

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society was founded in 1974 by Mr. Kiyoshi and Mrs. Kiyoko Tokutomi to nourish and foster the practice of writing haiku in English using the traditional haiku guidelines developed in Japan.

The annual Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest is for 5-7-5 haiku using a *kigo*, or season-word, from a list supplied for each year's contest. 1994 list follows.

New Year: New Year's Greeting, new diary, first dream (of the year). *Spring:* misty moonlight, balloon (a toy), melting ice, mittens, crocus. *Summer:* short night, wind chimes, caterpillar, cactus flower, Milky Way. *Fall:* scarecrow, birds of passage (or migrating geese), chestnut, falling willow leaves, Labor Day. *Winter:* frozen lake or river, old diary, turnip, falcon, North Wind.

One function of the season-word in haiku is to ground a moment in a specific time so it may be understood by anyone who reads or hears that haiku. The *kigo* "withered tree," for instance, makes unnecessary the use of the word "winter" or "hibernation" or any other winter season-word. The use of "snow" and "plum blossoms" in a single haiku would be confusing; since they clearly belong to differing seasons, one's mind would zig-zag among seasons instead of resting in a brief moment.

The judge was Tadashi Kondo, presently judge of the English division of the annual Basho festival in Iga-Ueno, Japan. He was a charter member of the Haiku International Association and is co-founder and director of the Association for International Renku. The Society is extremely grateful for his assistance.

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On the name Yuki Teikei:

In Japanese, *YU* means "have" or having", *KI* means "season," *TEI* means formal and *KEI* means "pattern" or "prototype." Thus, *yuki teikei* haiku have a season-word, or *kigo*, and follow the 5-7-5 syllable pattern.

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society
6116 Dunn Avenue
San José CA 95128

For information about the 1995 contest, please send the Society an SASE at the address above.

Haiku Awards 1994

Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

Yuki Teikei
Haiku Society

Turnip in my hand—
Its cold roundness heavier
Than a baby's head

First Prize
Sister Benedicta, O.S.H., USA

the battered scarecrow
still standing—high water mark
drying on his throat

Second Prize
Elizabeth Searle Lamb, USA

grandmother's cellar
a few forgotten turnips
their fragrant presence

Third Prize
Yvonne Hardenbrook, USA

Honorable Mention
(in alphabetical order)

chestnut paperweight—
pages of my manuscript
lifting in the wind

Helen K. Davie, USA

at the interment—
suddenly the chattering
of migrating birds

Donna Gallagher, USA

facing the North Wind
mother tightens children's hoods
with clumsy fingers

Vi Mathiesen, Australia

the misty moonlight:
it must be months since I dusted
the porcelain dog

Clark Strand, USA

yellow crocuses:
a rusty nail works its way
out of the dog house

Clark Strand, USA

on a lower shelf
at the bargain-basement store—
a cactus flower

Clark Strand, USA

gust of evening wind . . .
on the footbridge all at once
chestnuts clattering

Elizabeth St. Jacques, Canada

buying the wind chimes . . .
change counted into my hand
one coin at a time

Helen Shaffer, USA

an old mare nuzzles
her owner's coat, stopping at
the turnip pocket

Helen Shaffer, USA

Resting her cane . . .
the brim of her hat catches
falling willow leaves

Louise Somers Winder, USA