Haiku by Peter Beilenson

winter rain deepens see all the people running across Seta Bridge Joso, from Japanese Haiku by Peter Beilenson



2014 YTHS Calendar

Oct 11 6pm	Moon Viewing Party at Carol Steele's home at and guests are welcome. Please bring a peanut free dish to share for a pot luck dinner.	
Oct 26	GEPPO submissions due.	
Nov 6 to 9	Haiku Retreat at Asilomar State Beach Conference Center in Pacific Grove, CA. The theme this year is "All About Birds". We will have talks with an expert birder/teacher about the birds at Asilomar and scout with her looking for them. Our featured guests will be Watercolor Artist Floy Zittin, Calligrapher Martha Dahlen and Poet Patricia Machmiller, collaborators of <i>Sweet Reverence of Little Birds</i> . We will learn to make simple sketches of seasonal birds, learn about bird songs and how to incorporate them into haiku and have time for reflection and ginkos. Hope to see you there!	
Dec 13 6-10pm	Holiday Party at Alison Woolpert's at Each year we make handmade haiga cards to share with each other. Thirty cards should be enough to go around. Guests and newcomers are welcome. Please bring a peanut free dish to share for a potluck dinner. Hope you can come!	