# $G \mathcal{F} \mathcal{P} \mathcal{P} O$

## the haiku study-work journal of the Yukí Teíkeí Haíku Society

Volume XXXIX:5 September—October 2014

Published in December 2014

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

9955	unfurling her fan of red and rust autumn wind	9965	retirement home— Mr. and Mrs. Santa dummies on the porch
9956	practice in patience each year the persimmons	9966	new roof on an old house— winter rain
9957	the artichokes' grays and greens leaf-viewing along the coast	9967	invisible air made visible swirling leaves
9958	south florida wind the autumn leaves arrive by mail	9968	Dad's dormant dogwood the dates on his gravestone eroded by time
	pumpkin ale your jack-o-lantern's wry smile	9969	a boulder tumbled down the bare knoll dust flying
9961	wisteria blooms clinging to the tips of a lavender dusk	9970	November moon Its light wasted on empty fields
9961	first day of winter my autobiography of the migration	9971	winter gloom moonlight searches for spring
9962	I tour the hill roads of my long-ago commute light snow in the air	9972	winter garden empty rows pointing towards spring
9963	cloud of mosquitoes my chaotic repacking of moving boxes	9973	he herds oak leaves with a gas power-blower golden birthday blues
9664	chipping at ice— the new neighbor stops to introduce himself	9974	first autumn storm a lone kayaker shores up his testosterone

9975 fallen gingko fruits their permeating odor sidestepping her moods 9976 early morning mist				
an egret slowly rises and stretches his wings weaving through ageless beach grass yesterday's footprints on a limb of almond tree  9978 among orange maples and bright yellow hickory poison ivy red  9979 at my age the long haul is shorter dried persimmon poison ivy red  9980 behind me the sun rising in a sky still full of October moon of children and provided persimmon for the avalanche of children and provided	9975	their permeating odor	9988	a bird calls
weaving through ageless beach grass yesterday's footprints  and or or a limb of almond tree  9978 among orange maples and bright yellow hickory poison ivy red  9979 at my age the long haul is shorter dried persimmon  9980 behind me the sun rising in a sky still full of October moon  9981 key in the lock— ready for the avalanche of chihuahuas  9982 winter wedding— in the bride's hair flecks of snow  9983 winter sorrow at my neighbour's funeral her grandchildren's tears  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  9987 In the dug-a-rum of bullfrogs in the bug-a-rum of bullfrogs in the swamp chorus in the swamp chorus in the swamp chorus in the swamp chorus in the swamp around selection as a limb of bullfrogs in the under-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  9988 and of almond tree  99992 summer garden fullly-ripened tomatoes bursting form their skins  99991 autum evening a couple wearing fox mask out of shrine gate  99995 a mail delighted me informing her Haiku start-up autumn breeze  9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9997 autumn wind  1000 eagle soars  10000 in momory of my father	9976	an egret slowly rises	9989	as if the sun
and bright yellow hickory	9977	weaving through ageless beach grass	9990	an owl settles
the long haul is shorter dried persimmon  9980 behind me the sun rising in a sky still full of October moon  9981 key in the lock— ready for the avalanche of chihuahuas  9982 winter wedding— in the bride's hair flecks of snow  9983 winter sorrow at my neighbour's funeral her grandchildren's tears  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  9988 behind me the sun fully-ripened tomatoes bursting from their skins  9993 hot flashes— far less embarrassing in summertime  9994 autumn evening a couple wearing fox mask out of shrine gate  9995 a mail delighted me informing her Haiku start-up autumn breeze  9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9998 stubble field alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9998 something lost something forgotten falling leaves  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse	9978	and bright yellow hickory	9991	of bullfrogs in the swamp
rising in a sky still full of October moon in summertime  9981 key in the lock—ready for the avalanche of chihuahuas 9994 autumn evening a couple wearing fox mask out of shrine gate  9982 winter wedding—in the bride's hair flecks of snow 9995 a mail delighted meinforming her Haiku start-up autumn breeze  9983 winter sorrow at my neighbour's funeral her grandchildren's tears 9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray 9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9985 Obama's attire—'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter. 9998 stubble field alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit. 9999 something lost something forgotten falling leaves  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse 10000 eagle soars in memory of my father	9979	the long haul is shorter	9992	fully-ripened tomatoes
ready for the avalanche of chihuahuas a couple wearing fox mask out of shrine gate  9982 winter wedding— in the bride's hair flecks of snow 9995 a mail delighted me informing her Haiku start-up autumn breeze  9983 winter sorrow 9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray 9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  a couple wearing fox mask out of shrine gate  9995 a mail delighted me informing her Haiku start-up autumn breeze  9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9998 stubble field alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9988 Wrap-around weather falling leaves	9980	rising in a sky still full	9993	far less embarrassing
in the bride's hair flecks of snow  9983 winter sorrow at my neighbour's funeral her grandchildren's tears  9996 a map of Edo with the castle always at the top —harvest moon  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray  9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9998 stubble field alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9999 something lost something forgotten falling leaves  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  10000 eagle soars in memory of my father	9981	ready for the avalanche	9994	a couple wearing fox mask
at my neighbour's funeral her grandchildren's tears  9984 lengthening shadows the black house cat befriends a stray  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  with the castle always at the top—harvest moon  9997 autumn wind the flute maker says the third keyhole is key  9998 stubble field alongside the road the cow and me eye to eye  9999 something lost something forgotten falling leaves	9982	in the bride's hair	9995	informing her Haiku start-up
the black house cat befriends a stray  9985 Obama's attire— 'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9998 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9999 Something lost something forgotten falling leaves  10000 eagle soars in memory of my father	9983	at my neighbour's funeral	9996	with the castle always at the top
'the audacity of taupe' Twitter atwitter.  9986 Wrap-around weather brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9999 something lost something forgotten falling leaves  10000 eagle soars a total lunar eclipse  10000 eagle soars in memory of my father	9984	the black house cat	9997	the flute maker says the third keyhole
brings billowing clouds over Diablo's summit.  9987 Full moon dims to red a total lunar eclipse  something forgotten falling leaves  10000 eagle soars in memory of my father	9985	'the audacity of taupe'	9998	alongside the road the cow and me
a total lunar eclipse in memory of my father	9986	brings billowing clouds over	9999	something forgotten
	9987	a total lunar eclipse	10000	in memory of my father

- 10001 no more clouds things are clearer now night of stars
- 10002 at all points only high grassland and skies serene and bright
- 10003 pickers in the cotton fields all in pastels
- 10004 choosing a museum science over art small town grandma
- 10005 the cyclist leans into the turn dragonfly
- 10006 fleeing the loudness of forced smiles autumn hills
- 10007 her aunt becoming her grandmother ghosts
- 10008 lotuses on the levee's other side the one unseen
- 10009 above the river voices of lovers songs of frogs
- 10010 wet bicycle brakes reminded of a child's cry as the first leaf falls
- 10011 long hot sultry days and nights—strands of shiny beads dangling from the trees
- 10012 mysterious buzz from the sprawling oaks—locusts hidden in the sound
- 10013 wide muddy crescent snakes its way to the Gulf this Ol' Man River

- 10014 sixty-ninth autumn . . . for the very first time I'm planting tulips
- of you and of me . . . autumn ocean
- 10016 pink gloaming of autumn morning why she stays
- 10017 our plane still awaiting take off signal autumn sunset
- 10018 shopping center dead closed everywhere starry night
- 10019 getting sleepy during class lecture winter mosquito
- 10020 November Lighteninga mixture of rain and snow. Sunlight weaves a web.
- 10021 As the days shorten, we burrow into own holes and condense our lives.

#### Challenge Kigo-"Winter Rain"

night music winter rain and bare branches marking time ~Beverly Acuff Momoi

> winter rain the cat arches all his back ~Michael Henry Lee

unfinished dream home of the divorcing couple endless winter rain ~Joan Zimmerman

in this too
walking on and on—
winter rain
~Ruth Holzer

in attic an unused crib winter rain ~James Lautermilch

> for barely pennies Mother sells heritage land . . . winter rain deepens ~Judith Morrison Schallberger

a red snow shovel still asleep on its hook . . . winter rain ~Elinor Pihl Huggett

> winter rain the koto calls sad loneliness ~Kevin Goldstein-Jackson

winter rain
the gloom so welcome
through this migraine
~Christine Horner

as we soak in the motel's thermal pool winter rain falls ~Patricia Prime

Dodging heavy drops—memories of winter rain in a three-year drought. ~David Sherertz

unpacking my coats is such a big job winter rain ~Majo Leavick

> end of drought years of waiting for winter rain ~Christine Lamb Stern

winter rain his photo discarded long ago ~Johnnie Johnson Hafernik

> the cup breaks right at the handle winter rain ~Phillip Kennedy

Winter rain—dismal on a December window grimed over with soot. ~Bill West

## Challenge Kigo— "Mustard Flower" By June Hopper Hymas

**Challenge Kigo**: mustard flower (*na no hana*, spring).

A North American equivalent for the Japanese rape flower.

the traffic clears on both sides of the road wild mustard

Deborah Kolodji

is it hard leaving behind the rape blossoms? rice field geese

Issa, translation by David Lanoue

this old pasture I stand in waist-high sheets of yellow mustard June Hopper Hymas

mustard flowers the moon in the east the sun in the west

Buson

a field of mustard no whale in sight the sea darkening

Basho, translation by Robert Hass

one mustard plant on bare earth by the freeway and white butterflies!

June Hopper Hymas

In many areas, mustard plants commonly appear in springtime, and by late spring put on a glorious show of bright yellow flowers. I think they make oil from the seeds of the rape plant that is cultivated in Japan. Here in Eastern Idaho, fields of mustard are grown for the seeds used to make that bright yellow hot-dog condiment! But that is not what we are talking about here. Some of the above haiku have an extra kigo—see if you can spot them! And send in your mustard flower, blossoming mustard, mustard in bloom haiku to be printed with your name in the next Geppo!

Asilomar Freestyle Ikebana by Carol Steele Photograph by Christine Horner.



peony leaves, cymbidium orchid, bird of paradise leaves, asparagus fern, horsetail

#### July—August 2014 Haiku Voted Best By GEPPO Readers

restless again you decide to leave autumn wind

~Genie Nakano

throwing a pebble I miss the pond my mind ripples

~Kevin Goldstein-Jackson

pouring tea into the cracked cup autumn wind

~Michael Sheffield

eating udon so much of the enjoyment the noise

~Christine Horner

50 years gone by yet we laugh like yesterday high school reunion ~Christine Lamb Stern

> Milky Way thousands of light years cross tonight ~Alison Woolpert

black hole small change rattling in coat hem ~Peg McAulay Byrd old dog its bark no worse than its slobber

~Kevin Goldstein-Jackson

Year of the Rabbit wrinkle their noses over carrot sticks ~Joan Zimmerman

a cored apple unable to laugh or cry

~Mimi Ahern

autumn stroll the geezers on the beach are us

~Ruth Holzer

sunset—
in the very next breath
a tree frog

~Christine Horner

bubbles above the high C opera in the park

~Johnnie Johnson Hafernik

in the front window the silhouette of the dog souls in autumn rain ~Kyle Sullivan

> fog horn ghosts seep into my dreams fall equinox ~Peg McAulay Byrd

## Members' Votes for July—August 2014 Haiku

Genie Nakano 9880-9, 9881-0, 9882-2 Ruth Holzer 9883-5, 9884-2, 9885-0 Michael Henry Lee 9886-0, 9887-5, 9888-2 Kevin Goldstein-Jackson 9889-6, 9890-8, 9891-3

David Sherertz 9892-0, 9893-0, 9894-2 Clysta Senev 9895-1, 9896-1, 9897-0 James Lautermilch 9898-4, 9899-2, 9900-4 Joan Zimmerman 9901-1, 9902-2, 9903-6 Elinor Pihl Huggett 9904-1, 9905-0, 9906-1 Patricia Prime 9907-4, 9908-1, 9909-0 Michael Sheffield 9910-0, 9911-7, 9912-1 Christine Horner 9913-3, 9914-5, 9915-7 Phillip Kennedy 9916-1, 9917-2, 9918-0 Johnnie Hafernik 9919-0, 9920-2, 9921-5 Christine Stern Lamb 9922-7, 9923-2, 9924-1 Hiro Murakami 9925-1, 9926-1 Judith Schallberger 9927-5, 9928-1, 9929-2 Kyle Sullivan 9930-1, 9931-4, 9932-5 Mimi Ahern 9933-1, 9934-6, 9935-2 Alison Woolpert 9936-3, 9937-1, 9938-7 Bill West 9939-3 Teruro Yamagata 9940-0, 9941-0, 9942-3 June Hopper Hymas 9943-0, 9944-2, 9945-4 Betty Arnold 9946-4, 9947-3, 9948-3



Peg McAulay Byrd 9949-5, 9950-3, 9951-7

Zinovy Vayman 9952-0, 9953-3, 9954-2

Editor's Note: In the last GEPPO Christine Horner's challenge haiku was incorrectly written as:

a stranger bears my dear friend's name autumn wind

I apologize for the mistake. It should be:

a stranger bears my dead friend's name autumn wind

#### **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 secretary: Toni Homan,

## GEPPO Submission due date for the next issue is January 8.

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.

#### **Recent Yuki Teikei Events**

#### Where is the Moon?

submitted by Roger Abe

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society held its annual Moon Viewing Party on October 11, 2014 at Carol Steele's cozy place in Capitola. Attendance: Patrick Gallagher, Sandy Vrooman, Carolyn Fitz, Joan Zimmerman, Roger Abe, Kae Bendixen, Ann Bendixen, Eleanor Carolan, Peg Shelton, Kristin E., Carol Steele and Yukiko Northon. We enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner in Carol's backyard. As we were clearing dishes, we heard explosions and went out to the street to see the nearby beach fireworks show. We hurried in from the chilly night to share a few rounds of haiku. As we said our goodbyes and left Capitola, the tardy moon came up to brighten our journeys home.

(in absentia)

up the rabbit hole—
beholding the night sky and

myself in the moon

**Betty Arnold** 

midnight snack a slice of moonlight on the kitchen floor

Linda Papanicolau

falling across

half of the hot springs pool

hunter moon

Alison Woolpert—traveling, in rainy Portland

(attendees)

wine and coffee being sold in boxes next'll be moonshine

Patrick G.

Splashed Blood red ink on the sky

Sandy V.

snaking dragons

explode red, green, yellow

where is the moon

Eleanor Carolan

firecrackers crackling sesame moon crackers snap

October surprise

Kae Bendixen

sidewalk surprise we stagger our positions Autumn firecrackers

Carolyn Fitz

checking his iphone an hour before moonrise for how it will look

Joan Zimmerman

before the waning moon's rising, the sky fills with the sound of fireworks

Carol Steele

moon viewing in Portland drip, drip, drip,

Roger Abe



ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE IS ALL-

Haiga by PJMachmiller and Martha Dahlen

#### THE CRANE ANCIENT AND SACRED

The crane is an ancient bird. Fossilized remains would indicate these birds have been passing down crane wisdom for at least 25,000 centuries.

footsteps held in stone echo of crane song

Since ancient times in China and Japan the crane has been considered a sacred bird holding magic that can grant a wish for fidelity, love, good health and longevity. They are white in color with black necks and rum feathers and a red cap. It is said they live for 1,000 years.

In Japan legend promises that one who creates a string of 1,000 folded orizumu paper cranes will be granted a wish. These senbazuru are popular gifts for special friends, family members, newly weds and babies.

Several temples in Japan have eternal flames for world peace. At these temples, school groups or individuals often donate senbazuru to add to the prayer for peace. The cranes are left exposed to the elements, slowly dissolving and becoming tattered as the wish is released.

the hope of nations a prayer wings its way to heaven

There are fifteen species of crane around the world. Some perform incredibly long migrations, though there are also several non-migrating populations. All are very tall birds. They choose their partners based on dancing displays and mate for life. There are two species in North America: the Sandhill Crane and the Whopping Crane.

Sandhill Cranes are abundant, their populations increasing by five percent each year. In some places they number in the tens of thousands. However the Mississippi and Florida subspecies are endangered because of habitat loss. They are considered a game bird.

They are the tallest birds in North America and are usually buff to reddish in color with drooping rump feathers. A bright red spot tops the head.

Three subspecies live year-round in Florida, Mississippi and Cuba. Three much larger subspecies migrate in spring from southern parts of North America and Northern Mexico to destinations in Canada all the way to the arctic. They breed in open wetland habitats surrounded by shrubs or trees. They nest in marshes, bogs, wet meadows, prairies and other moist habitats preferring those with standing water. Their call is described as a loud trumpeting. Of course they really don't live to be 1,000 years old. One crane banded in Wyoming and discovered in New Mexico in 2010 was found to have lived thirty-seven years.

In winter they form immense flocks in places like Bosque del Apache, New Mexico and Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Texas. One very large population of cranes winters in the Delta and the Central Valley of California along the Sacramento River. They feed in fields of stubble during the day, returning at twilight to their nightly roosts along the river.

Cosumnes River Preserve, East of Thornton on route 5, is an ideal place to view and hear these birds. The sound of a large flock returning in the dusk might be described as a racket of trumThe peting and flapping made by a great many feathered bodies high on something other than air.

autumn evening the marsh receives a cloud of song

Historically the Whooping Crane was not as abundant as the Sandhill Crane. They are found in Florida and in a corridor in the central plains up into Canada and west to Idaho. Sadly by 1941 their numbers were reduced to sixteen. A tremendous effort of captive breeding has stabilized a population in Florida. A self-sustaining population of more than 300

self-sustaining population of more than 300 birds now migrates between Texas and Canada. There are only 400 or more Whooping Cranes left in the wild today. Considered extremely endangered, they have become an icon of success in the conservation movement.

The Whooping Crane shares many characteristics with the Sandhill Crane. Their distinct whooping call gives this bird its name. They are the taller of the two at over five feet and are white in color with black tipped wings and a red head cap. Happily they are still with us, unlike the Ivory Billed Woodpecker and the Passenger pigeon who have vanished from the earth because of human ignorance and greed.

Let us all be thankful for our feathered, furry and scaly friends, the creepy crawlies and the no-seeums who inhabit our very own bodies. And maybe some day, here in North America, the crane will enjoy a holy station and be recognized as a sacred companion among us and grant us our wish for peace.

trumpeting cranes returning from the fields returning from the brink

Read at the November Asilomar Retreat while Carolyn Fitz created the brush painting below.

### Japanese Red Crowned Cranes by Carolyn Fitz



Carolyn Fitz did this ink painting presentation while she was "out of the way". She painted from behind the canvas with the ink seeping through to the front as a nature cd played crane sounds.

#### Dojin's Corner July-August 2014

Emiko Miyashita and Patricia J. Machmiller

Emiko and Patricia have selected their favorite haiku from the July-August 2014 *GEPPO* as listed below. The starred numbers have been chosen for commentary.

E: 9901\*, 9903, 9908, 9913\*, 9931, 9934, 9935, 9941, 9951\*, 9953, and 9954

pjm: 9886, 9887, 9914, 9917, 9918, 9920\*, 9928, 9929, 9934\*, 9945, 9946, 9948, 9949, 9954\*

9901 pickup brass band blowing through the city park windy afternoon

E: A windy afternoon may occur in any season, however, this haiku has a late summer feeling for me when the dry, hot air blows. Perhaps it is so because the sound of a brass band has that sort of feeling, the sound created by air blown out of metal tubes. I like that way the band is formed or yet forming, musicians join with their instruments and marching through the city park. What a joy! The second line works for both first and the third line, which makes this haiku more interesting.

pjm: There's a lot to like about this haiku starting with the first word, "pickup." It signals things will be a little off-kilter here and the cheeky tone of the poem delivers. The form is five-seven-five—almost; it's missing a syllable in the first line. That's in keeping with a traditional brass band that's making an impromptu appearance—what it lacks in polish, it makes up for in gusto. For my taste, however, the use of both "blowing" and "windy" with their overtones of farting goes too far changing the tone from cheeky (which I like) to slapstick (which I don't).

9913 she finds a pit in the pitted olive cocktail small talk E: Oh! And what did she do with the pit? Whenever I have to return something to my plate from my mouth, my adrenaline level rises because I want to look nice while I am taking the action. Here the olive pit has to be returned to a cocktail transparent glass! Well, the haiku is capturing a real moment in life and the last line gives enough to let us picture the situation. A very small pleasant panic! Her smooth and cool shoulders shake as she giggles.

pjm: A small, intimate group gathers for cocktails and chitchats about small inconsequential things. This is the backdrop for the small drama of someone finding an olive that was supposed to be pitted but was not. And this small story paints a picture of a tiny imperfect world, a kind of bubble inside a larger world fraught with plagues, invasions, disasters, and beheadings.

One thing I really like about this poem is the sound in the last line. Note the consonant sounds in "cocktail" (k, k, t, I) are reversed in "small talk" (I, t, k). Very pleasant to the ear like small talk!

9920 almost dusk at the end of tall grass sleeping wasps

pjm: Among the many ways one could describe the end of a lazy, summer day, this feels both unique and authentic to me. It's summer, the day is ending, the wasps are sleeping—all's right with the world.

E: I knew bees slept in a beehive, but I don't know much about wasps. These not-so- small insects sleeping at the end of tall grass in the darkening hours must be an interesting view: the dark dots of their silhouettes seen against the navy blue sky. Sleep tight and well!

9934 a cored apple unable to laugh or cry

pjm: The crux of this poem is the word "cored," an adjective by the way. (How many times have you been told to leave out or

delete an adjective?) This is not just an apple; it's a *cored* apple. Which means it is plump and ripe and it has been separated from its seed. Its original purpose, to nourish its seed, has been thwarted for a new purpose: my enjoyment—I don't know whether to "laugh or cry."

E: What is this situation? I once saw at a confectionery how they cored apples for making baked apples. It was as if the apples were made of soft clay the way the baker used his cutter. Now, the second and the third lines seem to have nothing to do with his spectacular apple-coring, but only with the cored apple itself. No seeds are left for reproduction, and probably no heart left for it to laugh or cry. Or perhaps the poet is overlapping his/her situation in life with the cored apple?

9951 black hole small change rattling in coat hem

E: This is exactly what I have experienced with an old coat my daughter gave me. She commutes, and her pass had always been in the right pocket; by the time I got the coat, the right pocket had a hole in its bottom. The coat became mine with some change my daughter had lost in her pocket. They made clinking sound as I hurried to the station. Yes, indeed, it's a black hole!

pjm: "Black hole." With this opening I am mentally ready to be transported to some far off place in the cosmos. But in the end I am looking at a small hole in someone's coat pocket. This is quite a mental shift. I have to confess, I did enjoy the ride.

As a small nit, I think the last line needs an "a" or "the" before "coat."

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

pjm: This is a unique observation: the delicately colored veins of a woman, a natural tattoo if you will, under the artfully created tattoo. I think there might be a preference for the delicate tracery of the light blue veins to the dark blue heaviness of the tattoo. And the "end of/summer" reminds us that both will fade with time. Another small nit, I don't think that breaking the phrase "end of summer" accomplishes anything.

E: An interesting contrast of colors, of the tattoo and the veins. The author is making a detailed observation on her arm, or is this her breast? We do not know where the tattoo is, but "end of summer" makes me think of a non-tanned area of the skin where the blue color stands out. Must have been a great summer! I feel the gentle gaze of the author from this haiku.

Emiko and Patricia invite your response. Send your letters to Carol Steele in care of GEPPO or e-mail us at:

Birds Joan I. Goswell



Fresh Peaches Renku 2014 Asilomar Retreat		13.	Budweiser fuels ice fishermen to their hole bright moon	Ann
November 6-9, 2014 Pacific Grove, CA			sneezing my way through the vitamin aisle	Phillip
fresh peaches     on black lacquer stands     palace banquet	Phillip	15.	Uncle Harry tells me what I should do about the renegade priest	Chris
a moon in the sky     and one in the sea	Chris	16.	my Idaho friend happy with the election results	Carol
I love the sound     of kelp-bladder popping     Asilomar sand	Amy	17.	under cherry blossoms the one who's drunk too much spills the sake	Greg
bright silks and obis     so many compliments	Greg/Chris	18.	four dumpsters to help with spring	Ann
<ol><li>a new acquaintance we talk about the current heat wave</li></ol>	Greg	19.	the sweetness of maple sugar fresh from the tree	Greg
chickadee, chickadee     can't tell one from another	Ann	20.	the protestors burst through sturdy clinic doors	Kae
<ol> <li>flinging her arms round the adventuresome cat for fuzzy kisses</li> </ol>	Kae	21.	Rosicrucians do they meditate in the mummy chamber	Judith
a Las Vegas honeymoon then she deploys to Kuwait	Carol	22.	one country to start war two countries to make peace	Ann
<ol><li>the private detective's blurry photographs of us stick together</li></ol>	Phillip	23.	she wore an itsy bitsy teeny weeny yellow polka dot bikini	Greg
<ol><li>on my road trip heading home bouncing bluegrass moves me</li></ol>	on Kae	24.	without protection her back will be sunburned	Toni
<ol> <li>how about those Giants will we ever be content with real life again</li> </ol>	Patrick		what is a corsage? before the homecoming dance motherly wisdom	Kae
12. the jasmine rice I make boils all over the stove	Greg			

26. some day I'll tell you about the cutest hitch-hiker Chris 27. bronze-helmed Hector pacing the high stone walls guarding Andromache **Phillip** 28. adjusting to my husband's new mustache **Amy** 29. the man in the moon looking down on earth a LEM in his eye Greg 30. hippocampal swelling where did I hide my acorns? Kae 31. Obama paid up the new Federal budget makes room for me **Patrick** 32. onegai shimasu the go tournament begins Phillip 33. London Eye's lights twinkle and arc through the sky Amy 34. King Tut lives! Steve Martin on SNL Ann 35. cherry blossoms carried on the winds of Mt. Yoshino Chris 36. enjoying a well-earned springtime nap Phillip Renku master: Patrick Gallagher Participants: Ann Bendixen, Kae Bendixen, Toni Homan, Christine Horner, Phillip Kennedy, Amy Ostenso-Kennedy, Greg Longenecker, Judith Schallberger, Carol Steele.

Red Cliffs PJ Machmiller

#### 2015 YTHS Calendar

- Jan 1 Yuki Teikei Haiku Society membership dues for 2015 are due. Information in this issue.
- Jan 8 GEPPO submissions due.
- Jan 10 Yuki Teikei meeting at Markham House, History Park San Jose, 1650 Senter Street, San Jose, CA. Clysta Seney and Patricia Machmiller will give a tour of the YTHS Archives with haiku writing to follow.
- Feb 14 Yuki Teikei meeting at Markham House, History Park San Jose, 1650 Senter Street, San Jose, 1-4pm CA. Linda Papanicolaou will give a talk about love verses in haiku and renku.
- Mar 4 GEPPO submissions due.
- Mar 14 Haiga meeting hosted by Linda Papanicolau at Termam Middle School, Room H-8, 1-4pm 655 Arastadero Road, Palo Alto, CA.
- Thu Apr 2- Japanese American Museum, San Jose Yuki Teiki Haiku Society Gallery Show, 535 N Sun Apr 26 5th Street, San Jose. Yuki Teiki Haiku Society Reading & Reception on Sunday, April 26. Noon-4pm Reading starts at 1pm.
- May 6 GEPPO submissions due.
- May 9 Teahouse Reading in the Japanese Friendship Garden, 1490 Senter Road, San Jose, CA. 10 to 10-noon garden tour and haiku workshop, 1:30-4:30 featured readers followed by an open 4:30pm mike. YTHS 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Program. (place and time TBD)