

# AUSKF NEWSLETTER

KENDO

Vol. 14 No. 1  
May 25, 2011

## 2011: Busy AUSKF Year of Events!

### 2009-2011

#### OFFICERS:

##### PRESIDENT:

*\*Arthur I. Murakami*

##### EXECUTIVE VP:

*Koki Ariga*

##### VP-PROM & EXAMS:

*Shinichi Koike*

##### VP-COMPETITION:

*\*Yuji Onitsuka*

##### VP-EDUCATION:

*Yoshiteru Tagawa*

##### TREASURER:

*\*Tomoji Kato*

##### SEC-HISTORIAN:

*Yoshinobu Yonekawa*

##### AUDITOR:

*Jeff Marsten*

##### RECORDER:

*Tsuyoshi Inoshita, MD*

##### LIABILITY INS. COORD.

*Mark Uchida*

##### LAIDO:

*Takeshi Yamaguchi*

##### DIRECTORS:

*Daniel Ebihara*

*Atsushi Hori*

*Spencer Hosokawa*

*Shozo Kato*

*Shinobu Maeda*

*Christopher Yang, Esq.*

*Norman K. Otani, Esq.*

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*\* = non-elected 2009-2011  
AUSKF director*

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Report submitted by Arthur I. Murakami

Beginning in June, 2011, there will be several AUSKF events that our members will be able to attend and participate in depending on one's level of interest, as follows:

- The 2011 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 9-13, 2011 at the MAC Center Annex Gym, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio [near Cleveland, Ohio]. Guest iaido instructors from the AJKF will be: Chihiro Kishimoto, Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi, and Masahiro Yamasaki, Iaido 8 Dan Hanshi.

In addition, for the first time, the AUSKF will be conducting an inaugural Jodo Seminar in conjunction with the 2011 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp; if successful, the AUSKF board of directors is considering the approval of the Jodo program for the AUSKF

- The 2nd AUSKF Junior Open National Championships will be held on June 19, 2011, in Huntington Beach, California.

Since the inaugural event held in 2010, this AUSKF event has demonstrated the importance of providing both a challenging national kendo tournament for the children and youth members of the AUSKF; it has also proven to be a good opportunity to start the development and preparation that makes a world class kendoist, at an earlier stage in the kendoist's training

experiences as possible, in the United States.

- The 2011 AUSKF National Championships will be held on August 12 & 13, 2011, at Emory University, Woodruff Physical Education Center, Atlanta Georgia. This tri-annual event is always an exciting national kendo experience, in which the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations bring their best kendoists to compete for the national titles in each of the individual divisions, and the team divisions.

- The 2011 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp will be held on September 3 & 4, 2011 at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Community Gymnasium, Annandale, Virginia.

The above list of 2011 AUSKF national events taking place starting in June 2011, requires that all of the AUSKF executive officers listed [see left column] must work very hard to ensure that the AUSKF national programs are conducted in a well organized manner, and try to deliver high quality programs for all to enjoy and learn as much as possible during each of the events.

Please contact me if you have any concerns about the ongoing operations of the AUSKF.

Sincerely,  
Arthur I. Murakami, AUSKF President  
4305 Mountain Shadows Dr.  
Whittier, CA. 90601  
Tel. (H): (562) 692-4943  
FAX: (562) 463-3604  
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**Highlights from the April 9 & 10, 2011  
AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting,  
Torrance, California:**

Reported by Norman K. Otani, 2009-2011  
AUSKF Board of Director.

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*[Note: This report is being made pending  
the approval of the minutes of the April 9 &  
10, 2011 AUSKF Board of Directors  
meeting; **the reader is forewarned that this  
information is subject to modification**]*  
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**I. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. AUSKF Liability Insurance  
Policy[Update].**

(1.) The previously approved additional  
liability insurance coverage for the eighteen  
(18) AUSKF board of directors and officers  
at a cost of \$50 per individual director and  
officer, was still pending implementation.

(2.) The AUSKF liability insurance policy  
was renewed for another year effective  
April 1, 2011. It was noted that AUSKF  
members making a secondary medical  
insurance claim for a kendo related injury;  
these type of claims must be initiated  
ASAP after the occurrence of the injury , as  
there is a ninety (90) day filing period  
deadline, from the date of the injury.

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**B. AUSKF Tenugui [Update].**

It was reported that a new supply of 1000  
AUSKF tenugui was received and is  
available for sale.

The cost is \$7.00 per tenugui, and a  
minimum order of ten (10) tenugui is  
required to cover the cost of shipping.

Orders are made by sending the payment  
for the AUSKF tenugui order to: Arthur I.  
Murakami [see address on cover page].  
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**C. Proposal for AUSKF Jodo Program  
[Update]**

It was confirmed that there would be a Jodo  
seminar given at the 2011 AUSKF Iaido  
Summer Camp[ see From the President ].  
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**D. Document Review.**

The document reviewed for recommended  
updates to clarify specific matters

previously not reconciled with past approved  
AUSKF policies, included the following:

● **AUSKF Policy and Procedures:**

1.01.02.03 (new): The AUSKF treasurer will  
provide the AUSKF Member Federation  
with a receipt of fees received.[approved].

4.00.00 (updated) Added: Primary.

7.02.01.01 (delete)

7.02.01.02 (delete)

7.02.01.03 (delete)

7.02.02 (updated) Added: secondary.

7.02.04 (updated) Added: FIK.

8.00.00 (updated)

8.01.00 (updated)

8.03.00 (updated)

8.03.02 (delete)

11.01.06 (updated) Selection of instructors  
shall be by committee if and as required.

15.00.00 (updated) These regulations shall  
be maintained as a separate appendix B to  
this document.

17.00.00 (updated) Federation International  
Kendo Tournament.

18.00.00 (delete)

19.00.00 (updated) Change IKF to FIK.

20.00.00 (delete)

Appendix A, B, C and D [approved].  
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**E. 2011 AUSKF Jr. Open National  
Championships [Update].**

After discussion, the recommendation of  
inviting six (6) Honorary Shimpan, to be  
utilized in the sem-final and final matches of  
the individual and team matches, was  
approved.

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**F. 2011 AUSKF Championships [Update]**

It was announced that Atsushi Hori sensei  
will be the Shimpancho for this event.

Due to having an annual AUSKF Kendo  
Summer Camp; and two (2) AJKF sensei are  
sent to this event, with travel costs paid for  
by AJKF, there was an inquiry whether or  
not, the AJKF will pay for the travel costs  
for the two(2) requested AJKF sensei to  
attend the 2011 AUSKF Championships.  
Followup will be done to check with the  
AJKF regarding this inquiry.  
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**G. 15<sup>th</sup> WKC: Team USA [Update]**

The final selection of 8 men and 7 women  
for this event will be made in May 2011.

Proposed budget for 15<sup>th</sup> WKC: Team  
USA members, manager, coaches, advisor  
and shimpan from AUSKF was approved.  
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**H. 2012-2014 AUSKF Board of Director  
Elections [Update]**

The 2012-2014 AUSKF board of directors  
election committee reported that Norman  
Otani was recommended to administer and  
implement the proposed election schedule  
of requesting nominations, submitting  
individual names of voting representatives,  
sending ballots, etc. The date set for the  
counting of ballots was August 20, 2011,  
in Los Angeles, California.  
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**I. Proposed Guidelines for \$1,000  
maximum AUSKF officers/board of  
directors mtg. travel expenses.**

It was decided that the \$1,000 maximum  
for the AUSKF officers/ board of directors  
will now include: Friday before mtg.  
dinner [\$30 max.], Saturday and Sunday  
breakfast [\$20 max.], Sunday after mtg.  
dinner [\$30 max.], round-trip air travel or  
round-trip mileage [\$.50 per mile],  
automobile transportation from residence  
to airport [\$.50 per mile], airport long-term  
parking, luggage fees; it was also clarified  
that as the AUSKF arranges and pays for  
the shared hotel room reservations, this  
will not be included as part of the \$1,000  
maximum AUSKF travel expenses for the  
officers and board of directors.  
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**J. 2010 AJKF Champion Takanabe sensei  
Education Tour [Update].**

It was reported that this event will not be  
able to be conducted until after November  
13, 2011, due to Takanabe sensei's  
training schedule which currently conflicts  
with the implementation of this program.  
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**K. 2011 AJKF Jr. High School Overseas  
Tour [Update].**

It was reported that this event was  
successful; however, it was suggested that  
when making plans for 2012, if the host  
AUSKF member federation/dojo will be  
responsible for a homestay during the  
weekdays, it was recommended that the  
option of using a hotel for housing be

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**Highlights from the April 9 & 10, 2011  
AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting,  
Torrance, California [continud]**

Reported by Norman K. Otani, 2009-2011  
AUSKF Board of Director.

K. 2011 AJKF Jr. High School Overseas  
Tour [Update] [continued]

allowed. Homestay families are more  
readily able to do so on the weekends, due to  
the parents working, etc.

L. 2011 America Zone Referee Seminar  
[Update].

It was reported that 43 participants attended  
this event in Chicago, Illinois on March 19  
& 20, 2011, and everyone indicated that this  
was a very informative and excellent referee  
training seminar conducted by FIK  
instructors: Shuji Fukumoto 8 dan Hanshi  
[Head Instructor] and, Tomoyasu Ota, 8 dan  
Hanshi, Tadahiro Ajiro, 8 dan Hanshi.

M. 2011 AUSKF Spring Education Tour-  
East Coast [Update].

It was reported that Kunihide Koda sensei,  
Tsukuba University, will be conducting  
AUSKF kendo seminars in Washington  
D.C., Atlanta, Georgia and Detroit,  
Michigan.

N. 2011 AUSKF Summer Education Tour-  
West Coast.

It was reported that Futadoshi sensei, 8 dan  
[former AJKF Champion], and, a second  
AJKF sensei [to be selected] will be  
conducting AUSKF kendo seminars in  
PNKF, RMKF, and NCKF in July 2011  
[West Coast].

O. 2011 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp  
[Update].

It was reported that the 2011 AUSKF Iaido  
Summer Camp will be held on June 9-12,  
2011 at Kent State University, Mac Center  
Gym; hosted by the Cleveland Kendo/Iaido  
Association; in addition to the iaido events,  
there will be a Jodo seminar held on June 12  
[afternoon] and June 13 [morning].

P. 2011 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp  
[Update].

It was reported that the 2011 AUSKF Kendo  
Summer Camp will be held on September 2-  
4, 2011, at the Northern Virginia

Community College, Ernst Community  
Cultural Center Gym, Annandale, Virginia  
[near Washington D.C.].

Q. 2011 AJKF Foreign Leaders Summer  
Seminar [Update].

It was reported that the AUSKF

submitted four (4) candidates, in  
the AUSKF PPG appendix rotation order  
for 2011: WKF, AEUSKF, SUSKIF, and  
PNKF. Final selections by the AJKF will  
be made in May 2011.

II. New Business:

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Budget/Finance.

The 12/31/10 AUSK End of Year Financial  
report was reviewed and approved.

2. Competition:

No further report.

3. Promotion::

(a.) It was reported that the AUSKF  
member federations from AEUSKF and  
SEUSKF have requested seminars on  
preparation to take promotion  
examinations; these seminars are still  
available upon request to Shinichi Koike,  
AUSKF VP-Promotion and Examinations.

(b.) The AUSKF Kodansha Promotion  
Examination was held on Sunday, April 10,  
2011.

(c.) The AUSKF kyu rank policy was  
requested to be reviewed, as there was a  
Western Kendo Federation/Ildo Dojo  
promotion certificate issued on June 24,  
2010 for the rank of 2 Keup.

After review of the AUSKF Regulations  
for Kendo Promotional Examinations,  
Section VI. Regulations for Kendo  
Ranking and Shogo Title Certificates.  
Article 1. All kendo ranking [6<sup>th</sup> kyu  
through 8 dan] and Shogo Title  
certificates shall be issued by the AUSKF,  
it was decided that the Western Kendo  
Federation is not following this section of  
the AUSKF Regulations for Kendo  
Promotional Examinations.

AUSKF President Arthur I. Murakami,  
will send an official letter to Peter Kim,  
President, Western Kendo Federation, to  
request the cooperation and assistance of  
the Western Kendo Federation to follow

this AUSKF regulation for  
promotional examinations as noted  
above.

(d.) Review of AUSKF PPG 8.04.00,  
8.04.01, 8.04.02, 8.05.01, and Section  
VII. Revoke Rank/Shogo, were tabled.

-4. Education:

No further report.

5. Iaido:

It was reported that the 2012 AUSKF  
Iaido Camp has been proposed to be  
held in Tacoma, Washington.

(a.) Review of PPG 11.00.00 Financial  
responsibility limitations guidelines,  
was tabled.

6. Development:

(a.) AUSKF Headquarters office and  
Part-time staff and/or Virtual Office  
Proposal [update].

The members of this committee  
reached a decision, that the previously  
approved AUSKF headquarters office  
and part-time staff, was recommended  
to be suspended due to logistical  
problems to locate a suitable location,  
etc. As an alternative, this committee  
recommended the implementation of a  
Virtual office concept, as presented by  
David Kodama to the AUSKF board of  
directors in a Power Point presentation.

(b.) Recognitions subcommittee  
recommended that three (3) individuals  
receive Special recognitions, for their  
contributions as volunteers to provide  
supportive services to the AUSKF:

1. Kotaro Yoshida.
2. Yutaro Matsuura.
3. Kitaho Kato.

A presentation to these three (3)  
individuals will be made at the 2011  
AUSKF Championships event.

(c.) AUSKF PPG: AUSKF Website  
(new) 27.01.0 through 27.04.0, was  
approved, to provide a clear procedure  
for the fifteen (15) AUSKF member  
federations to update their dojo  
listings, to implement an AUSKF  
Calendar of Events, and policies as to  
notification of the AUSKF webmaster  
of AUSKF official matters, and, the  
procedure to post an electronic copy of  
the AUSK Newsletter.

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**Highlights from the April 9 & 10, 2011  
AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting,  
Torrance, California [continud]**

Reported by Norman K. Otani, 2009-2011  
AUSKF Board of Director.

II. New Business:

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS: [continued]

7. Anti-Doping: [Updates]

1. AUSKF Anti-Doping Rules previously adopted. [To be posted on the AUSKF website]

2. AUSKF individual (secondary) members are required to have on file with the AUSKF [Excel data base to be developed by the AUSKF ADC] a signed copy of the ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO SUBMIT TO AUSKF and/or MEMBER FEDERATION ANTI-DOPING ACTIVITY [aka: Athlete AD Form].

[Pending implementation]

3. Signed copies of the Athlete AD Form to begin to be obtained from AUSKF competitors at the upcoming future AUSKF events:

2011 AUSKF Champonships [To be deferred]

2011 AUSKF Iaido Taikai [To be implemented if possible]

4. AUSKF ADC-Administrative DCO to provide educational materials to each of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations. [Pending implementation]

5. AUSKF website to have dedicated Athlete Section for links to anti-doping information, e.g. WADA Prohibited Subdstance List, FIK Anti-Doping Rules, etc. [Pending implementation]

6. AUSKF ADC Adminstrative DCO authorized to place annual order from WADA for 100 ["free"] copies of List of Prohibited Substances; distribution to AUSKF board of directors, officers, AUSKF member federations, 15<sup>th</sup> WKC-Team USA members, manager, coaches, etc. [2011 order received, and pending distribution]

7. AUSKF ADC Medical Issues DCO is authorized to contact the United States Anti-

Doping Agency to obtain information as to the type of ICT doping testing services available, costs for each test sample, laboratory costs for each sample, OOC services available; a proposal will then be submitted to the AUSKF board of directors for further review and consideration.. [Pending implementation]

NEW PROPOSALS:

1. Approved travel expenses for ADC Administrative DCO to have Anti-Doping Information Table at the 2011 Championships.

2. Appoved printing of At a Glance series handout materials for distribution to AUSKF members [see # 1 above]. Also, copies of At a Glance CD to be provided to the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations.

3. ADC to meet with 15<sup>th</sup> WKC: Team USA members in October 2011 for Anti-Doping Updates for 15<sup>th</sup> WKC.

B. Fall, 2011 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting: November 12 & 13, 2011.

Tentative locations:

1. Dallas, Texas.

2. Houston, Texas.

C. Other:

(1.) 15<sup>th</sup> WKC: Team USA Waiver Form approved for implementation.

(2.) Japan Earthquake Victim's Relief Donation.

It was decided that the AUSKF will make a \$10,000 donation to support the Japan Earthquake Victim's Relief organization(s) as recommended by the AJKF.

(3) AJKF Official Guide for Kendo Instructors.

AUSKF members are recommended to go the AJKF website [visit AUSKF website: [www.auskf.org](http://www.auskf.org) for link to AJKF website], to place orders for this excellent kendo instructors publication recently released.

(4.) Attendance at November 12 & 13, 2011 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting. If a current 2009-2011 AUSKF board of director is not re-elected as a 2012-2014 AUSKF board of director; it was decided that attendance at the next meeting is optional by those individuals in this sit

AUSKF MEMBER  
FEDERATIONS REPORTS:

1. Midwest Kendo Federation.  
Submitted by: Bradley Anderson.  
2011 Moorhead Dojo- MWKF Iaido Seminar will be held on July 29, 30 & 31, 2011, at Concordia College, in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Through the support of the AUSKF visiting instructor program; Tatsuhikko Konno sensei Kendo 7 dan Kyoshi, Iaido 7 dan Kyoshi, will conduct an "Introduction to Iaido" seminar, and a parallel track of instruction with a focus on Iaido for current practitioners. There will also be a couple of sessions of Kendo keiko, for those interested.

Attendees are encouraged to register online at:

<http://seminar.musoshindenryu.com>

2. Northern California Kendo Federation.

Submitted by: Court Tanouye.

In Memoriam:

Benjamin H. Hazard sensei, entered into rest on May 16, 2011 at the age of 91.

Son of Massachusetts, he became a world traveler, serving in the United States Army during World War II and the Korean conflict as a language officer in the Pacific Theater. He continued to serve as a reserve officer and retired with the rank of Colonel.

After receiving a PhD in History from the University of California, Berkeley, he was a History Professor for many years at San Jose State University. A student of Japanese martial arts, he achieved 7<sup>th</sup> Degree Hanshi in Kendo and was instrumental in fostering the growth of Kendo, Kyudo and Naginata in California. Hazard sensei founded the San Jose State University dojo in 1965.

Hazard sensei will be missed by all and remembered for his spirit, his great scholarship of kendo and his ability to communicate with everyone.

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AUSKF MEMBER FEDERATIONS  
REPORTS: [continued]

2. Northern California Kendo Federation.  
[continued]: Submitted by Anthony Cabral.

53<sup>rd</sup> Annual North-South Kendo Tournament  
held on April 17, 2011 at Leigh High  
School, in San Jose, California:

10yrs and under:

1<sup>st</sup>: K. Kim SCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Satoh SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Nakashimo SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: C. Tada SCKF

11-13yrs:

1<sup>st</sup>: R. Satoh SCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Yoon SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: D. Kumagai SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Horii SCKF

14-17yrs:

1<sup>st</sup>: K. Kobayashi SCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: T. Makiuchi SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: K. Fujimoto NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: K. Hakamata SCKF

Adult Kyu:

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Kern SCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Kao SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Taguchi SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: D. Brown NCKF

Women's:

1<sup>st</sup>: K. Kikunaga NCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: MC. Cabral NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: A. Aono NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: ME. Cabral NCKF

1-2 Dan:

1<sup>st</sup>: R. Eguchi NCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: S. Konopka NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Onisaki NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: B. Yoon SCKF

3-4 Dan:

1<sup>st</sup>: H. Imai SCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Park NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: S. Choi NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: H. Kim SCKF

5 Dan and above:

1<sup>st</sup>: Y. Shimada NCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Eitoku NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: G. Harada NCKF

3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Tokunaga NCKF

Seniors:

1<sup>st</sup>: M. Harada NCKF  
2<sup>nd</sup>: K. Chinen SCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: A. Mizunoue NCKF  
3<sup>rd</sup>: C. Tanouye NCKF

Kantoshu:

Youth: H. Hakamata SCKF  
Women: J. Brodsky NCKF  
Adult: L. Pham NCKF

Youth Team: 1<sup>st</sup>: SCKF

Yudansha Team: 1<sup>st</sup>: NCKF

Kodansha Team: 1<sup>st</sup>: SCKF

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3. Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation.  
Submitted by: Thomas Bolling

*Kenyu-* Monthly Newsletter of the Pacific  
Northwest Kendo Federation, can be  
viewed online: <http://pnkf.org>

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4. Southern California Kendo Federation:  
Submitted by: Kohjiro Kinno

A. The Southern California Kendo  
Championships will be held on June 26,  
2011 at the Dee Hardison Sports Center  
located in Wilson Park, Torrance, CA.

B. The SCKF Shinpan Seminar was held  
on May 15, 2011 at Covina Dojo. The  
seminar was led by Tim Yuge sensei; many  
of the 3 dan and above kenshi of SCKF  
were in attendance.

C. The 2<sup>nd</sup> AUSKF Junior Nationals will be  
held in Southern California on June 19,  
2011 at Marina High School in Huntington  
Beach, CA. A great number of 18 yrs and  
younger kenshi from SCKF will be  
entering.

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5. Southern California Kendo Organization.  
Submitted by: Hajime Mori

14<sup>th</sup> Annual SCKO Memorial Day Kendo  
Tournament was held on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>,  
2011.

13yrs and under:

1<sup>st</sup>: Gardena 2  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ildo A  
3<sup>rd</sup>: OCB 5  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Gedatsu A

14-17yrs:

1<sup>st</sup>: Ildo C  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ildo D  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Torrance A  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Gedatsu B

Adult Kyu:

1<sup>st</sup>: Covina  
2<sup>nd</sup>: W. LA  
3<sup>rd</sup>: OCB  
3<sup>rd</sup>: UCLA A

Yudansha:

1<sup>st</sup>: Long Beach E  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Torrance A  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Torrance B  
3<sup>rd</sup>: UCLA A

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5. Southwest United States Kendo and  
Iaido Federation.  
Submitted by: Steve Sasaki

13<sup>th</sup> Nabeshima Cup and Texas Open  
Taikai was held on April 30, 2011 in  
Dallas Texas; there were 154  
competitors.

10-13yrs:

1<sup>st</sup>: Tiarnan Marsten Kent  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Keeley McManus Kent  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Eugene Lee Austin  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Daniel Nicolett Little Rock  
Kantoshu: Justin Kim Tulsa

14-16yrs:

1<sup>st</sup>: Ken Nicoletti Little Rock  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Kyle Anderson Houston  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Kai Imamura Little Rock  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Matthew Yang New Orleans  
Kantoshu: Kenichiro Koga Houston

1kyu and below:

1<sup>st</sup>: Joao Lourenco Dallas  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Adam Schmidt Dallas  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Sanghyun Ko College Statio  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Andy Koke Dallas  
Kantoshu: Terry McManus Kent  
Kantoshu: Kenny Phan Houston

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AUSKF MEMBER FEDERATIONS  
REPORTS: [continued]

5. Southwest United States Kendo and Iaido Federation.: [continued]  
13<sup>th</sup> Nabeshima Cup and Texas Open Taikai [continued]

Women's: 1dan-3dan:

1<sup>st</sup>: Apinya Premprajaks Dallas  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Huong Dang Austin  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Masako Wright Salt Lake City  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Alexandra Darrah Austin  
Kantoshō: Janet Shim Austin  
Kantoshō: Lauren Menkemeller Dallas

1 Dan-3 Dan:

1<sup>st</sup>: An Giang Little Rock  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Michael Lindsay Tulsa  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Yong Cho Dallas  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Yuta Imoto Houston  
Kantoshō: Luis Angeli Arvada  
Kantoshō: Shaw Furukawa OK.

4 Dan and above:

1<sup>st</sup>: Kenichi Hatakeyama Waco  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Brian Cooper Arvada  
  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Michio Kajitai Little Rock  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Mark Uchida Denver  
Kantoshō: Michio Kajitani Little Rock

IAIDO NEWS AND EVENTS:

Submitted by: Dennis Ralutin

Northern California Iaido Association  
2011 Iaido Seminar and Shinsa will be held on August 5-7, 2011 at the Alameda High School in Alameda, California.

Yoshitaka Matsuoka sensei, Iaido 8 dan Kyoshi -Shinkage ryu and 7 dan Kendo, from Aichi Prefecture will be the visiting sensei from Zjapan.

For more information contact:  
Cynthia Tanabe  
e-mail: [shinchantx@hotmail.com](mailto:shinchantx@hotmail.com)

AUSKF VP: Promotion and Examinations:  
Shinichi Koike

AUSKF Kodansha Shinsa: April 10, 2011

5 Dan Promotions:

Ai Takadao PNKF  
Naoaki Tanimura PNKF  
Katsuhide Kinjo SCKF  
Kook Bae Lee SCKF  
Ken Ikeda SCKO

6 Dan Promotions:

none

7 Dan Promotions:

Uk Hur SCKO

Shogo Awards:

Taro Ariga Kyoshi  
Tsuyoshi Nishiura Kyoshi

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OTHER KENDO RELATED  
NEWS/INFORMATION:

GUEST AUTHOR:

Ken Strawn has given permission for the AUSKF to reprint an article that he wrote for the *SEUSKF NEWS* Volume 10 Issue 1.

[Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, this concluding Part two of: *Heroes of Kendo*, was not able to be printed in the last AUSKF Newsletter. See AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 13 No. 1 for the Part one section of this news article]

Part two:

***Heroes of Kendo***

At the suggestion of a Kendo friend, I exchanged several letters with Warner sensei currently living in Okinawa at a youthful 96. His letters were full of encouragement and advice. But my determination of how I would deal with my loss had already been made while I was sitting in that hospital room awaiting the diagnosis from my vascular surgeon. I could already see that there would be no good news. We are all familiar with the many surveys of young people that asked who their heroes are. We all know how young people list television and movie stars, rock and roll singers, rap artists, and the like. I suppose that in that younger and less wise time, I would have named Roy

Rogers and Steve Reeves. I was fortunate enough in my life to know my heroes personally. My main hero was my father, Harrell Strawn, who was shot down over German occupied France and spent eighteen months in a POW camp. He never talked much of his experiences while he was alive but research on the internet has revealed a history of force "death marches" on starvation rations to escape the advancing Russians. The Germans wished to preserve the POW's as bargaining chips when the war ended.

My other heroes are men like Benjamin Hazard, Rod Omoto, Yoshinari Miyata, and Yoshinori Takao. They are Kendo sensei with whom I have spent large amounts of time. There are many others who have influenced me, too many to list in this short article. From these men I learned the determination not to allow the loss of a leg to stop me from living my life to the fullest.

Each generation must face their own adversities and in so doing, forge their own character. Each individual must face their own personal adversities. No person lives a life without some grief, loss, failure or pain. My father and my sensei had the great depression and World War II. My generation had Viet Nam and Watergate. The current generation has the problem of international terrorism, a genie I don't think will be going back into the bottle any time soon, and the consequences of my generation's "If it feels good, do it" counterculture.

I am very fortunate. I can still do Kendo. Artificial legs do not last as long as a new car and when my first prosthetic leg wore out, my prosthetician rebuilt it into a special leg for doing kendo. I can still do something that I love to do.

None of the above previously mentioned men preached to me how to face adversity. It was learned by

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**OTHER KENDO RELATED**

**NEWS/INFORMATION:** [continued]

**GUEST AUTHOR:**

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Part two: *Heroes of Kendo* [continued]

osmosis, spending a lot of time in the presence of men of sterling character. There characters were formed by a lifetime of overcoming adversity during times of devastation and scarcity. They taught me things that cannot be put into words.

How fortunate those of us who do Kendo are, to have our heroes available in person to spend time with and learn from. Wherever Kendo is being practiced, there is some hero opening the gym door and hoping enough people will show up for them to pass on what they know. And the people who come to practice each session will learn through osmosis what makes a person of character.

We are all so very fortunate.

[End of article]

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**AUSKF NEWSLETTER**  
Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

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**Future news items for the next issue to be published on or about December 2011, can be submitted to my e-mail address:**

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