

Aikido Connection Monthly

Volume 2, Issue 2

April 2004

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult Promotion Test

Wednesday, May 12
10-11 am and 6:45-7:45 pm

Youth Promotion Test

Friday, June 18 and
Saturday, June 19

Ikebana (Japanese Flower Arranging)

Two-hour workshop/demo
on Saturday, May 8; \$30
fee includes materials

Four-week intro course
meets Saturday afternoons
in June; \$95 fee includes
materials

Please check the flyers in the
dojo for registration deadlines

AAA Aikido Seminar

May 14-16. Instruction by
Andrew Sato, Rokudan
Held at Onshinkan Dojo

See back for details

National Aikido Summer Camp

Ryoshinkan Dojo
July 22-25, 2004

See back for details

National Instructor Seminar

by Tom Rea

In the last weekend in April, Ryoshinkan Dojo sponsored the Aikido Association of America's annual Instructor Seminar in Palatine, Illinois. It was an informative experience sharing the three thousand square foot mat with one hundred others from New York, Connecticut, Atlanta, Memphis, southern California, Oregon, Illinois, and Indiana. Every dojo and sensei has a little different perspective on training. This variety is always an educational experience. Also, there were several shodan, nidan, and sandan test applicants demonstrating what years of training can accomplish.



The main focus for the seminar was that every technique starts with proper tai sabaki. The goal should be to practice each tai sabaki with appropriate centering and focus on taking of uke's balance, rather than just going through the motions.

It was the general consensus among Onshinkan students that we were well prepared. We would like to thank Sensei's Menning and Landry for their attention to detail. Some may refer to this as nit-picking, however we believe their input and concern made the difference.

(The use of the phrase "nit-picking" does not reflect the views of the editor or staff of the Aikido Connection Monthly)

You Can't Go Home?

By James Landry

It has been said that you can never go back home. Meaning that once you have left, things will be different if you go back. I recently was able to go back home, to my old Aikido home, The Aiki-Institute of Spokane. This is where I became serious about my training in the art of Aikido.

I can tell you that in fact you can go back home. Three years ago Roger Mosconi, my sensei, sent me away to Chicago to become uchideshi to Toyoda Sensei. We had just joined the Aikido Association of America so there was certainly the feeling of stepping off into the great unknown.

After three years of fully indoctrinating myself in the AAA way I returned to Spokane to participate in a seminar taught by Sato Sensei at my old dojo. Filled with the true spirit of Aikido, home was a welcome place to be. With Aikido as a common base I found myself being greeted with open arms and big hugs. Some of the faces were familiar some were new. The spirit, the love, and the joy that is at

(Continued on page 2)

Newsletter

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Home?

(continued)

(Continued from page 1)

the heart of The Aiki-Institute have remained a strong bond among all of us that trained together.

While Spokane has changed, and the style of Aikido has changed, the feeling that makes an Aikido dojo a special place has not changed. There is a large and growing family of Aikido practitioners throughout the world. It is a great joy to know that we can walk into a dojo and be welcomed as family and be welcomed home. I have seen it in Spokane, I have seen it in Chicago, and I have seen it in Merrillville. There is a wonderful community of people that practice this great art. It is a pleasure to know that you can go home wherever you are.

Happy Dojo Birthdays to

April

Mike Namovice

May

Katherine
Conroy,
Aaron McKinley,
Andy Sobun

June

Nicholas
Honeycutt,
Patrick
Guziewicz

Aikido Seminar

Will be held here at Onshinkan Dojo May 14th-16th, 2004. Andrew Sato, who will be instructing, is chief instructor of AAA and dojo-cho of Tenshinkan Dojo, the headquarters of the AAA.

Schedule

Friday	5:30	Registration
	6:00-9:00	Aikido Training
Saturday	9:00-9:45	Zen Meditation
	10:00-1:00	Aikido Training
	3:00-6:00	Aikido Training
	7:00	Group Dinner
Sunday	9:00-9:45	Zen Meditation
	10:00-1:00	Aikido Training

Costs

\$70- entire seminar	\$50- Saturday only
\$30- Friday only	\$30- Sunday only

National Aikido Summer Camp

National Aikido Summer Camp will be held at Ryoshinkan Dojo in Palatine, Illinois from July 22-25. The camp will feature A. Sato, Shihandai, Chief Instructor of Aikido Association of America and Ed Germanov, Chief Instructor of the Bulgarian Aikido Association.

Costs:

Entire Camp, Early Registration	\$120
Late Registration	\$150
Thursday only	\$50
Friday only	\$70
Saturday only	\$70
Sunday only	\$50

See the flyer in the dojo (or available online at www.aaa-aikido.com) for further details.

Deadline for early registration is June 22.

AAA 30th Anniversary Seminar

September 10-12 will be an Aikido seminar at Ryoshinkan Dojo in celebration of 30 years of AAA in America. Shihan's Y. Kobayashi and K. Hatayama from Japan will join Sato Sensei in instructing this event. Space is limited, so sign up early!

Thoughts From the Editor on The Art of Peace

Opponents confront us continually, but actually there is no opponent there. Enter deeply into an attack and neutralize it as you draw that misdirected force into your own sphere.

The Art of Peace - Morihei Ueshiba

We learn to see others as being opposing forces outside of us, so it frustrates us when their actions don't conform to our expectations. When we see ourselves as being only a part of a larger whole, we begin to blend with our environment.

Contributions of Aikido-related writings and artwork for these newsletters is appreciated !!!! This is your newsletter- please help make it useful and interesting!