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Maui Ki-Aikido

Spring 2002

www.mauikiaikido.org

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Shinichi Tohei Sensei will be teaching at the HKF 2002 Seminar in June.

Endowment To Be Started

Maui Ki-Aikido is in the process of establishing an endowment fund. This fund will help Maui Ki-Aikido to serve the community on an even more significant level and will provide secure funding for unforeseen future needs.

Please help by becoming a part of this effort with your tax-deductible donations. Thank you for your wonderful support for our mission of disseminating the teachings of Shin Toitsu Aikido.

Getting Ready for the HKF 2002 Seminar with Shinichi Tohei Sensei

The days are counting down rapidly to June 20th when the Oahu dojos of the Hawaii Ki Federation will host this year's seminar with Shinichi Tohei Sensei. This will be the first seminar that Shinichi Sensei will teach outside of Japan by himself, and we all look forward to a very enjoyable and instructive event. This seminar is being planned to provide the maximum opportunity for all members of the HKF to participate, learn and network together over the four days.

The seminar is being held at the Ala Moana hotel in Honolulu, and we encourage all attendees to consider staying there. The Ala Moana was selected because it allowed us to structure a seminar in which the training, banquet, and hotel rooms are all in one facility. We hope that this will enhance the experience of the seminar through additional opportunities to meet and interact with the seminar attendees and instructors from outside Hawaii.

The first day, Thursday, June 20th, will be a public seminar during the day, and a lecture and KI-Aikido demonstration in the evening. The public seminar will be a great learning and training experience. Our HKF chief instructor, Chris Curtis Sensei, along with Senseis Clayton Naluai, Dr. David Shaner, and Lynn Curtis, will provide the instruction. Shinichi Tohei Sensei will be giving the lecture in the evening, followed by a short demonstration.

The seminar taught by Shinichi Tohei Sensei will begin on Friday and conclude on Sunday. We anticipate an informative and enjoyable training session. The seminar banquet will be on Friday evening at the hotel. On Saturday evening, the planning committee is working on a barbeque or some other evening dinner activity for everyone.

Finally, the price of the seminar was established to encourage maximum participation from the HKF dojos. We believe it is very affordable for the membership. The seminar fee includes the banquet and lunches during the seminar. We have negotiated with the hotel to provide a very attractive package for attendees. The committee believes that June 2002 will be a most positive opportunity for all HKF members to come together, learn and train, make new friends, and renew old friendships. Chris Curtis Sensei added, "I would like every adult student in the state of Hawaii to attend and experience training with Shinichi Tohei Sensei."

Application forms for the seminar can be obtained at the HKF website at www.hawaiiiki.org, or by contacting Lokahi Ki-Aikido Dojo, tel. (808) 256-8194, or by email to Seminar chairman, Glenn Hamamura at hamamura@attglobal.net

Maui Hawaii Ki Federation Seminar

The Shunshinkan Dojo rang with the sounds of rolling, kiais, Japanese counting and laughter as Aikido students and instructors from Maui, Kauai, Oahu, the Big Island and the Mainland gathered for Maui's Hawaii Ki Federation Seminar, March 22-24. Chris Curtis Sensei, HKF Chief Instructor, taught the weekend seminar, with classes in breathing and meditation, Relax Taiso, Taigi 12, ken suburi, and jo nage arts. Lynn Curtis taught a special children's class Saturday morning, which was followed by an Aikido exhibition given by C. Curtis Sensei and Maui members.

Suzuki Sensei's 85th birthday was celebrated by the seminar participants on Saturday night. A pot luck dinner was held in the dojo with harp music provided



Beginning students Junko Endo and Helen Barrow practiced ken suburi techniques on the last day of the HKF Seminar.



Suzuki Sensei enjoyed his 85th birthday at the HKF Seminar potluck dinner.

by Celia Canty. Suzuki Sensei inspired us, as always, with an energetic speech. With a "Because of you - okagesama de -" he acknowledged the role of the students and other instructors in building the Kiai of Maui's dojo. However, we say to him, "Because of YOU, Sensei."

On Sunday morning, everyone enjoyed a rousing Soku shin no gyo led by Curtis Sensei. The final events of the weekend were the successful shodan test of

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Chris Curtis Sensei, HKF Chief Instructor leads a rousing Soku shin no gyo on the last day of the seminar.

Introductory Course to be Offered

Maui Ki-Aikido's annual introductory course will be offered through the PACE program this year. This four-week course allows new students to try Ki development and Ki-Aikido at a low cost and, at the end, to apply part of their course fee to their membership if they choose to join. It is an excellent way for potential new students to find out what Ki-Aikido is all about.

Chris Curtis Sensei will offer the class on four Thursdays in September, 2002. PACE/VITEC, an adjunct of Maui Community College, offers non-credit courses in a very wide range of subjects and advertises them county-wide. Please remind your friends about this excellent opportunity.



Suzuki Sensei Honored

The Japanese Cultural Society of Maui recognized Shinichi Suzuki Sensei at their Shinnen En Kai dinner on January 26 with honorary membership. He was chosen because of being "an inspiration in daily life... teaching others only that which he has actually experienced,...thus a strong proponent of self-discipline." They cited his rigorous training and his extraordinary dedication to the discipline of Aikido, as well as his career in service to the Maui Police Department. Retired as a Major in 1972, he still instructs every recruit class in Aikido at the age of 85. Others honored at the banquet were Tadashi Sato and Meyer Ueoka.

Shunshinkan Dojo Student Assistant Program

Four young children who started in the Saturday morning beginners' Aikido class many years ago have grown into accomplished Aikido students and leaders in their class. Chelsea Schneider, Arik Dadez, BreeAnn Tamaye and Kalani Rosell have persevered over the years, attending class, training diligently and attaining higher rank, refining their etiquette, trying to grasp the concept of Ki and most importantly, passing on what they have learned.

All four students, between 12 and 14 years of age, are busy with other extra-curricular activities and of course, keeping up their grades at



Chelsea Schneider



Arik Dadez



BreeAnn Tamaye



Kalani Rosell

school. However, they continue to train with their peers in their own class and make the time to attend beginner classes in order to assist the Sensei. The presence of advanced students in a class of young beginners is a great benefit to the teacher and students alike. The assistants have acquired teaching skills that allow them to give personal attention and guidance to the newest students in the class. They are also role models demonstrating Aikido skills, Ki principles and how to be a mindful student. Their service to the dojo is invaluable.

The student assistants possess maturity beyond their years and a willingness and openness to learn. This attitude has inspired them, after much encouragement from their Sensei, to attend the adult Ki-Aikido classes. Again, these students rise to the occasion and push out their Ki, at first tentatively, now wholeheartedly, as they step onto the mat for an evening of practice. Their teachers now become their training partners.

These students, especially, demonstrate the merit of training spirit, mind and body in the practice of Ki-Aikido. The discipline they acquire, the respect they have for the teaching, and the etiquette they exhibit in the dojo carry over into daily life. This development serves to strengthen the character of the individual and insures the future of Ki-Aikido on Maui.



Chris Barense will be offering a new class for beginner children on Tuesday night in Pukalani from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

New Children's Class Added

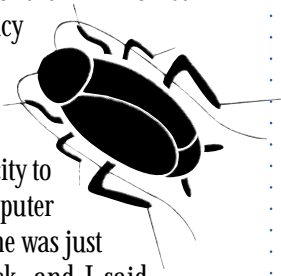
Because of the constant growth of our children's program, the Tuesday night Pukalani children's class has been bulging at the seams. In March, an extra class hour was added to reduce the numbers and allow advanced children to train separately from the beginners. From 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Chris Barense, 3rd dan, is now teaching the beginner children. Joni Jackson, 5th dan, will continue to teach the intermediate and advanced children from 6 to 7 p.m., assisted by Chris Barense.



Instructors for the Maui Teenager's class Robert Lightbourn and Mele Stokesberry are pictured with several of their students who attended the recent HKF Seminar.

Ichi, Ni, San, Shi, Go-ROACH!

Hello again. This is Ichi, Head Cockroach of the Shunshinkan Dojo, reporting to you from the keyboard of the office computer. My privacy and peace have been violated! A tiny creature this week had the audacity to join me on the computer keyboard. He said he was just looking for a snack, and I said, Brother, get out of here. The kitchen, though my domain, might have a few little crumbs so small even I wouldn't look at them, and to which you are entirely welcome, but he said, No, I'm looking for wood. Then I knew what he was - a termite. That breed is nothing but trouble, and I advise you, Sensei, to be on the lookout day and night.



Most of the people that come in here at all odd hours of the day and night are good, though, not like that termite. There are several ladies who bring flowers and one who makes lovely forests out of them. I have an eye for beauty, you know. Someone is always making a racket outside cutting weeds and watering, and most unfortunately there are people who take away the bottles and cans to recycle. During seminars, you wouldn't believe how late the humans are in here making leis and keeping me away from my midnight snack, (though I'm grateful for the pizza they leave behind). You never know when one of them is about to start mopping or sweeping, and I have to keep an eye out for such dangers. Nevertheless, Suzuki Sensei says all this activity is called Intoku, or good done in secret. Well maybe not secret like the sneaky activities of that termite, but Sensei means they aren't tooting their own horns, just helping the dojo. As an important member of this dojo, Head Cockroach, I thank these doers of Intoku, and I think there should be a lot more of them.

Uh-oh, here comes someone to record attendance on the computer. So long for nowwww.....

Hawaii Ki Federation News

Nonaka Sensei A Living Treasure

In February, 2002, Takashi Nonaka Sensei, HKF Senior Advisor and Head Instructor of the Hilo Aikido Club, was given the prestigious Living Treasure of Hawaii award. This award is modeled after the Living Treasure program in Japan and was given by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii in honor of Nonaka Sensei's long history of service to the Hilo community. One of the first members of Aikido in Hawaii, he has served as the inspiring leader of Hilo Dojo for over 40 years.

Other Hilo organizations that contributed nomination information for Nonaka Sensei's award were Hilo Crescent City Lion's Club, Papaikou Hongwanji Mission members and Hilo Community College.

New Website for Hawaii Ki

Hawaii Ki Federation has its own, brand-new website now. It can be visited on the web at www.hawaiiiki.org. Visitors stopping by can access information about HKF's dojos, instructors and schedule of seminars. They can also read about Tohei Sensei and Ki No Kenkyukai, or download the application for Shinichi Tohei Sensei's seminar in Honolulu June 21-24 (see page 1 article).

Another service HKF's website provides is to make available Chris Curtis Sensei's lectures, which are being recorded and transcribed at seminars and in classes. These are found on the website under "Publications," along with the book *Ki-Aikido on Maui*. Sales of the book, also available at the dojo, are raising funds for the continuing programs of Maui Ki-Aikido.

Many thanks to web designer and Maui student Patty Lynn, as well as art consultant Joelle Perz, for their generous contributions, and to Chris Curtis Sensei for many hours of content design.



Takashi Nonaka Sensei received the Living Treasure of Hawaii award in February 2002.

HKF Seminar . . . continued from page 2

Maui student Leil Koch, followed by Curtis Sensei's traditional question and answer session at the end of his seminars.

Maui enjoyed having Tracey Reasoner and his student Doug Robertson from Arizona Ki Society with us for the seminar and an extended week of training. Out-of-town guests with time before their flights home, joined with Maui members at the Curtis home to relax and visit on Sunday evening.



The HKF Seminar featured a Children's class led by Lynn Curtis.



Leil Koch performs one of several tanto arts during his shodan test at the MKF Seminar. Chris Barensse was uke for Leil.



Chris Curtis Sensei and Maui yudansha put on a brief exhibition for the Children's class at the HKF Seminar.



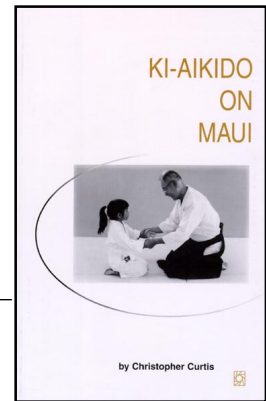
HKF Seminar participants Mary Francis Graham and Lloyd Miyashiro from the Kapaa Dojo on Kauai practice the art of holding with ki.

Book Order Form

Ki-Aikido on Maui--A Training Manual (3rd ed.) by Christopher Curtis is now available for purchase. To order, please fill out the form below and fax or mail it to:

Maui Ki-Aikido
P.O. Box 724
Wailuku, HI 96793
Ph Fax (808) 244-5165

If you would like more information about the book please email us at: holamaui@maui.net
or visit our web site: mauikiaikido.org
For European orders: www.honya.de



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Chris Curtis Sensei demonstrates the fine points of Oneness Rhythm Tai-so during the HKF Seminar.



A cake and beautiful leis from the Maui members were presented to Suzuki Sensei on his 85th birthday. Pictured with Suzuki Sensei are Clayton Naluai Sensei, Lynn Curtis, Lisa Barrett, Prakash Mackay, Leil Koch, and Tracey Reasoner.

Maui Ki-Aikido
P.O. Box 724
Wailuku, HI 96793

Please Mark Your Calendar

A fabulous Aikido event to put on your 2003 calendar now is the 50th-Year Celebration of Aikido in Hawaii, with Maui as host dojo. Our featured instructor will be Koichi Tohei Sensei. This not-to-be-missed seminar will be held in the summer, in conjunction with the 2003 National Chief Instructors' Conference. The dates will be announced in our Fall 2002 newsletter.

The first all-Hawaii HKF Taigi Competition is scheduled for March of 2004 on Maui. This is an opportunity for all dojos to send representatives. Curtis Sensei suggests, "Start selecting and practicing."

See you on Maui.

Recycling Belts and Gi

Maui Ki-Aikido is continuing the program of soliciting donations of color belts after promotions, and of outgrown gi (uniforms) at any time. The belts are given to other children, and the gi are passed along for a small donation to the dojo.

Adult-size gi are also gratefully accepted for recycling. If you have a gi or belt that you no longer need, please consider adding it to our program. If you need a gi, ask about available sizes.

Thank you, as always, for your wonderful support.