

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7 No. 1
January 1, 2004

KENDO

Happy New Year 2004 !!!

2003-2005 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:
Charlie Tanaka

EXECUTIVE VP:
Norman K. Otani, Esq.

VP-PROM & EXAMS:
Atsushi Hori

VP-COMPETITION:
Yoshiro 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 C. Tanaka.

Happy New Year!

Last year, 2003, was a very busy year of kendo activities and events; which, without a question, reached its peak at the 12th World Kendo Championships held on July 4-6, 2003, in Glasgow, Scotland.

Not only did the 12th WKC Team U.S.A.-Men's Team Members achieve a 3rd Place finish; there were several 12th WKC Team U.S.A.-Women's Team Members recognized for Fighting Spirit Awards in both the Individual and Team Divisions. Due to limited space, please go to the AUSKF website located at: <http://www.auskf.info>, for more details, photos, etc.

As we now begin the new year, the AUSKF is looking forward to implementing a *new* and continuing programs, including the **AUSKF Shimon Regional Seminars**, AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp, and, AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp [see the reports from the respective AUSKF officers for more details].

Also, plans are being developed for the 2005 AUSKF Championships to be held on July 2 & 3, 2005, as part of the preparations for the Team U.S.A. participation in the 13th World Kendo Championships to be held in Taiwan.

In addition, I would like to note that our AUSKF non-profit education organization has been successfully able to maintain fiscal

stability through the conscientious efforts of all of our current AUSKF officers, board of directors, and member federations support. Through this continued unified effort, the AUSKF is building up a strong fiscal base from which new programs and strategies can evolve and eventually be implemented to meet the continually growing demands and needs of the AUSKF.

If you have any suggestions or ideas that you would like to have considered by the AUSKF, please feel free to communicate your thoughts to me or any of the current AUSKF officers, and board of directors.

Sincerely,

Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President
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Santa Clara, CA. 95051
PH/FAX: (408) 984-0226
e-mail: ktanaka1115@aol.com

Highlights from the November 8-9, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Los Angeles, California:

Reported by AUSKF Executive VP
Norman K. Otani

The AUSKF Board of Directors met in Los Angeles, California on November 8-9, 2003; as previously approved as a policy of the AUSKF Board of Directors, the HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUSKF BOARD OF DIRECTORS meetings will be reported within a reasonable time following each meeting via the AUSKF Newsletter.

[The editor deeply apologizes in advance for the long delay in transmission of this aspect of the AUSKF organizational business news. Due to the editor's personal circumstances which

Highlights from the November 8-9, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Los Angeles, California:
[continued]:

required a change-over in e-mail address, the ongoing nature of news collection, and other considerations, the dissemination of this information by this means of communication, may need to be reviewed, as the required timeliness may not be a realistic expectation]

[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the November 8-9, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting; the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification]

I. OLD BUSINESS:

A. 12th WKC-Team U.S.A. report by Atsushi Hori.

1. Team U.S.A.-Men's Team achieved 3rd Place; also, there were Fighting Spirit Awards to several members of the Team U.S.A. Women's Team in both the team and individual divisions.

2. Sincere thanks was expressed to all of the supporting family members of Team U.S.A., friends and others who gave of their time, donations, etc.

3. The overall assessment of the 12th WKC-Men's Team Division, was that the first and second place results by Japan and Korea, were not a surprise; however, the other countries, including the United States, Canada, and European countries has become a noticeably larger and much more competitive group.

4. The 12th WKC preliminary heat format and advance selection of teams procedure was discussed and the general opinion was that this was a good method for the tournament style. Whether or not this continues to be the format at the 13th WKC, is an IKF decision. A suggestion was made to consider a similar format and procedure for implementation at the 2005 AUSKF Championships.

B. 2003-2005 IKF Director Election Results.

AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka reported that at the July 3, 2003 IKF General Assembly meeting, he was elected as the IKF Director representing the U.S.A. from the America Zone.

It was also reported that the 13th WKC in 2006 will be held in Gaoxiong (Takao), Taiwan.

C. AUSKF Website: Policy RE: Request to Remove/Add Dojo by Member Federation.

AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani requested approval for a proposed Policy and Procedure for the above noted situation; following review and discussion, it was agreed that when a AUSKF member federation requests to remove a dojo from its website listing; the AUSKF webmaster will notify the AUSKF President, AUSKF Executive VP, and the AUSKF Treasurer, then comply with the request. Pending followup review by the AUSKF Board of Directors, the removed dojo will be listed an Associate Member of the AUSKF.

In the case of a AUSKF member federation requesting to add a dojo to its listing which was previously listed in another existing AUSKF member federation; the AUSKF webmaster will notify the AUSKF President, AUSKF Executive VP, and the AUSKF Treasurer of the request. A "courtesy" notification will be sent to the affected existing AUSKF member federation; any objection to the proposed action must be made to the AUSKF President within ten days after the sending of the notification.

D. AUSKF Liability Insurance report by Tim Yuge.

It was reported that effective July, 2003, a new liability insurance carrier was required and has now taken over the AUSKF liability insurance policy; there is no change in the previously provided amount of liability insurance and limited medical insurance coverage limits.

E. Tsuyoshi Inoshita Inquiry and Letter from Shozo Kato.

1. Tsuyoshi Inoshita Inquiry was reviewed by the AUSKF Board of

Directors after AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani completed legal consultation with Jack Dwosh, Esq., Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Dwosh reviewed the Tsuyoshi Inoshita Inquiry regarding the application of California Corporations Code Section 7220(a), the minutes of the March 29-30, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, which explained the action taken on November 9-10, 2002, by the AUSKF Board of Directors to change the term of office from two years to three years, and the previous discussions held at the AUSKF Board of Directors meetings held on November 10-11, 2001 and April 5-6, 2002, respectively.

It was the legal opinion of Mr. Dwosh that California Corporations Code Section 7220(a) did apply to the AUSKF Board of Directors action taken on November 9-10, 2002 [as described above]. Also, Mr. Dwosh explained that the purpose of California Corporations Code Section 7220(a) was to ensure fairness of board of directors actions, and to prevent actions that would result in self enrichment by the board of directors.

In addition, Mr. Dwosh stated that since the AUSKF Board of Directors had started the discussion of considering the change to increase the terms of office from two years to three years for board of directors at the November 10-11, 2001 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, and continued the discussion on this same subject matter at the April 5-6, 2002 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, the member federations had prior knowledge that there would be a proposed action by the AUSKF Board of Directors to consider increasing the terms of office of directors from two years to three years.

Therefore, after further explaining that Mr. Dwosh advised that the legal dilemma raised by the Tsuyoshi Inoshita Inquiry described above could be resolved by an Executive Declaration agreed to be signed by AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka, no further AUSKF Board of Directors action was deemed to be required.

Highlights from the November 8-9, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Los Angeles, California:
[continued]:

2. Shozo Kato previously had submitted a letter dated March 28, 2003 at the March 29-30, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, which could not be reviewed due to running out of time to consider the matter.

Mr. Kato's letter inquired about the procedure followed by the incumbent AUSKF executive officers in filling a 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors position which was not accepted by Noboru Kataoka, following a run-off election held for the election of 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors. AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani, Esq., reminded the AUSKF Board of Directors that he had previously explained at the November 9-10, 2002 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, that the existing AUSKF by-laws provisions for election of directors had been properly followed in permitting the filling of the 2003 director position which was not accepted by Mr. Kataoka, by installing the individual who had garnered the next highest number of votes in the run-off election [which was Daniel Ebihara]; no further board of directors was deemed to be necessary.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2005 AUSKF Championships report by Yoshiteru Tagawa.

It was reported that the date of the 2005 AUSKF Championships is July 2 & 3; this will be followed by a Kodansha Promotion Examination on July 4, 2005. Proposed locations for the 2005 AUSKF Championships being considered include: Washington D.C., Denver, Ann Arbor Michigan, and Las Vegas.

B. AUSKF Charlie Tanaka requested that the AUSKF membership dues policy be reviewed for individuals joining the AUSKF late in the last quarter of a calendar year. It was decided that no changes in the AUSKF membership dues policy were to be made at this time.

C. Committee Reports:

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

2. Competition Committee report by Yshiteru Tagawa.

(a.) 2004 AUSKF Regional Shimpan Seminars will be held in four previously designated zones in the United States; one seminar will be held in each quarter of the calendar year as follows:

The first seminar, in the first quarter [January-March] will be held in the South West zone on March 7, 2004, in Los Angeles, California.

The second seminar, in the second quarter [April-June] will be held in the Eastern Zone on April 18, 2004, in New York City, New York.

The third seminar, in the third quarter [July-September] will be held in the Central Zone on August 21, 2004, in Houston, Texas.

The fourth seminar, in the fourth quarter [October-December] will be held in the North West zone on October 9, 2004, in Santa Clara, California.

(b.) The 13th WKC Team U.S.A. Manager and Coach will be determined at the next AUSKF Board of Directors meeting in March, 2004.

(c.) The 13th WKC Team U.S.A. Kyoka Senshu schedule and details will be determined at the next AUSKF Board of Directors meeting in March, 2004.

3. Promotion Committee report by Atsushi Hori.

A no-refund policy for the \$50 AUSKF Promotion Examination Application fees was reviewed.

The current policy of not refunding the \$50 fee for "no shows" will continue; however, credit of \$50 for the next AUSKF Promotion Examination taken will be given.

4. Education Committee report by Koki Ariga.

(a.) Arrangements will be negotiated with e-bogu or Eguchi U.S.A. to sell supplies of the nihon kendo kata book [english language], japanese-english kendo dictionary, and IKF shimpan rule book, if there is no objection by the All

Japan Kendo Federation.

(b.) The 2004 AUSKF Summer Kendo Camp will be held on July 24-26, 2004; the proposed locations are Seattle, Washington or Las Vegas, Nevada.

5. Iaido Committee report by committee chairman Takeshi Yamaguchi.

The 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 10-13, 2004, at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado; details regarding the iaido seminar, fees, etc., will be provided to all member federations at a later date by Mark Uchida.

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, AUSKF Oral History projects continue to be developed; additional review and recommendations are pending.

(c.) The AUSKF Website has been recently re-designed as of July, 2003 by webmaster Richard Hill; also, a statistical report submitted by Mr. Hill indicates that the AUSKF Website has been very frequently utilized both in the United States and internationally.

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

D. The next AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting was proposed to be held in Washington D.C., on March 27 & 28, 2004. [Note: As of the date of publication of the AUSKF Newsletter, the location of the next AUSKF Board of Directors meeting has been changed to Detroit, Michigan, as the initial proposed location of Washington D.C. was determined to not be feasible]

From VP-Competition:

Report submitted by Yoshiteru Tagawa.

2004 AUSKF Shimpan Seminars:

As described above under the article titled: *Highlights of the AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting* held on November 8-9, 2003, the AUSKF has approved to hold a Shimpan Seminar once per quarter of the year 2004, in the designated zones of the United States.

Additional information and details will be sent to each AUSKF Member Federation.

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.

The next AUSKF Kodansha Shinsa for the ranks of 5-Dan through 7-Dan and Shogo, will be held on Sunday, March 28, 2004, in Detroit, Michigan; following the AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

Additional details, application forms, etc., will be sent to member federations at a later date.

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, Charlie Tanaka, and Ken Strawn [excerpts taken from the December 2003 Volume 6, Number 3 Issue of the *SEUSKF NEWS*].

AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp 2003

On October 11-12, 2003, between 115-120 kenshi gathered at the Deas Hall on the campus of the Citadel, the military college of South Carolina, located in Charleston, South Carolina, for the 2003 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp.

The All Japan Kendo Federation sent two instructors to oversee the training; they were Masatake Sumi, 8-Dan Hanshi of Fukuoka, and Masuo Shinotsuka, 8-Dan Kyoshi of Yokohama. It was noted that Shinotsuka sensei is the teacher of the two Miyazaki brothers who have won six All Japan Kendo Championships between them.

The focus of the training at the 2003 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp was spent on the introduction of a new "methodology" for teaching kendo, called the "Bokuto ni yoru Kendo Kihon-waza Keiko-ho (Bokuto application for Kendo Fundamental Technique Practice); this was just introduced in Japan in March, 2003 after two years of development by many sensei working together.

It was reported that it was a very successful and informative 2003 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp, and all attendees carried home new knowledge and improved skills that will help not only their own kendo grow stronger, but also that of the members of their dojos that did not get to attend.

Report From Treasurer:

Report submitted by Masaharu Makino.

For the year 2004, there will be no change in the AUSKF Membership Dues; as is the AUSKF Policy, March 31, 2004, 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.

2004 AUSKF Membership Dues information will be distributed to each AUSKF Member Federation shortly.

For any questions regarding the 2004 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 Midwest Kendo Federation, submitted by:
(1.) David T. Christman
111 Cherry Lane
Battle Creek, MI 49015
Tel. [W](269) 962-9411
Tel. [H] (269) 965-6590
FAX: (269) 962-9411
e-mail: [H] dtc12@comcast.net
e-mail: [W] dtc@christmanscreenprint.com

After an election held to select 2004 officers for the Midwest Kendo Federation, the following were elected:

Dave Christman, President
Gordon Yamamoto-Small, Treasurer

In addition, the Midwest Kendo Federation has "officially" decided to designate the 4-letter abbreviation of their federation as "MWKF" and no longer requests to use the 3-letters "MKF."

MWKF 15th Annual Tournament was held on November 8, 2003, hosted by the Chicago Kendo Dojo; results are as follows:

TEAM:

1st - Choyokan A
2nd - Detroit A
3rd - Chicago A
3rd - Chicago C

REGIONAL MEMBER'S

NEWS: [continued]

1. Report from the Midwest Kendo Federation [continued]

3rd Dan & Up:

- 1st - K. Ishihara [CKD]
- 2nd - N. Baba [MHA]
- 3rd - T. Ariga [E-bogu]
- 3rd - T. Tokune [MV]

1st & 2nd Dan:

- 1st - M. Chery [MHA]
- 2nd - N. Mizuchi [CKD]
- 3rd - J. Kenoyer [UW]
- 3rd - S. Wilkins [UC]

Women:

- 1st - M. Chery [MHA]
- 2nd - M. Mizusawa [DET]
- 3rd - A. Akamatsu [DET]
- 3rd - M. Matsuyama [CHO]

Mudansha:

- 1st - J. Lee [OSU]
- 2nd - M. Francev [CHO]
- 3rd - C. Ruggiero [MV]
- 3rd - C. Scheier [CKF]

Teen:

- 1st - Y. Baba [CKD]
- 2nd - A. Akamatsu [DET]
- 3rd - M. Mizusawa [DET]
- 3rd - M. Torisu [IN]

Youth:

- 1st - A. Torisu [IN]
- 2nd - T. Ishimoto [DET]
- 3rd - L. Lovelace [HK]
- 3rd - T. Kato [CHO]

Fighting Spirit:

A. Torisu [IN]

(2.) Yukio Watanabe, Detroit Kendo Dojo.

1413 Natalie Lane-Apt. #304
 Ann Arbor, MI 48105
 Tel: (734) 913-5442
 FAX: (734) 668-2877 (attn: Yukio)
 E-mail: yuki_nabe@kdd.net

Detroit Kendo Dojo will be the host of the Detroit Open Kendo Rensei Tournament and Seminar to be held on

February 14 & 15, 2004, in the Motor City of Detroit.

Location: Birney Middle School Sports Gym, 27225 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI.

Seminar to be held on February 14, 2004, will be lead by two Special Instructors from Japan, Miyazaki brothers, who are both All Japan Kendo Champions:

Masahiro Miyazaki, 7 Dan Kyoshi
 Fumihiro Miyazaki, 7 Dan Kyoshi

Seminar cost:

Adult=\$20
 Youth [15yrs and under]= \$15

A promotional examination will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2004, from 4:00 PM-6:00 PM.

Kendo Tournament will be held on Sunday, February 15, 2004.

Location: Seaholm High School Gym, 2436 West Lincoln, Birmingham, MI.

Tournament Cost:

Adult: \$35
 Youth [15yrs and under] \$35

Divisions:

4th Dan & Up, 3 Dan, 2 Dan, 1-Dan,
 Women [Shodan & Up], Mudansha Adult [16yr & Up], Mudansha Youth [15yr & Up], Team [Dojo: Adult 5 members], Team [Dojo: Youth 15 year & under 3 members]

For additional information and details, please contact Mr. Yukio Watanabe.

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

The Palo Alto Kendo Dojo [PAKD], affiliated with the Northern California Kendo Federation [NCKF], proudly announces the following members have successfully passed the promotional exams. The semi-annual NCKF Shinsa was held on November 2, 2003.

- Mr. Yoon Chung 4-Dan
- Mr. Tim Kono 2-Dan
- Mr. Eugene Lin 2-Dan

Mr. Mark Tovar 2-Dan
 Mr. Jason Yang 1-Dan

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:

(1.) Tom Bolling, Recording Secretary
 See PNKF's *Kenyu* online at:
<http://www.kendo-pnkf.org>.

(2.) Report submitted by C.J. Chaney, PNKF President
 2414 1st Ave. #404
 Seattle, WA. 98121
 e-mail: cjchaney@wavelink.com

It is with great honor that I am proud to announce the 2nd North American Women's Team Championship hosted by the Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation.

As many of you know the last North American Women's Team Championships in 2001 was a great success with participants from NCKF, Hawaii, British Columbia, Manitoba, SWUSKIF and SEUSKF. We are also very lucky to have the special attendance of the 2000 and 2003 Japan Women's Team Coach M. Osuka sensei 6-Dan.

We hope to carry on the success of the inaugural Taikai again this year while growing participation even further. This year's Taikai is tentatively scheduled for August 14, 2004. The location of the Taikai will be the same as last time; the Renton Civic Community Center, located just outside of Seattle, Washington. Lodging as always, is available at the Silver Cloud Inn located conveniently across the street from the location of the Taikai.

The format for the Taikai will also remain unchanged with both individual and team events.

Finally, we are very happy to announce that this year's special guest will be Kumiko Hoshina sensei, 6-Dan. In addition to being an instructor at Japan's

2. Report submitted by C.J. Chaney, PNKF President [continued]:

Physical Education University, Hoshina sensei also served as captain of the women's team for Tokyo in the all Japan Women's Taikai.

An official invitation with rules, schedule, and accommodation information will be released later this year.

5. Report from Rocky Mountain Kendo/Iaido Federation, submitted by: Monica Iwakabe
e-mail: herrmoni2@aol.com

IN MEMORIAM:

HEUSER, KLAUS MICHAEL ROLF Heuser sensei, 2-Dan, passed away on October 21, 2003. Mr. Heuser was the organizer and founder of the South Dakota Kendo Dojo.

Also, Mr. Heuser began his study of kendo in Germany and continued his training as the Senior Instructor at the South Dakota Kendo Dojo in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Our deepest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be missed.

6. Report from the Southern California Kendo Federation [SCKF]: Information can be found at the SCKF website located at: <http://www.eanet.com>

7. Report from the Southeast United States Kendo Federation, submitted with permission from SEUSKF News Editors Ken Strawn and Mike Yongue.

Kendo Training a book written by author Ken Strawn is now available; the cost is \$16.00 (shipping included). Send check or money order (no cash please) payable to: Ken Strawn, 2217 Orton Street, Charlotte, N.C. 28208.

Iaido NEWS:

2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp

Report submitted by Takeshi Yamaguchi, AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman; and, Mark Uchida, AUSKF Iaido Committee Member.

Mark Uchida announced at the November 8-9, 2003 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting that the 2004 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 10-13, 2004, at the University of Colorado, in Boulder, Colorado.

Details regarding the AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp fees, etc., will be sent to each AUSKF member federation, at a later date by Mark Uchida.

SCIA Iaido News:

Report submitted by Dennis Ralutin, SCIA President.

Starting on Saturday, January 24, 2004, SCIA will be having iaido practices at the newly opened Industry Sheriff's kendo dojo (formerly Monterey Park kendo dojo), in the City of Industry from 5:00 PM -7:00 PM. The Saturday iaido practices will continue every 4th Saturday of the month.

There will no longer be iaido practice at Chuo kendo dojo on the 3rd Saturday of every month.

The schedule will remain the same at Norwalk (Mondays, 9:00 PM-10:00 PM) and Chuo (Thursdays, 9:30 PM-10:30PM).

The contact person for the Chuo and Industry iaido groups will be Mr. Ted Imoto; he can be contacted at: e-mail address: tedtimoto@aol.com

Additional SCIA information can be found at our website: <http://groups.msn.com/scia> or contact Dennis Ralutin via e-mail at: kryptonian13@hotmail.com for updates.

GUEST AUTHOR:

Benjamin H. Hazard, Ph.D.
Professor of History-Emeritus (ret.)
San Jose State University
Kendo Hanshi 7th Dan

An Overview of Kendo 1945-2000

Part One [see AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 5 No. 1 Issue]

Part Two: [see AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 5 No. 2 Issue]

Part Three:

Appendix 1: [see AUSKF Newsletter Vol. 6 No.1 Issue]

Part Four:

Appendix 1 [continued]:

During the May Day, 1949 demonstrations in Tokyo, the police as usual used the *jo* (staff) for crowd control. The communists became unruly and some of them were able to seize the police staffs and beat the police with them. The Occupation's Tokyo provost marshal witnessed this and complained to General MacArthur that this was due to the influence of kendo and suggested that kendo should be banned for all of the police. The Japanese government was ordered to forbid kendo in all police stations and Tanaya Sensei reluctantly told me that he could no longer teach me. I made some inquiries in the Civil Affairs branch of GHQ's and found that it's not an infraction of SCAP (Supreme Commander Allied Powers) orders for private individuals to practice kendo privately in private clubs and Tanaya Sensei could teach me, as long as he did it as a private citizen, and not as a police officer.

Tanaya Sensei arranged with Okada Morihiro Sensei to use his *dojo* in Shimo-Takaido on Saturday afternoons, which had been rented out as a ballet studio by Okada Sensei who was a retired Keishicho (Tokyo Metropolitan Police Headquarters) kendo and *jai* instructor. Okada Sensei had been an instructor of *jai* to both Tanaya Sensei and Kuroshima Sensei when they entered the Tokyo Police Force. Kuroshima Sensei eagerly

GUEST AUTHOR:

Benjamin H. Hazard, Ph.D.[continued]:

joined us. They were delighted to be able to continue to do what they loved under the protection of my GHQ patch.

I had the privilege of having one on one instruction from these three outstanding instructors for several months. Gradually the work spread among the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Kendo instructors (who were now being trained in police baton by the New York Police), that Tanaya Sensei and Kuroshima Sensei were still practicing kendo under the protection of an American lieutenant and the MPs had not interfered. First one or two sensei would drop in on Saturday afternoons. Each would practice with me, for that was the reason the practice existed; and then they would practice with Tanaya Sensei and Kuroshima Sensei. This gave me an excellent opportunity to experience a variety of kendo styles and techniques. Needless to say, my kendo improved considerably.

By the end of 1949 it was sensed the GHQ had eased up to some degree on kendo; the number of instructors who came to Okada's dojo on Saturdays had increased to about forty, although rarely that many at one time. Indeed it seemed that instructing me was no longer needed as an excuse for the practice. They came to do what they wanted the most; engage in kendo with their peers. Among those with whom I practiced regularly: Saimura Goro, Hanshi (later 10-dan), Ono, Jusei, Kyoshi (later Hanshi 9-dan), Horiguchi Kiyoshi, Kyoshi (later Hanshi 9-dan); these three Sensei were all from distinguished families of samurai fencing masters. Iida Masataka Kyoshi, Nakano Yasoji, Kyoshi (later Hanshi 9-dan), Takada Masanobu Kyoshi, and Abe Yasuji Renshi. These last two had been among the first to make friendly overtures to me at Tsukiji.

With the introduction of the police baton/night stick, kendo dogu was brought back. Gradually the training began to reflect the features of kendo.

May 5, 1950 although there was no regional or national organization, the Keishicho (Tokyo Metropolitan Police) awarded me the menjo (certificate) for kendo 2-dan with the name and personal seals of thirteen Keishicho kendo instructors headed by Shibata Mansaku (Hanshi), the Keishicho Kendo Soshihan (head instructor) in a private gathering in a restaurant near the Tsukiji Police Station.

After the North Korean attack on the Republic of Korea, June 24, 1950 GHQ viewed Japan as a logistical base in supporting UN operations in Korea and decided to develop more favorable relations with the Japanese people. One of the decisions was to lift the ban on kendo.

[To be continued in next issue]

International Kendo Federation [IKF] News:

Report submitted by Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President

1. IKF Referee Seminar for American Zone will be held on March 13 & 14, 2004, in Toronto, Canada.

Signed Applications were sent to each AUSKF Member Federations, to be submitted directly to IKF by the February 2, 2004 deadline.

2. All Japan Kendo Camp for Foreigners will be held in 2004; information for submitting the names of interested participants will be sent to each AUSKF Member Federation by Charlie Tanaka, AUSKF President.

[Note: Due to the cancellation of the 2003 All Japan Kendo Camp for Foreigners, the previous rotation order was revised, and a copy of the updated rotation order will be sent to each AUSKF Member Federation by Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP]

AUSKF WEBSITE:

Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster.

For those who have not recently visited the AUSKF website located at: www.auskf.info, you are recommended to do so to see the recent re-design and user friendly features.

If there are additional ideas that the AUSKF members would like to have considered regarding the AUSKF website, please send this information to: Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster at: e-mail address: rhil@nckf.org

2003-2005 AUSKF OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIRECTORY:

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[see From the President]

Executive VP Norman K. Otani
[Note: Change in e-mail address effective 1/1/04:
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Vice-President Promotion & Exam
Atsushi Hori
[see Report in AUSKF Newsletter]

Vice-President Competition
Yoshiteru Tagawa
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AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

*The Editor apologizes for the
delay in the publication of this
issue of the AUSKF Newsletter,
which resulted due to a
changeover required in my e-
mail address, and other
intervening events.*

*Future news items for the next
issue to be published on or
about April, 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.*
