

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7 No. 3
December 11, 2004

KENDO

Happy Holidays !!!

2003-2005

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Charlie Tanaka

EXECUTIVE VP:

Norman K. Otani, Esq.

VP-PROM & EXAMS:

Atsushi Hori

VP-COMPETITION:

Yoshiteru Tagawa

VP-EDUCATION:

Koki Ariga

TREASURER:

Masaharu Makino

SEC-HISTORIAN:

Ichiro Murakami

AUDITOR:

Dr. Walter Hashimoto

DIRECTORS:

Kazuharu Arima

Daniel Ebihara

Dr. Tsuyoshi Inoshita

Shozo Kato

Shinichi Koike

Maki Miyahara

Mark Uchida

Takeshi Yamaguchi

Tim Yuge

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Report submitted by Charlie Tanaka.

Happy Holidays!

The year 2004 is drawing to an end in a couple of weeks and everyone is busy preparing for the holiday season. As I look back over the past eleven months, this has been a very eventful year of activities, most notably the AUSKF had its inaugural regional Shimpan Seminars held in the South West Zone on March 7, 2004, the Eastern Zone on April 18, 2004, the Central Zone in August, 2004 and the North West Zone on October 9, 2004; it appears that this direct hands on type of training with qualified AUSKF instructors was very successful to assist in the development of prospective shimpan to be selected for the 2005 AUSKF Championships.

Then the preliminary event to begin the selection process for the 13th WKC-Team USA selection of the men's and women's team members, the 1st Kyoka Senshu, took place in the Eastern and Western regions during the weekend of October 23 & 24, 2004, respectively. Both events were successful in making the initial selection of the men's and women's division competitors who will now move on to compete at the 2nd Selection [Kyoka Senshu] to be held on April 10, 2005.

In the month of July, 2004, two AUSKF kenshi participated in the 2004 AJKF Kitamoto Summer Camp from July 28-August 4; and, on July 24th & 25th, the 2004 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp was successfully held in Las

Vegas, Nevada.

In addition, one other AUSKF event that occurred in 2004, was the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp held on June 10-13, 2004, in Boulder, Colorado.

On November 6-7, 2004, the AUSKF Board of Directors convened their bi-annual meeting in Studio City, California, hosted by the Southern California Kendo Organization, with the assistance of their President Mr. Michihiro Nakashima and several volunteers [see the Highlights from the November 6-7, 2004 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, for details]. After receiving all of the reports from the respective AUSKF Officers and Directors, I am happy to report that the AUSKF as a non-profit education organization continues to be fiscally healthy and the officers in their respective positions are very diligently carrying out their duties to serve the AUSKF members and they are now busy making preparations and plans for the major 2005 AUSKF events.

Finally, I would like to encourage all of the AUSKF kenshi to start making plans to attend the **2005 AUSKF Championships to be held July 2 & 3, 2005, on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan.**

Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President
1156 Blackfield Drive
Santa Clara, CA. 95051
PH/FAX: (408) 984-0226
e-mail: ktanaka1115@comcast.net

Highlights from the November 6-7, 2004 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Studio City, California:
Reported by AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani

[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the November 6-7, 2004 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting; the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification]

I. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Proposed Amendment To AUSKF By-laws RE: Record Date & Election of Directors Procedure.

AUSKF director Tsuyoshi Inoshita previously agreed to review the relevant sections of the AUSKF By-laws pertaining to the election of AUSKF directors to make proposed changes to the timeline for the various election procedures, to clarify the procedure to be followed when a candidate is elected but declines the directorship, and any necessary updates to reflect the changes previously approved by the current 2003-2005 AUSKF board of directors.

The proposed changes to the AUSKF By-laws described above were submitted in a "draft" form by AUSKF director Tsuyoshi Inoshita for review by the AUSKF board of directors; after discussion and a few revisions, the majority of the proposed changes to the AUSKF By-laws in these areas were approved.

B. Committee Report Update RE: Guidelines For Member Association.

The committee members consisting of: Chairman Norman K. Otani, Tim Yuge, Koki Ariga, and Tsuyoshi Inoshita, submitted a "draft" of the proposed changes to AUSKF Policy and Procedure Section 4.00.00 Guidelines for Member Association. Notably, the current provision restricting a new member from unduly encroaching on the established region and jurisdiction of an existing

member, is proposed to be deleted and thereby allowing new members to be considered in the future without regard to geographical location.

As the above noted proposed change will be significant for the future of the AUSKF, it was agreed that additional time will be given to the committee members to "draft" additional procedural details as to how a new member application is processed, when the probationary status begins, who is designated to review the new member application at the end of the probationary period, etc. A "final draft" of these proposed details described above is to be completed prior to the Spring, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, for further consideration and approval.

C. Develop and Propose Mission Statement.

An initial "draft" AUSKF Mission Statement was submitted for consideration by AUSKF Executive VP, Norman K. Otani, consisting of the current AUSKF By-laws Article II which sets forth the Objectives and Purposes.

AUSKF director Tim Yuge requested to table this matter, to allow additional time to review the mission statements of other corporate organizations so as to provide other ideas to be considered before the AUSKF board of directors makes a final decision on this matter.

D. 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp.

AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman Takeshi Yamaguchi reported that the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp was successfully hosted by the SWUSKIF on June 10-13, 2004, at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado.

The All Japan Kendo Federation ["AJKF"] sent two guest iaido instructors: Sadanori Ueno, Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi and Kiyofusa Takeda, Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi, to assist in conducting the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp.

Due to a financial deficit which resulted after all income and expenditures were accounted for the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp; the AUSKF board of directors requested that beginning in 2005, the AUSKF Iaido Committee is to submit a written budget proposal for the 2005 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp for review and approval at the Spring, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

In addition, beginning with the 2005 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp, it was requested that all seminar fees are to be made payable to the AUSKF, rather than to the hosting regional member federation, as this will provide the necessary financial records to assist the AUSKF Treasurer in reconciling the budgeted line items, to facilitate payment of expenditures when needed, etc.

E. 2004 AUSKF Summer Kendo Camp.

Koki Ariga, AUSKF VP-Education reported that the 2004 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp held on July 24 & 25, 2004, in Las Vegas, Nevada, was very successful.

AJKF sent Kunio Hayashi sensei, 8th Dan Hanshi, as the guest instructor.

The emphasis of the 2004 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp was to provide information and instruction of kendo training skills to assist the aspiring kodansha kendo candidates to understand what areas of kendo knowledge and skill development are needed to be considered for the kendo ranks of 5 dan, 6 dan and 7 dan.

F. 13th WKC: Team U.S.A. Selection Process.

Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF VP-Competition reported that the 1st Kyoka Senshu Selection was successfully completed recently on October 23 & 24, 2004, in the Eastern and Western regions, respectively.

F. 13th WKC: Team U.S.A. Selection Process [continued]:

The 2nd Selection [Kyoka Senshu] was proposed to be held in Chicago, IL., on April 10, 2005.

The 2005 AUSKF Championships rules and regulations were reviewed and finalized.

The North America Zone Countries in the IKF will be invited to participate in the Goodwill Division of the 2005 AUSKF Championships.

The Final Kyoka Senshu Selection will take place on Labor Day weekend, 2005, at a place to be announced at a later date.

Upon the recommendation of the 13th WKC-Team U.S.A. Manager Masashi Shikai, the Men's Team Coach Yuji Onizuka, and the Women's Team Coach Naomi Nishimoto, were approved by the AUSKF Board of Directors.

G. AUSKF 8th Dan Promotion Regulations and Guidelines.

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF VP-Promotions and Examinations reported that he had "drafted" revisions for the criteria for the selection of examiners for the promotional examinations for the ranks of 1st dan-4th dan, 5th dan-7th dan, and 8th dan. Also, exemptions were proposed to give special consideration for those kendoists of age 60 and above to become eligible for the 5th dan, 6th dan, 7th dan, and 8th dan.

Both of the above proposed areas of revision to the AUSKF Promotion Examination Regulations were approved by the AUSKF Board of Directors.

H. AUSKF - New Logo for Tie, T-Shirt, Polo Shirt, etc.

The AUSKF Board of Directors approved the use of the "new" AUSKF logo, which was previously designed by AUSKF member Debbie Farmer for the exclusive use by the AUSKF.

Tim Yuge will bring samples of a tie, t-shirt, polo shirt, etc., with the "new" logo, for review at the Spring, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

I. 2004 AJKF Kitamoto Summer Camp.

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President, reported that the two AUSKF kenshi selected to participate were: 1. Monica Iwakabe, RMKF, and, 2. Stephan Boss, MWKF.

J. AUSKF Data Base Project & ID Cards.

Tim Yuge reported that he is developing a form that each AUSKF member will initially need to complete so that the AUSKF data base project can be formally started and utilized for use in membership records, seminars, etc.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. IKF Related Matters:

(1.) Affiliation to General Association of International Sports Federations ["GAISF"].

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President reported that the IKF voting members recently unanimously approved by mail ballot, the proposal for IKF to become a member of the GAISF.

(2.) Letter of Support from AUSKF for FEDOKEN.

FEDOKEN, consisting of four associations, including the Republic of Dominican, has sent a letter to Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President, requesting a letter of support to IKF in support of their application to become a member.

During the discussion, AUSKF director, Daniel Ebihara reported that he and AUSKF member, Noboru Kataoka, have provided assistance to instruct kendo to FEDOKEN members.

The AUSKF Board of Directors approved the motion to send a letter of support to IKF for the application of FEDOKEN to become a member of IKF.

B. Koushinkan [Yale Kendo Club] Proposal to Establish AUSK Collegiate Kendo Federation.

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President received a letter from Naoko Kozuki, Koushinkan [Yale Kendo Club] President, requesting approval from the AUSKF Board of Directors to establish an AUSKF Collegiate Kendo Federation.

After some discussion, AUSKF director, Shozo Kato, agreed to followup on the request by Koushinkan described above, and to report and make recommendations to the AUSKF Board of Directors at the Spring, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

C. Committee Reports:

1. Budget-Finance report was submitted by AUSKF Treasurer Masaharu Makino.

Due to the sizeable current balance in the AUSKF treasury, the AUSKF Board of Directors unanimously agreed to have the AUSKF treasurer consider placing specific amounts of funds into certificates of deposit. Masaharu Makino, AUSKF Treasurer noted that he would contact the currently retained CPA to ask about any legal restrictions for this type of transfer of funds, due to the current non-profit organization status.

2. Competition Committee report by AUSKF VP-Competition, Yoshiteru Tagawa.

Yoshiteru Tagawa expressed thanks to each of the hosting AUSKF member federations and the many volunteers who assisted to organize the venues and details for the 2004 AUSKF Regional Shimpan Seminars. It was announced that due to the 2005 AUSKF Championships and related activities, there will NOT be any 2005 AUSKF Regional Shimpan Seminars; this program will then be reactivated in 2006.

2. Competition Committee report by AUSKF VP-Competition, Yoshiteru Tagawa [continued]:

2005 AUSKF Championships:

Discussions were held to determine the entry fee schedule, sayonara party fee amount, the bento fee amount, and program booklet advertisement fee amounts

It was also reported that the AUSKF has made arrangements to block a limited amount of hotel rooms at a reasonable rate at the Kenington Hotel, for the 2005 AUSKF Championships, details will be provided to each AUSKF member federation, at a later date.

Due to the limited amount of parking available near the University of Michigan venue where the 2005 AUSKF Championships will be held, a shuttle bus service is being looked into from the Kensington Hotel to the gymnasium.

3. Promotion Committee report by Atsushi Hori.

Discussion was held to change the current AUSKF criteria for the granting of the Shogo: Renshi, Kyoshi; currently, only an essay is required to be completed, and attendance on the date of the AUSKF Kodansha Promotion Examination is not required.

It was suggested that the shogo candidates in the future should demonstrate the ability to teach Nihon Kendo Kata, and be required to attend the AUSKF Shimpan Seminars and receive a passing grade.

It was unanimously approved that **Effective with the AUSKF Kodansha/Shogo Promotion Examination to be given in April, 2005, the candidates for Shogo: Renshi and Kyoshi**, will be required to attend the promotion examination and (1.) Pass the Nihon Kendo Kata Examination, and (2.) Participate and must have received a passing grade at one of the 2004 AUSKF Regional Shimpan Seminars.

Regarding the English language AUSKF menjo; after the current supply is exhausted, a "new design" will be developed, keeping the current size of the menjo the same.

Lastly, discussion was held regarding AUSKF kenshi who take an AUSKF promotion examination and pass the examination, but do NOT pay for the menjo/recording/certification fee.

It was unanimously agreed that if the AUSKF kenshi who passes a promotional examination and does **NOT** pay the menjo/recording/certification fee **WITHIN one year from the date of the promotional examination**, then the new promotion rank will be considered **INVALID**.

4. Education Committee report by Koki Ariga.

The 2005 AUSKF Summer Kendo Camp will be held on July 22-24, 2005; the proposed locations are at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, or Cincinnati, Ohio.

The subject matters and training that will be emphasized will include: Kendo Keiko, Nihon Kendo Kata, Bokuto Ni Yoru Kendo Kihon Waza Keiko-ho, Shimpan-ho, and Rei-ho.

5. Iaido Committee report by committee chairman Takeshi Yamaguchi.

The 2005 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp is tentatively planned for September, 2005. The plan is to have a four-day seminar, and to have guest iaido instructor(s) from the AJKF. A tentative proposed budget of \$22,000.00 has been "drafted."

The tentative location for the 2005 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp being considered is in the Southern California area; however, specific details will be provided at a later date when confirmation of the location is determined.

6. Development Committee report by Norman K. Otani.

(a.) The AUSKF Newsletter will continue to be published semi-annually following each AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

(b.) The AUSKF Archives, AUSKF Hall of Fame, and AUSKF Oral History projects continue to be developed. Particularly encouraging is the recent volunteers who have expressed a willingness to conduct oral history interviews of kendo sensei in their respective regions of the United States.

If there are other interested volunteers who wish to identify a kendo sensei in your regional member federation who should be considered for the AUSKF Oral History Project, contact: Norman K. Otani, e-mail: norm_otani@auskf.info

(c.) The AUSKF Website maintained by Webmaster Richard Hill, continues to be a very important modern day technological advance that serves many kenshi both for the AUSKF and others in the United States and throughout the world who have the knowledge, training and computer hardware to utilize this electronic means of communication. A statistical report submitted by Mr. Hill indicates that in 2004, there were 95, 857 visitors to the AUSKF web page, with 498, 768 pages looked at.

(d.) The need to develop an AUSKF Office and to have a paid support staff person continues to be under ongoing consideration.

D. Other:

1. GNEUSKF Request To Be Placed Into Eastern Zone for Future AUSKF Regional Shimpan Seminars.

After review, it was agreed by the AUSKF Board of Directors, that the request noted above from the GNEUSKF would be approved effective immediately.

D. Other: [continued]

2. Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President announced that the 2005 IKF America Zone Shimpan Seminar will be held on March 12-13, 2005, in Milpitas, CA [see IKF News for details].

3. Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President reported that a letter dated October 10, 2004, was received from Sergio A. Velasquez, Kendo Aruba, inquiring if the AUSKF was interested in participating in the 2005 Pan American Championship being planned to be held on October 12, 2005, in Aruba.

After discussion, Yoshiteru Tagawa, AUSKF VP-Competition requested that Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP, contact Mr. Velasquez, to find out what divisions will be available for the competition tournament event.

It was agreed by the AUSKF Board of Directors that following receipt of the above noted information, a letter will be sent to each AUSKF member federation, to invite their kenshi to participate in the 2005 Pan American Championship tournament, at their own expense.

4.. The next AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting was proposed to be held in Chicago, Illinois., on April; 9, 2005.

From VP-Competition:

Report submitted by Yoshiteru Tagawa.

2005 AUSKF Championships and the related selection events is reported in the **Highlights of the November 6-7, 2004 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting** section of this newsletter.

Additional information and details regarding the 2005 AUSKF Championships will be sent to each AUSKF Member Federation on or about December 1, 2004.

If there are any additional questions, please contact:

Yoshiteru Tagawa
41444 Fawn Trail
Novi, MI. 48375-4813
Tel. (248) 349-5209
FAX: (248) 349-9718
e-mail: duke@twmi.rr.com

From VP-Prom & Exams:

Report submitted by Atsushi Hori.

[See **Highlights of the November 6-7, 2004 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting** section of this newsletter, for details of the recently approved changes in the AUSKF Promotion Examination Regulations]

If there are any additional questions about AUSKF Promotion and Examination matters please contact:

Mr. Atsushi Hori
3041 S. Bristol
Santa Ana, CA. 92704
Tel. [H](714) 994-6344
Tel. [W](714) 557-3282
FAX: (714) 557-1920

Report From VP-Education:

Report submitted by Koki Ariga.

SPECIAL REPORT:

Koki Ariga, AUSKF VP-Education, is pleased to announce and invite all interested AUSKF kenshi to participate in a No-Host Special Kendo Practice in Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 26 & 27, 2005.

Kunio Hayashi, 8 Dan Hanshi is leading a group of 20 sensei (all are 6th and 7th Dan] from the Toyota Kendo Dojo; this gathering is to celebrate their 40th Year Anniversary and as a gesture of goodwill and friendship they would like to share this milestone achievement with interested AUSKF kenshi, by practicing kendo together.

The location, dates and times of the Special Kendo Practice are as follows:

Place: Walnut Recreation Center
3075 N. Walnut Street
Las Vegas, Nevada

Date: 2/26/05 [Sat.] 1pm-5pm
2/27/05 [Sun.] 9am-12noon

Additional details and information will be sent to the AUSKF member federations at a later date.

Report From Treasurer:

Report submitted by Masaharu Makino.

For the year 2005, there will be no change in the AUSKF Membership Dues; as is the AUSKF Policy, March 31, 2005, is the deadline for each member federation to submit their dojos AUSKF Membership Dues.

In order to establish eligibility criteria for participation in the 2005 AUSKF Championships; it is very important that each AUSKF member federation submit their AUSKF membership dues for each of its dojos in a timely manner.

2005 AUSKF Membership Dues information will be distributed to each AUSKF Member Federation shortly.

For any questions regarding the 2005 AUSKF Membership Dues, please contact:

Masaharu Makino, AUSKF Treasurer.
327 Towne Avenue
Los Angeles, CA. 90013
e-mail: hiromi@pickjit.com
makinomasaharu@aol.com

REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS:

1. Report from the Central California Kendo Federation.
Submitted by: Norman K. Otani, President.

With the support, assistance and participation of the Northern California Kendo Federation, Southern Californai Kendo Federation and the Southern California Kendo Organization,

I. Report from the Central California Kendo Federation: [continued]

the 2004 All California Open Kendo Tournament was hosted by the Central California Kendo Federation in Fresno, California, on Sunday, September 5, 2004.

Approximately, two hundred kenshi from the four California kendo federations competed together for the first time in the history of the AUSKF.

Prior to the 2004 event, the Central California Kendo Federation, under the leadership of its founder, the late Harutane Chiba, had hosted the All California Kendo Tournament [at that time there were only three California kendo federations, consisting of the CCKF, NCKF, and SCKF] in 1986 and 1989; however, due to the untimely passing away of Chiba sensei in 1992, the tri-annual event was not continued.

The highlights of the results of the 2004 All California Open Kendo Tournament are as follows:

11-13yrs Division:

1st Place: T. Hori, SCKF
2nd Place: S. Amano, SCKF
3rd Place: B. Craven, CCKF

14-17yrs Division:

1st Place: Y. Hamamura, SCKF
2nd Place: D. Kim, SCKF
3rd Place: J. Chang, SCKF

Adult Kyu Division:

1st Place: K Cabral, NCKF
2nd Place: B. Hongsermer, SCKF
3rd Place: E. Enriquez, NCKF

Women's Division:

1st Place: Tamura, SCKF
2nd Place: K. Kikunaga, NCKF
3rd Place: G. Lee, SCKF

1dan-3dan Division:

1st Place: K. Chinen, SCKF
2nd Place: S. Kikuchi, NCKF
3rd Place: K. Michioka, NCKF

4-dan and up Division:

1st Place: M. Minami, NCKF
2nd Place: S. Hamamatsu, NCKF
3rd Place: Nakajima, NCKF

Senior Division:

1st Place: M. Shikai, SCKF
2nd Place: M. Mori, NCKF
3rd Place: G. Sakazaki, CCKF

2. Report from the East Central United States Kendo Federation, submitted by Koki Ariga, President.

IN MEMORIAM:

JOHNSON, STEVE
[1956-2004]
Mr. Johnson, 3-Dan, Miami Valley Kendo Club member passed away on October 2, 2004.

3. Report from the Northern California Kendo Federation, submitted by Ken Ogawa, Doreen Mita-Juanitas, and Dr. Walter Hashimoto.

2005 NCKF Team Tryouts for AUSKF Championships held 10/10/04:

Jr. Youth:

F. Michioka, K. Umeda, T. Ota,
S. Konopka, B. Joo, Ad. Eitoku, Al. Eitoku.

Sr. Youth:

K. Mori, M. Nagatome, J. Hatakeyama,
T. Shima, T. Harada, J. Kim, S. Tanaka.

Men's:

Y. Onitsuka, T. Mikuni, A. Okuma, K. Michioka, J. Echizeny, J. Eitoku, T. Sakano.

Women's:

K. Kikunaga, L. Tanaka, M. Cabral, A. Nakamori, A. Aono, A. Chi, M. Komuro.

Senior:

C. Tanouye, M. Komuro, G. Nishiura, M. Yamaguchi, M. Mori.

Goodwill:

T. Kono, K. Cabral, F. Lin, V. Nakayama, S. Ferry.

The Palo Alto Kendo Dojo [PAKD],

affiliated with the Northern California Kendo Federation [NCKF], proudly announces the following members have successfully passed the recent promotional exams at the semi-annual NCKF shinsa held on November 14, 2004:

Mr. Tsuyohito Ito-4 dan
Mr. Arthur Leung-4 dan
Mr. Ed Enriquez- 1 dan
Mr. Patrick Gauthier 1dan
Mr. Christopher Hackett- 1 dan
Mr. Takeshi Harada- 1 dan
Mr. Aaron Lee- 1 dan

Also, the NCKF recently held elections for the 2005-2006 officers. PAKD was honored in having 4 of their members being elected to the board as follows:

Mr. George Nishiura-President
6 dan, Renshi

Mr. Shig Hamamatsu, 3rd VP-Education
5 dan

Mrs. Doreen Mita, Executive Secretary
2 dan

Dr. Walter Hashimoto, By-laws
7 dan, Kyoshi

Additional information for the Northern California Kendo Federation can be found at their website: <http://nckf.org>

3. Report from the Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation, submitted by: Tom Bolling, Recording Secretary
7318 23rd Avenue N.E., Seattle, WA. 98115.

See PNKF's *Kenyu* online at:
<http://www.kendo-pnkf.org/news/kenyu.phtml>

Note: Due to limited space in this edition of the AUSKF Newsletter, only the following excerpts of the PNKF November 2004 and December 2004 issues of *Kenyu* are included here; for more details please refer to the website listed above.

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November 2004

Report from the Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation:[continued]

PNKF BOARD ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

At the November 20 Board meeting, new officers were elected for 2004-2005:

President- Curtis Marsten
Vice-President- Elizabeth Marsten
Treasurer- David S. Yotsuye
Sec.of Internal Affairs-Moselle Horiuchi
Recording Secretary-Tom Bolling

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SOME BEAUTIFUL KENDO WEBSITES - CASCADE, IDAHO, OBUKAN, SKK, SKC, AND UW.

If you haven't surfed through some of the PNKF's own excellent Dojo websites recently, you'll be pleasantly surprised if you try it. The following examples are just listed in alphabetical order, because it was impossible to rate them by excellence since each one is so great.

Cascade: <http://www.cascadekendo.org>
Idaho: <http://idaho-kendo.com/Sensei/Kokke/koike.html>
Obukan: <http://www.obukan.com>
Oregon State University:
<http://oregonstate.edu/groups/kendo>
SKK: <http://www.seattlekendokai.org>
SKC: <http://www.spokanekendo.com>
UW:
<http://faculty.washington.edu/kendo/budo.html>

6. Report from the Southern California Kendo Federation [SCKF], submitted by Guy Urata.
Additional information can be found at the SCKF website located at:
<http://www.eanet.com>

Seishin Kendo Dojo celebrated its 5th Anniversary through holding a team kendo tournament at Ventura High

School, Ventura, California on Sunday, November 21, 2004. 38 Kendo Teams participated. Dojos were allowed to send multiple teams per competitive division. Web page link to tournament results is at:
http://home.att.net/~guyurata/Text/Seishin_5th_Anniversary-Taikai_Information.html.

7. Report from the Southern California Kendo Organization [SCKO].

IN MEMORIAM:

TAKENAKA, SUEHARU
[1940-2004]

Takenaka sensei, 7th dan, Kyoshi, passed away on September 21, 2004. Takenaka sensei was a kendo instructor at the Long Beach Kendo Dojo.

IAIDO NEWS:

2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp

Report submitted by Takeshi Yamaguchi, AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman; and, Dennis Ralutin.

On June 10-13, 2004, approximately 90-95 iaidoka participated in the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp held at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado.

The Zen Nippon Kendo Renmei (ZNKR or All Japan Kendo Federation) sent Sadanori Ueno, 8 dan hanshi, iaido and Kiyofusa Takeda, 8 dan hanshi, iaido. Ueno sensei is also the current chairman of the iaido committee of the ZNKR.

The first two days consisted of seminars conducted by Ueno sensei and Takeda sensei. The seminars covered ZNKR seitei iai along with koryu during the second day. Ueno sensei covered Muso Shinden Ryu and Takeda sensei covered Muso Jikiken Eishin Ryu. A taikai followed on the third day and the camp culminated with a shinsa on the last day.

The camp was successfully hosted and organized by the Yamakage kendo and iaido dojo of the SWKIF. Many thanks

to Mr. T.K. Gwin (the head organizer), Ms. Isabella Church from New York for organizing the taikai and shinsa, and Mrs. Uchida for translating and taking care of Ueno sensei and Takeda sensei.

SCIA Iaido News:

Report submitted by Dennis Ralutin, SCIA President;
e-mail: dmralutin@yahoo.com

On October 23, 2004, an iaido seminar and shinsa was held at the Industry Sheriff's Kendo Dojo in the City of Industry, California. This event was organized by the Southern California Iaido Association (SCIA), a member of the Southern California Kendo Federation (SCKF) and All U.S. Kendo Federation (AUSKF).

Takeshi Yamaguchi sensei (7 dan iaido) was the head instructor, assisted by Tatsuhiko Konno sensei (7 dan renshi iaido, PNKF), Yoshitsugu Pat Murosako sensei (7 dan renshi iaido, PNKF), Ichiro Murakami sensei (6 dan iaido) and Henry Asai (5 dan iaido).

Sixteen participants attended the seminar from 9:00 am to 12:30pm. Three individuals traveled from Utah, two each from Central and Northern California, while the remaining nine were from Southern California. The shinsa followed after a lunch break and a free practice session. Five individuals took their examinations with the following students attaining their new ranks:

F. Berwick 1 kyu
T. Imoto 1 dan
J. Hankins 3 dan

Although the day was short and the attendance lower than in previous years, there was plenty of good instruction and advice from all the sensei, especially from the two visiting PNKF sensei. Many thanks go out to the sensei who presided over the seminar and shinsa and congratulations go out to those who passed their examinations.

International Kendo Federation [IKF] News:

Report submitted by Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President

2005 IKF Referee Seminar for American Zone will be held on March 12 - 13, 2005, in Milpitas, California, U.S.A.

Place: Milpitas High School
1285 Escuela Parkway
Milpitas, CA. 95035-3221

Maps: Website: MAPQUEST.COM

Schedule Outline:

March 12, Saturday:

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Seminar [Goodwill Keiko]

March 12, Sat. Night:

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Friendship Gala Party with Japanese sensei.

March 13, Sunday:

9:00 am-12:00 pm [Seminar (Goodwill Keiko)]

Participants expected:

A member of the IKF affiliated organization.

Kendo 5 Dan or above in principle and to be engaged in regular kendo practice (4 Dan holders are accepted as well if he/she desires).

No age limitation.

The candidates for the 13th WKC referees are requested to participate in this seminar.

Expenses:

The participants bear their expenses for travel, accommodations and meals.

Other:

The instructors are 3 Sensei's from All Japan Kendo Federation. Interpretation (Japanese, English) will be provided during the seminar.

Application Deadline: February 6, 2005 to Charlie Tanaka:

E-mail: KTANAKA1115@comcast.net

Note: Each AUSKF Member Federation

was sent the above information and the requested application information.

AUSKF WEBSITE:

Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster.

AUSKF website is located at:
<http://www.auskf.info>.

Please send any changes in dojo address, contact person, etc., to: Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster at:
e-mail address: rhill@nckf.org

OTHER KENDO RELATED NEWS/INFORMATION:

I. GUEST AUTHOR:

Tom Bolling, PNKF Recording Secretary and Editor of Kenyu, recently authored an article about AUSKF sensei, Rod Omoto, 7 Dan. This article was featured in the November-December, 2004 Issue of Kendo Nippon Monthly Magazine, and with permission of the author will be reprinted in the AUSKF Newsletter, in several parts, beginning with this issue.

Part One:

KENDO IS SHARING

One day Omoto Sensei was lecturing on A Book of Five Rings to his class at Tacoma Community College when a student raised his hand and said, "Sensei, I'm not qualified, but may I make an observation?" Omoto sensei replied, "Well, if it's 'qualified,' I'm not qualified! But if it's the spirit of sharing, then you're qualified. And yes, you may make an observation."

With that thought, some reflections are offered on the author's personal hero, Omoto Sensei.

[To be continued in next issue]

II. BOOKREVIEW:

KENDO TRAINING

Author: Ken Strawn
\$16.00 (shipping included).

Send check or money order (no cash please) payable to: Ken Strawn, 2217 Orton Street, Charlotte, N.C. 28208.

The author of *Kendo Training* provides a unique personal perspective on how he initially discovers kendo while residing in San Jose, California, and how it has since had an integral affect on his various life experiences resulting in his eventual founding of the Charlotte Kendo Club, and serving two terms as President of the South Eastern United States Kendo Federation.

Mr. Strawn's book is an excellent "how-to" kendo instructor's manual which fulfills a need for supplemental English language teaching materials for kendo instructors in the United States who do not have regular access to a 4-Dan and above sensei.

In addition, the introduction to each chapter of this book, is filled with interesting philosophical quotations made by well-known American and Japanese sports figures/philosophers which allows the reader to more easily recognize and reflect upon the important points which follow.

Recommended reading for all AUSKF members.

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

Future news items for the next issue to be published on or about May, 2004, can be submitted to my e-mail address:

norm_otani@auskf.info

*or news items can be sent to:
2338 E. Minarets Avenue,
Fresno, CA. 93720.*