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HSA NEWS

photo: Lesley Anne Swanson



Haiku Society of America News

Volume 31, Issue 12 - December 05, 2016

(*HSA News* replaces

Ripples as the official newsletter of HSA)

Time to Renew!

Yup! Membership Renewal Time
is once again upon us!



The renewal deadline is December 31, 2016.
Renew by credit card or Paypal on the HSA website here.

Do not submit a 'Renew Membership Form' unless your
personal information has changed.

Ensure that you continue to receive all the benefits of HSA
membership by renewing immediately!

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Dear Randy M,

The HSA appreciates your continued support and your participation in society activities. As primary supplement to the HSA website, this monthly report strives to bring you news from the Executive Committee and the Regional Chapters.

[Become a Member of HSA](#)



Membership includes a year's subscription to the society's journal, *Frogpond* (three issues yearly). In addition, members receive *HSA NEWS* by email on the fifth of each month, the annual information sheet and a copy of the annual Members' Anthology.

[Join Now!](#)

From the
President

Dear Members,

The third and last national meeting this year was held in Hot Springs, AK, where I was bathed in the kindness of people who spoke with a pleasant Southern drawl. Hot Springs' sister city is Hanamaki, in Iwate Prefecture, Japan where Kenji Miyazawa, the author of *Night on the Milky Way Railway and other stories*, was born. As its name indicates, Hot Springs has a bunch of bath houses. If I were the mayor, I would build 足湯





Like us on Facebook. Share news, poems, discussions! See photos from some recent gatherings of the poetic kind.



Follow us on Twitter:
Twitter@hsa_haiku

.haiku

Check out the ".haiku" column at the HSA webpage, please. Gene Myers shares tools and tips available to haiku poets.

View our web sampler and excerpts from previous issues of Frogpond.

('ashi yu' - 'foot bath') in the city square for bathers who would only need to take off their shoes and socks to enjoy. It could be free of charge and would attract tourists and sooth one's feet after hiking in the nearby mountains.

This newsletter includes a report written by Vic Fleming, an Arkansas poet and crossword puzzle maker. Though I am not a crossword enthusiast, I was impressed with his ability to create a puzzle using my quote: I don't write haiku to report the weather, during a lunch break.

Because my job as an interpreter requires travelling, a friend in Japan gave me an amulet from the temple named 飛不動 ("Tobi Fudou") in Tokyo. The character 飛 means 'flying' and the amulet is popular among pilots and flight attendants. Because the character 飛 is the same one for my name, Fay, it was the perfect gift. To be honest, this amulet hasn't always protected me from travelling disasters. Last year on the way back from Haiku North America in New York, my flight from Washington DC, the last flight of the day, was cancelled. I was appalled to see people pushing and shoving to get in the van, showing absolutely no courtesy for a lady in a wheelchair. The most recent incident happened when I flew to Arkansas. The day before the trip, when I returned home from a business trip to San Diego around midnight, I received a text message from United Airlines. My morning flight to Houston, the first leg of the trip, was cancelled. Luckily, I got a seat on a flight to Denver. Then, a small plane to Little Rock had a mechanical problem.

I am supposed to go to a temple in Japan and exchange the old amulet with a new one every year. It seems that even protection from God has a shelf life.

Travelling to HSA meetings this year, I truly enjoyed meeting new and old faces. Our first meeting in 2017 will be held in St. Simon's

Island, GA from April 21 to April 23. We will announce the dates and places of later meetings shortly. Though it is impossible to satisfy everyone, I am grateful to be supported by excellent officers and hard-working members. Also, on behalf of the HSA, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to Tom Chockley who will retire from our post runner position after many years.

Wishing you and your family happy holidays.

winter galaxy
a coupon ticket for a ride
toward the lights

Fay Aoyagi
HSA President
fay.hsa.president@gmail.com

HSA News

HSA STORE CLOSING

If you are interested in obtaining HSA-branded items, such as t-shirts or mugs, now's the time to do it. This month is your 1st chance to make such purchases.

**The HSA Store will be closing
on December 31, 2016.**

Haruo Shirano Appointed

Haruo Shirane Appointed as New Honorary Curator of the American Haiku Archives

The American Haiku Archives advisory board is pleased to announce the appointment of Haruo Shirane as the



2016-2017 honorary curator of the American Haiku Archives at the California State Library in Sacramento

(www.americanhaikuarchives.org).

This honor recognizes Shirane's significant impact on English-language haiku through his books and articles on haiku and related Japanese literature, in particular

Traces of Dreams: Landscape, Cultural Memory, and the Poetry of Bashō (Stanford University Press, 1997), *Japan and the Culture of the Four Seasons: Nature, Literature, and the Arts* (Columbia University Press, 2012), and his groundbreaking essay, "Beyond the Haiku Moment: Bashō, Buson, and Modern Haiku Myths."

Shirane is an expert on Japanese literature, cultural history, and visual culture, and serves as the Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Chair of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University in New York City. He is also affiliated with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. His disciplinary interests include Japanese literature and cultural history, particularly classical and early modern literature, with special interest in prose fiction, poetry, and literary theory. Shirane also pursues his interests in the interaction between popular and elite cultures, issues of cultural memory and language, ecocriticism, and cultural constructions of nature. In 2010, he was awarded the Ueno Satsuki Memorial Prize on Japanese Culture for his contributions to the study of Japanese culture. We are pleased to celebrate Haruo Shirane, and to bestow this honor from the American Haiku Archives, which seeks to preserve and promote haiku and related poetry throughout the North American continent.

jumping in
and washing off an old poem-
a frog

-Buson

on a leafless branch
a crow comes to rest-
autumn nightfall

-Bashō

summer grasses-
traces of dreams
of ancient warriors

-Bashō

(translations by Haruo
Shirane)



The American Haiku Archives, which includes the Haiku Society of America archives, is the largest public collection of haiku materials outside Japan. Each year since the archives were established on July 12, 1996, the AHA advisory board, currently chaired together by Garry Gay and Randy Brooks, appoints a new honorary curator (an idea suggested

by the former California state librarian, Dr. Kevin Starr). Past curators, in order starting from the first year, have been Elizabeth Searle Lamb, Jerry Kilbride, Cor van den Heuvel, Robert Spiess, Lorraine Ellis Harr, Leroy Kanterman, William J. Higginson, Makoto Ueda, Francine Porad, Hiroaki Sato, H. F. Noyes, George Swede, Stephen Addiss, Gary Snyder, Jerry Ball, LeRoy Gorman, Charles Trumbull, Marlene Mountain, and Ruth Yarrow.

The archives continues with its mission, which is as follows: "Based on the belief that haiku and related poetry can enrich lives, the American Haiku Archives is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and promotion of this poetry as a vital component of literature in the English language. Established 12 July 1996 as an inclusive educational and scholarly resource at the California State Library in Sacramento, the Archives seeks to make its material accessible to the general public, especially students, poets, writers, and scholars. The Archives' material, primarily in English, includes books, magazines, pamphlets, recordings, art work, photographs, letters, papers, and ephemera. It also encompasses other historical and contemporary material from individuals, groups, publishers, and societies around the world, from whom the Archives actively invites future and regular contributions. The

American Haiku Archives exists with the hope and confidence that present and future generations will continue to enjoy and benefit from the reading, writing, and studying of haiku and all related poetry."

The AHA advisory board is delighted to pay tribute to Haruo Shirane as the twentieth honorary curator of the American Haiku Archives. To search the collections of the American Haiku Archives online, please visit [here](#). For information on donating material to the archives, or other information about its history and past honorary curators, please visit the American Haiku Archives Web site at www.americanhaikuarchives.org.

submitted by Michael Dylan Welch, for
the American Haiku Archives Advisory Board

***Photos from the Joint
Meeting of HSA and the
Arkansas Haiku Society***





HSA President, Fay Aoyagi,
giving a reading of her haiku and haibun



New Zealand poet Doc Drumheller
jams with Vic Fleming



Johnye Strickland with
HSA President, Fay Aoyagi,

Upcoming Events

Haiku North America 2017! **September 13-17, 2017** **Santa Fe, New Mexico**

Haiku North America (HNA) is the largest and oldest gathering of haiku poets in the United States and Canada. The conference takes place every two years, and this is the 13th in the series.

Enjoy four days of papers, panels, workshops, readings, performances, book sales, and much socialization with fellow poets, translators, scholars, editors and publishers. Both established and aspiring haiku poets are welcome.

The program is already filling up! Terry Ann Carter, Margaret Chula, Lee Gurga, Natalie Goldberg, Jim Kacian, Deborah Kolodji, Miriam Sagan, Ruth Yarrow, Michael Dylan Welch, among other prominent haiku poets and scholars, have committed to making presentations.

The conference venue is the Hotel Santa Fe/The Hacienda and Spa. A 10-minute walk to the Plaza, the Hotel Santa Fe is owned by Picurís Pueblo and is the only Native American-owned hotel in Santa Fe.

Register now [here](#)
and come back to the HNA website often
to keep abreast of all the updates!

submitted by Sondra Byrnes

Regional News

California

Deborah Kolodji



The Southern California Haiku Study Group held its annual anthology launch reading at Throop Hall, 300 S. Los Robles in Pasadena on Saturday, November 19th, starting at 2 pm.

The reading was from their new 2016 anthology, *what the wind can't touch*, from a title poem by Kimberly Esser; the collection was edited by Naia. Thirty of the anthology's 75 poets were on hand for the reading, accompanied by Rick Wilson on flute and Kathabela Wilson on percussion. All of the haiku in the anthology was read, with a panel of four readers, Naia, Deborah P Kolodji, Gregory Longenecker, and William Hart, available to read for those who weren't present.

Contributing poets at the reading were Lynn Allgood, Marcia Behar, Sean Carlton, Peggy Castro, Teresa Mei Chuc, Marcyn Del Clements, Beverly Collins, D'Ellen, Maja Trochimczyk, Kathabela Wilson, Deborah P Kolodji, Pauli

Dutton, Richard Dutton, Kimberly Esser, Scott Galasso, William Hart, Naia, Yvette Kolodji, Elva Lauter, Greg Longenecker, Janis Lukstein, Beki Reese, Susan Rogers, Jie Tian, Mary Torregrossa, Patricia Wakimoto, James Won, Sharon Yee, Hannah Elliott, and Toni Steele.

submitted by Deborah P Kolodji



Top row:

Greg Longnecker, Mary Torregrossa, William Hart, Naia, Scott Galasso (above Naia), Maja Trochimczyk (with hat), Kathabela Wilson, Rick Wilson

In middle, not in row:

Kimberly Esser (below Naia), Deborah P Kolodji

Standing - middle row:

Hannah Elliott, Beki Reese, Patricia Wakimoto, Toni Steele, Lynn Allgood, Janis Lukstein, Marcyn Del Clements, Teresa Mei Chuc, Richard Dutton, D'Ellen, Marcia Behar, Pauli Dutton, Peggy Castro

Kneeling - 1st Row

Jie Tian, Sharon Yee, Beverly Collins, Susan Rogers, Yvette Kolodji, Sean Carlton, James Won





left to right

Naia (anthology editor), Deborah P Kolodji (SCHSG Group Moderator), Kimberly Esser (author of title poem)

Mid-West

Julie Warther



The Mississippi Mud Daubers Haiku Group of Southwestern Illinois-St. Louis

The Mississippi Mud Daubers met on November 18, 2016 at Sacred Grounds Coffee House in Edwardsville, Illinois. Members present included: Gabrielle Copans; Ben Moeller-Gaa; John J. Dunphy; John Han; Natalia Coleridge; and Richard Keating.

We welcomed new member Gabrielle Copans. Gabrielle has an avid interesting in both haiku and free-verse. She studied poetry with Richard Garcia, who teaches poetry at Antioch University of Los Angeles. She is a member of the South Carolina Poetry Society.

Richard Keating spoke to our local Sierra Club about his trip to Bhutan. He'll soon visit Iceland. Natalia Coleridge has been hiking the trails of Marquette State Park in Grafton, Illinois. Ben Moeller-Gaa attended the New Hampshire Poetry Festival, where he participated in a panel discussion dealing with forms of short poetry. *Wish Bones*, his latest collection of poetry is due out next year.

John Han shared a hard copy of his work that was recently published in Bamboo Hut. He is on the board of a literary journal that publishes work in both English and Korean. John also presented us with slips of paper that had our names written in Korean. John J. Dunphy mentioned his recent work that has been published in Prune Juice and Failed Haiku.

John Han, Richard and Ben presented unpublished work for critiquing. We agreed that this would be our last meeting in 2016.

Respectfully submitted by John J. Dunphy for
the Mississippi Mud Daubers.

South
Margaret Dornaus



Arkansas Haiku Society/HSA Hold 20th Conference in Hot Springs



In 2005 or 2006, I joined the Haiku Society of America, and the Arkansas Haiku Society, and began attending annual conferences held in Hot Springs. Nov. 4-5, the 20th of these conferences--an event I co-chaired with Judy Michaels, who also presented a tribute to her mother, long-time HSA member and retired educator Johnnye Strickland--was held at the resort town's grand and historic Arlington Hotel.



Johnnye Strickland with Fay Aoyagi
(photo by David Lanoue)

I won't say we had record attendance, but I wrote down 24 names, and that's the most that I can remember in the decade or so I've attended. Represented were participants from Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, California, and New Zealand.

One of the featured speakers was HSA President and freelance Japanese interpreter Fay Aoyagi of San Francisco. In addition to reporting on haiku

societal matters (upcoming events and such), she read from her work and discussed the subtleties and nuances involved in being a bilingual poet.



HSA President, Fay Aoyagi,
giving a reading of her haiku and haibun
(photo David Lanoue)

A line from the introduction to her first book caught my attention: "I don't write haiku to report the weather. I write haiku to tell my stories." In her 2011 book, *Beyond the Reach of My Chopsticks*, are these haiku:

long night
I distort the globe
with Photoshop

playing
rochambeau
the winter moon wins

Professor Jianqing Zheng, chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages at Mississippi Valley State University, presented on the topic of haibun, a form in which a very short story—one or two paragraphs, say—introduces a haiku.

Doc Drumheller, who lives in Oxford, New Zealand, traveled to Hot Springs as part of a tour that began in Mexico and would end in El Salvador. Born in the States to a New Zealander mother, dual-citizen Doc edits and publishes *Catalyst*, a literary journal, teaches creative writing, and is a widely published poet and talented musician. His recent book, *Beyond the Borderlands*, features 70 haiku-in English, Bulgarian, and Greek. Here are a couple of examples:

the friendship bridge
two stray dogs
cross the border

street cats meow
under the cafe
table talking politics

Other presenters included:

Former HSA President David Lanoue, a professor at Xavier University of Louisiana, who spoke about his upcoming book, "Issa and Being Human." Lanoue is widely published and has translated 10,000 of Issa's haiku from the Japanese;

Margaret Dornaus, award-winning poet and non-fiction writer, who read from her new book, *Prayer For the Dead*-a collection of her haibun and tanka prose. She also spoke about experiences that led to her start her own publishing company, *Singing Moon Press*; and,

Juliet Seer Pazera, who spoke about and read from her book, *the dad project*. A new Orleans resident, Juliet is a psychic, a healer, and an animal rights advocate.

Doc Drumheller and I sprinkled a few original songs throughout the two days, accompanying ourselves on ukulele and guitar. Some were

about haiku. Some not so much. But it was a joyful noise we made, I believe.



New Zealand poet Doc Drumheller
jams with Vic Fleming
(photo by David Lanoue)

It was quite an event. I'm sorry if you missed it. Watch for it next year. Look for it on Facebook now: Hot Springs Haiku.

submitted by Conference Co-chair Vic Fleming

Southeast
Robin Hood Black

**Terri French in
India and Nepal**



HSA member Terri French recently had the opportunity to visit India and Nepal. After a 4-day trek in the Annapurna mountain range, Terri and her husband Ray flew to Bangalore where they were hosted by the fabulous haiku poet and editor, Shloka Shankar and her family. They spent the afternoon sharing art and poetry and feasted on a wonderful North Indian meal prepared by Shloka's mother, Sabitha. Sabitha then took them to a lively and colorful local

then took them to a lively and colorful local bazaar where local artisans exhibited and sold their wares.

Next the Frenches flew to Chandigarh where they met haiku poet extraordinaire, Angelee Deodhar. Angelee took them on a tour of the Rock Garden and the Government Museum and Art Gallery. They also visited a local book store and sweet shop, and enjoyed laughter and good food at a local restaurant.

In New Delhi, Terri and Ray got together with "Jazz" Machanda for coffee. Jazz was turned on to haiku and haibun by Indian poet, Paresh Tiwari. Unfortunately, the Frenches did not get to meet Paresh, Kala, or many of the other fantastic Indian haiku poets this time around, but that is just a reason to return to India!

In Katmandu, Nepali, poet Bam Sheva arranged a small meeting of poets and was kind enough to offer his translation skills. Over masala tea and cookies the small group discussed the nuances of haiku. Others in attendance were Khagendra Dhakal, Prabhakar Pandey, and Lalita Dashi. Terri says it was a whirlwind 23-day trip and one she hopes will produce many haiku and haibun after she has had a little time to recover.

Nepali poet
opening her heart
in her mother tongue

Apparently recovery does not necessarily mean rest! Upon returning home, on December 6 Terri attended a reception for several local 8th grade students of Mountain Gap (P-8) Elementary School in Huntsville, Alabama. A temporary installation of the student's haiku is currently on display on the steps leading from downtown Huntsville into Big Spring Park. The project was the initiative of Downtown Huntsville, Inc. Teacher Leslie Graham said she is very proud of her students' work and invited Terri to come speak to her classes about the genre on

December 15. Here is one of the haiku featured
by a young student named Marshall:

Japanese red bridge
cherry trees and koi
gift from an ally

submitted by Terri French



Terri French and Shloka Shankar





Angelee Deodhar and Ray French



Khagendra Dhakal, Prabhakar Pandey,
Bam Dev Sharma, Terri French and Lalita Dashi

Northeast Metro

Rita Gray

**Northeast Metro
Winter Meeting**

Saturday, December 10, 2016
2:30-5:00 p.m.

Opera America, Charles MacKay Studio,
330 Seventh Avenue, Seventh Floor
(Note Change of Venue!)

Program:

Elemental

Led by Jay Friedenber

Jay will read haiku from his new book *Elemental* before facilitating two group exercises. The first exercise will be devoted to determining the "essence" of a haiku, while the second--not unrelated to the first--will cover how to organize haiku, i.e., how haiku might be categorized or related to one another.

Intermission

Program:

**The "Cor" Curriculum-Lessons from the
Oeuvre of an American Haiku Master**
Led by Scott Mason

Cor van den Heuvel has made an indelible mark on the world of English-language haiku, not only as its preeminent anthologist, but also as one of its premier poets. Scott will delve into Cor's collected work in order to glean valuable pointers for those of us on the haiku path.

For all who are interested, after the meeting we will go to dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Seven Bistro, located at 350 Seventh Avenue between West 29th Street and West 30th Street.

Try to RSVP to Rita for dinner NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2.

submitted by Rita Gray

Upcoming Haiku Picture Book by Sydell Rosenberg

Amy Losak of Teaneck, NJ, daughter of Sydell Rosenberg, a charter member of HSA, is pleased to announce that Penny Candy Books, a new children's publisher started by two poets, Alexis Orgera and Chad Reynolds, will publish one of Sydell's haiku manuscripts as a picture book in late 2017 or 2018.

Decades ago, Sydell organized a number of her haiku and senryu with the goal of publishing an A-B-C reader. Amy discovered a couple of alphabet manuscripts among her papers after her death in 1996. Remembering her mom's wish, Amy made some edits and began submitting the work to publishers in 2015.

She is grateful to the haiku community for its support and thankful to Aubrie Cox, former Frogpond editor, who told her about Penny Candy Books.

www.pennycandybooks.com

submitted by Amy Losak



Ignatius Fay
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Comments or concerns about your membership?
Please contact the [HSA officers](#)



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