

KEY

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 6, No.5 May 1983

MOUNTAINEERING IN JAPAN

by Kiyoshi Tokutomi and Teruo Yamagata

Summer time is said to be a mountaineering season in Japan. It is a great moment and an excitement for mountain climbers to watch the sunrise from the peak they have conquered during the previous night's ascent.

The meaning of GORAIGO or GORAIKO is to greet or welcome the sunrise. It is most popular and famous to watch the sunrise far beyond the peak of Mt. Fuji. The New Year's GORAIGO or GORAIKO has come from the words in Buddhism. It is said that three great Buddhas come to welcome the soul of the man who has passed away. The Buddhas come from the 'Paradise' (the land of Promise, or the 'Pure Land') by flying on five clouds with music of inexpressible beauty. The old Japanese people usually say as their death time approaches, "They have come to welcome me." The use of these words are changed and are used as a "greeting" or "welcome" to the sunrise for mountaineering people. It is strange that the words are used for mountaineering people. However, we can imagine that the feeling of the mountaineers whose shadows casting on the fog makes a mysterious illusion.

Old people, however, perceive it as GORAIGO or GORAIKO: "They have come to welcome me!"

MEMBERS' HAIKU FOR MAY 1983

Editor's Note: Check the KIGO list in the February GEPPU. Vote for 8 haiku this month. List numbers of your selections in order and circle your three top choices. For the June GEPPU Please submit a total of THREE haiku using either May or June kigo. Please try to have your haiku to me by May 30th. Filler articles (half page or less) are still needed -- thanks to Ruby Spriggs for the April article. Articles for the 1983 HAIKU JOURNAL should be in by June 1st. NOTE -- Depth: Pond Ponder Pondest. Best ... jb

- 308. May Day means baskets full of flowers, freshly picked... Communist parades.
- 310. When will swallows come back home to nest of last year, waiting in the barn?

- 309. New Leaves on the trees | so soft a green by the bark, light against the dark.
- 311. Chattering on Street || The neighbors come together late summer evening

- 312. I met a teacher at a fashionable resort the school vacation

- 313. Garbage collector has to hurry up his work short night at a park

- (314) Last shadows of day -- ||||| somewhere a baby sparrow calling and calling

- (315) Above the locked door ||||| of the old monastery a nesting swallow

- (316) After a spring rain ||||| cherry blossoms overflow the dog's drinking bowl

- 317. Day returns to day, | Sun slowly gains on the rain: New leaves on old oak.

V Gold

T Yamagata

S Fuchino

J Fields

J Fields

318. Clustered by grave stones ||
Rose bushes nested with straw
the swallows return.

319. In sea green fields
The California poppies
Taking in the air.

L.P. Schuck

(320) Taking possession. ||||| 6-3 ||
of every scrawny twig
delicate new leaves

321. Hovering swallow - |||| |
Now the old unpainted barn
is homey again

(322) On unsteady legs ||||| 6-2 ||
A newborn lamb exploring
in all directions

323. Where the tree bark split |
exposing the inner part
someone nailed a cross

Stone

324. Under the school's roof ||
the janitor hoses down
the swallows' mud nests

325. Instead of machines | - 0
to have lambs cropping the grass
on suburban lawns

K Hall

326. Gnarled oak sprouts new leaves
comes alive for birds to nest
how bright the greenness

327. Willow tree spirals
sway gracefully in warm breeze
a place for dreaming

328. Baby lamb bleating
as mama washes his fleece
so white and cuddly!

(329) In front of my home ||||| * ||
California Poppies
hide the For Sale sign 7-2

Wabors

330. Again bare tree limbs
are a pageant of new leaves
-- thrilling me again

331. Sky-feeding swallows ||
demonstrate their maneuvers
with ballet finesse

332. Sparrow on the fence |||
a spring breeze comes suddenly
on wing to balance

333. Warm May evening
clouds are moving rapidly
wind among new leaves

M Henn

334. May Day and soft rain
thin raincoat and rubber boots
the wind rises ice

335. in the swinging next
chirping of baby swallows
attracts a bo

M Richardson

(336) new leaves this morning ||||| * ||
on my black currant bushes 6-4
a new cobweb too!

(337) the first warm spring day ||||| * ||
invalid wheeling his chair
to shifting sunspots 9-3

338. Some spring snowpatches
shrink against the hillside's moss
beneath new green leaves

339. First warm day of spring; |
At the farmhouse shining sheets
unfold in the wind ...

to McCoy

(340) May Day revelries; ||||| * ||
At a parking lot puddle
the butterfly drinks

341. Spring stirs the ground roots
While winds move above the leaves
Soon baby sparrows

342. Winter has cleansed earth
Cherry blossoms in orchard
Petals on damp ground.

(343) My brand new record, |||||
A little jazz to sooth me;
April rain returns

J Fields

344. New red clematis
Bought last year, sends up a shoot
Now I'll buy trellis.

345. Mother's Day pansies,
Too hard to send parcel post.
Flower card is fine.

S Young, dabil

S Youngdahl

346. On sudden impulse
Buying Amaryllis bulbs.
But do I have pots?

347. In her spring apron ||| - 1
Mama helps junior balance
his new bicycle.

J Ball

348. The carp are huddled ||||| (6-1)
at the bottom of the pond
Cloudy April day

349. A gray April sky -- |
Even a friend from far off
points and shouts, "Gray! Gray!"

E Cruciana

350. His old model T ... |
California poppies
by the barnyard

351. Shooting the rapids ... ||||| + 1
a train crosses the trestle
in the morning haze

352. Sounds of the city ... |
day ends with a flight of swallows
in a sunset sky

353. After spring showers ||| |
bright streaks of slugs on the walk --
trails going nowhere

I Wolfe

354. I am April's Fool
the young wind warms my bald head
grins of gratitude

355. Small green fruits now form -- | - 1
Snow-white plum blossoms, falling
drift along the ground

356. Mud-dauber, building ... ||
Not the same as a swallow
Quite the same notion

357. A soft stirring; ||||| (6-1) |
California poppies
sway from hill to hill

R Haas

358. The sun just rising |||
someone's left a May basket
by the widow's door

359. The bell-tower at dusk |||
a multitude of swallows
fills the deep valley

E VanLop

360. Six o'clock stillness ||
the hum of numerous bees
rise with Easter dawn

361. She feels the texture ||||| (5-2) ||
of new leaves and speaks their name -
aged blind lady

362. Clouds shadow a field |
finding a poppy without
its green pined cap

363. Early May morning: J Ball |||||
The strings of brass windchime birds
... tangled together

Correction: #306. A towering pine |
in its below zero robes -
and a crown of stars.
V Schuck

- MEMBERS' VOTES FOR APRIL HAIKU: Name: Haiku # - Votes - Circled Votes
- Members' names are listed in numerical order of haiku presented. Only haiku receiving votes are mentioned. '*' indicates top vote getter!
- | | |
|---|---|
| D. Wright #198-3-0;199-2-0;200-3-2 | J. Ball #201*-6-0;202-3-1;203-2-0 |
| P. Machmiller #204-3-1;206-1-0 | Kiyoshi Tokutomi #209-1-0 |
| M. Hill #211*-12-6;212-1-1;213-2-0 | W.E. Greig #214-2-0;216-2-0 |
| K. Perry #222-3-2;223-1-0 | M. Henn #*224-5-3;225-1-0;227-3-0;228-2-0 |
| S. Youngdahl 231-2-0;232-1-0 | I. Wolfe #233-2-2 |
| W. Fitzpatrick 237-1-0;238-3-0 | V. Golden #239-2-0;240-1-0;242-2-1 |
| E. Dunlop #246-3-2;247-2-1;248-2-0 | R. Haas #249*-6-4;250-2-2;251-2-1
252-2-1; 254-2-1 |
| D. Greenlee #256-4-3 | M. Richardson #258-1-0;259-1-0;261-1-0
262-2-0;263-1-0 |
| L. Winder #265*-10-3;266*-5-1;267-1-1;268-1-0;269-1-0 | |
| K. Hale #270-1-0;273-1-0 | H. Dalton 276-1-1;277*-5-0;278-3-0;279-2-0 |
| E. McCoy #280-3-0;283-1-1;284-1-0;285-2-0 | |
| L. Cruciana #286-1-0;287-2-1;288*9-5 | Kiyoko Tokutomi #289-5-0 |
| J. Ball #291-2-1 | P. Machmiller #295-2-1;296-2-0 |
| R. Spriggs #298-3-0;299-3-3;300-2-0 | T. Yamagata #301-2-2 |
| S. Stone #304-1-0;305-2-0 | L. Schuck #307-1-0 |