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MINUTES & PROCEEDINGS

25 April 1977

Minutes of the Business Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7 p.m. by Pres. Carl Fredricks in Conference Room 3 at Japan House. Other members present were William R. Haseltine, Yasko Karaki, Dorita J. Kerner, Jim Nichols, Joe Suraci, and Tony Suraci.

Because Minutes & Proceedings of 25 March 1977 (containing a discussion of members' haiku distributed with the February M&P) were not yet ready and hence no notice of the April meeting sent, it was suggested that in such a case in future, the secretary send post cards to notify members in the greater New York area of the next meeting. The May meeting was scheduled for Monday, 23 May, at 7 p.m.

Pres. Fredricks announced a JUNE HAIKU READING to be held June 26 at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden at 2 p.m. Members interested in reading were urged to contact him. He also reported that the annual Haiku Reading at Japan House was tentatively scheduled for late fall.

Proceedings

Each member was asked to read a favorite haiku of his/her own and explain when and where it had been written, why the author particularly liked it, and what kind of techniques were used.

1	brown road butterfly & bum stop to sip summer	where: when: why: how: author:	Jersey City 1976 I saw a bum and a butterfly. Juxtaposition; linked sounds, rhyming sounds Carl Fredricks
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There was general discussion on the word "brown" and other colors.

2	our milky way licking the sky cat feet	where: when: why:	New York City 1976 Thinking about western
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2.

how: ^{often "e's"} _{and "u's"} skies and Carl Sandburg
author: Jim Nichols

3 spring breeze
everywhere in these woods
a distant farm

explanation: Jogging in the woods,
I experienced the sen-
sation of the breeze on
my face and hands and
the sounds and smells of
a distant farm.

author: William R. Haseltine

4 In the middle of the woods
the first snow
falls gently.

explanation: Every year the first
snowfall comes as a
surprise to me, and I'm
always delighted to see
it. It's a miraculous
thing to observe.

author: Joe Suraci

5 Icicle melting
A dog waters
Uncovering green shoot

explanation: (Not available at time
of printing)

author: Tony Suraci

6 Over Ike's Pond
a white ball
pine flowers

where: Augusta, Ga., Master's
Golf Tournament
when: Easter vacation
why: My first adventure of golf
haiku

how: Tried hard to suggest that
it is about golf without
using the word

author: Yasko Karaki

CF suggested using "sand trap" in place of "Ike's Pond."

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Yasko Karaki

MINUTES & PROCEEDINGS

23 May 1977

Minutes of the Business Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7 p.m. by Pres. Carl Fredricks in Conference Room 1 at Japan House. Other members present were L. A. Davidson, Yasko Karaki,

3.

Dorita J. Kerner, Tadashi Kondo, Jim Nichols, and Marion J. Richardson.

Pres. Fredricks noted the need for assistance in editing, printing, and mailing M&P of each meeting. After much discussion of procedures, expense, format, and past HSA experiences, Davidson, Kerner, Kondo, and Nichols volunteered to collaborate with Secretary Karaki in editing, getting printed, and mailing the M&P for April and May meetings.

It was suggested, and postponed for future planning, that an anthology of all members' haiku be published, perhaps as a supplement to an M&P. Suggestions are welcome. Information will be forthcoming.

Because the March and April M&P had not yet been distributed, they were not presented for approval. There was no treasurer's report.

(The March 1977 M&P will be circulated to members as soon as possible, as will also the May 1976 and September 1976 M&P. At present they are not available. Resident HSA members appreciate the patience of those too far away to attend meetings and will do their best to see that M&P of meetings are circulated henceforth as soon after the meetings as possible.)

Pres. Fredricks called for a clarification of the responsibilities of the Membership Chairman:

Mrs. Emiko Manning
Haiku Society of America
875 East Broadway
Stratford, CT 06497

ONLY: DUES (new or renewal; all
checks payable to Haiku
Society of America)
ADDRESS CHANGES
QUESTIONS ON MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Prospective members should contact The Haiku Society of America, c/o Japan Society, 333 East 47th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017, directly, for the Information Sheet or for past issues of MINUTES & PROCEEDINGS.

MEMBERS RECEIVING THESE MINUTES WHO HAVE NOT YET PAID FOR 1977 Membership Renewal of \$6 (USA) or \$10 (overseas airmail) should send their dues to Mrs. Manning. The November 1976 billing was for 1976 dues. If you receive these minutes but did not receive M&P for 26 January 1977 and 25 February 1977, please advise the HSA. Several members paid through 1976 were inadvertently omitted from the mailing list. Apologies.

Announcement was made of the JUNE POETRY READING at the Alfred T. White Memorial overlooking the Japanese Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, on Sunday, June 26, at 2 p.m. The Garden at 1000 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, is easily accessible by subway, and you may phone (212) 622-4433 for directions. Parking is available.

4.

Appreciation was expressed for Niel Glixon's article, "Crazy for Haiku?" that appeared in SCHOLASTIC VOICE magazine April 21, 1977, Vol. 61, No. 16, featuring Tadashi Kondo with four of his haiku, also the 1975 Henderson Award haiku by Jennifer Virgil, and the May 1976 Members Only Contest winning haiku by Edythe Polster. TK mentioned the brevity of the article in view of the length of the interview and the abundance of other material he had considered significant that was omitted.

Proceedings

Marion J. Richardson presented two versions of a haiku on which she was working:

under
silent moving clouds
sound of river flow

listening
to river flow
under silent moving clouds

Those voicing opinions preferred the first. TK: I wonder if you need "silent?" DK: They would make the connection in their own minds. YK: Everything is moving, the river flowing. The author is standing still at one place, but I'd like to have something immovable holding it, like a granite boulder against the many moving objects. JN: I think you might leave out the "flow" and "silent." You'd still have a strong haiku. MJR: I was trying to get the contrast. TK: Some rivers don't really move. I like the idea; I like the images. JN: Why don't you say "windy day / river under clouds?" I was in this valley in California, 1500 feet above the north fork of the American River. The clouds form below you. You could hear the sound of the river below the clouds. MJR: This is the East River. You can hear the water. TK: I listen to the river, too, the Hudson. It makes all sorts of noises. In the winter, the ice.

After more discussion, CF said comment on comment is nonsense. TK: Everybody should comment on the original.

CF quoted a haiku from the February HSA M&P circulated for comments to be made at the March workshop. (Author's name not available at time of printing. Will attribute later.)

riding by . . .
the absence of a house
I once lived in

CF continued: I've noticed in this group we don't make many personal comments. In other places, people make comments in their haiku, not only giving the observation but their own personal feelings. Roseliep and

5.
others do this. LAD: That is not the way the classical Japanese did it,
is it? TK: I don't think so.

CF read poems of TK's in the April 21 SCHOLASTIC VOICE as representative of
the opposite, without personal intrusion:

the boat is gone
again
the spring river

autumn light
eating alone
the puppeteer

CF felt that the first poem (riding by . . .) leads to comment on comment.
Others felt that it is perfectly all right, because personal experience
can be universal, too. LAD: There is a feeling of sabi. YK: "riding"
is too mechanical to be sabi. JN: One could be riding on a horse.
DK: A car makes it go faster than if one walks, enhancing the fleeting
quality. CF: It's a comment. LAD: I think, rather, it's an evocation
of an emotion. CF: But you're changing tense; you're doing something.
DK: There's the Japanese haiku of the man stepping on his wife's comb.
The comb could have happened only to the man. It is intensely personal,
but I get the emotion. YK: Is it not customary to use "I" in writing
haiku in English? TK: You can avoid it in Japanese; in English it is
grammatically necessary to use. MJR: Professor Sato said the Japanese
tend to avoid it. YK: Still you can change the grammar to avoid the
"I." JN and YK suggested using "she" or "we," but it was agreed that that
would entirely change the image in the poem, perhaps towards the romantic.

CF read a haiku by Sister Mary Lawrence that uses the personal pronoun:

Knocking and grumbling
the furnace
keeps me company

MJR presented two more of her own haiku:

Darning needle
in and out
of Queen Anne's lace

▲ fly!
I open my hand.
It's gone.

MR: An editor thought it should be dragonfly.

Members voiced preference for "Darning needle." There was no comment on
the second one.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Yasko Karaki

NOTES & NOTICES

Haiku book by two members of HSA: PICASSO'S BUST OF SYLVETTE by Elizabeth and Bruce Lamb. Photographs and haiku. Available for \$2.50 post-paid from Garlinghouse Printers, P.O. Box 299, Topeka, Kansas, 66601.

(Notice of other books received by HSA not available to editor at this time)

CONTEST: -- The 10th Year Haiku Contest sponsored by The Poetry Society of Japan and open to all poets of the world, has a June 30, 1977 deadline for a haiku in English (one that has not been submitted to any other editor or publisher at time of submission), any form on any theme, not to exceed 20 syllables.

Submit 5 typewritten copies on 18 cm by 18 cm white paper, with name and address typed in upper left corner of one copy only. Xerox acceptable. Enclose 300-yen stamp or three International Reply Coupons (42 cents each at P.O.) with one entry. (1 to 3 entries per person permissible.)

\$100 Award, and Honorable Mentions that also receive a subscription to POETRY NIPPON and a book of poetry. Winning poem to be printed in POETRY NIPPON. All rights remain with author. No poems returned. Poetry Society of Japan reserves right to use award-winning haiku in all its publications.

Send to The Poetry Society of Japan, 5-11 Nagaike-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya 406 Japan.

NEXT MEETING of The HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA will be held at Japan House in September, the time and date to be announced (and members in surrounding area notified) later in the summer. Members residing at a distance are reminded that at any time of the year they are visiting in New York City, they should query Japan House or local members for possible meetings, activities, or changes of schedule.

ALL members are invited to write their comments on the following, submitted by Geraldine C. Little:

"In a junk pile / wrapped only in frost, / a fetus."

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A full and frank discussion is solicited on the nature of haiku: upbeat?, downbeat?, or, What is? Those with a bent for research may spend profitable summer hours in old and new haiku publications to support their opinions historically or by illustration. Those members unable to attend the September meeting should send their analysis to HSA (333 East 47th St., New York City 10017) by early September. Little's own discussion is reserved for the September meeting.

7.

WORK SHEET

JUNE READING by members of The HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA at BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN, the Alfred T. White Memorial overlooking the Japanese Garden, on Sunday, June 26, at 2 p.m. (See inside, bottom of p. 3.)

SEPTEMBER MEETING of The HAIKU SOCIETY OF AMERICA at Japan House, date and time to be announced. (Subject for discussion on p. 6, inside.)
COMMENTS invited from ALL members.

DUES for 1977 to be sent Membership Chairman now. (See inside, p. 3.)

