

Kagami

The Newsletter of the Jikishin-Kai International



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Kagami - Fall 2008

Volume 3, Issue 3

Dotoku: The Moral Education of Bushido *by Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi*

With ever increasing access to training, the study of the martial arts has become a widespread activity in our society. Access to the koryu Japanese sword arts is also becoming more readily available and we have seen a surging interest in training in these traditions. People begin their training in the martial arts for a variety of reasons, including (but certainly not limited to) a concern about self-defense; health and fitness; or an interest in Japanese culture, history and traditions.

Whatever the reasons that people begin their study of martial arts, it is very common for many practitioners to focus their practice solely on the polishing of technique. This attention to the execution of waza is initially as common in Iaijutsu and Kenjutsu as it is in other martial arts. While the development of correct technique is of vital importance to understanding the deeper principles and philosophy of the classical sword arts, merely focusing on technique is not enough to realize the value of the traditional martial arts in everyday life.

If the focus on the cultivation of correct technique represents only a portion of the purpose of our practice, what are the benefits that we seek through our study of the seemingly antiquated classical Japanese sword arts? And what do these potential benefits bring to an individual or to today's society at large? I would like to discuss what I consider to be a very important purpose for studying the classical sword arts of Japan.

What we are learning through our practice of Iaijutsu and Kenjutsu is Bushido and specifically, its value as a daily lives to ourselves and hopefully, our communities and society at large. Bushido, which is often translated as the "Way of the Warrior," is the samurai "code of ethics" that developed during feudal Japan and was formalized during the Tokugawa Shogunate.

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From The Editor's Desk *by Erik Johnstone*

Hello and welcome to Issue No. 10 of Kagami! Well, I keep having to update this section as we get later and later into the year (I started this in August!); it is now well into autumn and the release of this issue is much later than planned; nights are getting colder and growing longer. It is now still very dark when we begin morning classes. Halloween has come and gone and the Holiday Season looms large on the horizon (much to the delight of my kids!).

The lateness of the season also directs my attention to the lateness of the release of this issue of Kagami, for which I must apologize. I had a computer crash late in August, and was not able to get a computer up and running until October.

Although we are now well into the fall, I am sure that the experiences of this past spring and summer are still quite fresh in the minds of many of us, as the first three quarters of the year brought some unique and perhaps profound experiences in our practice. For some, these experiences include the trip to Kyoto, Japan to participate in the Dai Nippon Butoku-Kai 3rd World Butoku Sai and Rensei Taikai and the opportunity to attend this past summer's with Sasamori, Takemi, Soke of Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu (please see the report elsewhere in this issue). While Ono-ha Itto-ryu is a well known and very influential koryu, this seminar was the first taught by Sasamori Sensei in North America. In fact, he rarely teaches outside of the hombu dojo! The seminar was also a chance to meet many budoka from outside of the JKI, including some whose names I had previously been familiar with. I know that I can speak for all who participated in the seminar when I offer my sincere gratitude to Sasamori Soke; Shimabukuro, Masayuki Hanshi; and Carl Long Shihan for everything that they did to provide all of us with this very unique opportunity.



While the seminar with Sasamori Sensei was a high point for many of us during this summer's busy training schedule, the summer season also brought with it the 2008 West Coast JKI Gasshuku. Based on what I heard from those who were fortunate enough to attend, it was once again another top-notch training opportunity, and included instruction in some of wide range of arts and their respective curriculums that we in the JKI are fortunate enough to have the opportunity to train in. The Gasshuku also featured a Tameshigiri Taikai, which is reported on elsewhere in this issue.

The transition from summer to fall has brought, along with the glorious New England autumn foliage (it's beautiful this year!), fresh apple cider and some of my favorite seasonal ales, a number of JKI seminars taught in California, Ohio, Florida and Costa Rica. The remainder of the fall and early winter brings with it a few more seminars of note, including the JKI East Coast Instructors Seminar and the Bakersfield Budo Winter Gasshuku. Shimabukuro Sensei will lead both events this year.

We hope that you enjoy this autumn's issue of Kagami. A ramification of the mid-fall release of this issue is that I must now get the fourth and final issue for the 2008 calendar year out within the next two months. I am looking to have it ready to go during the midst of the holiday season. With that being said, I would like to ask in advance for contributions for the next issue (and perhaps even for issues to follow). The reality is that it is getting much more difficult to generate enough material for each issue, and I find that the contributions that I receive tend to consistently come from the same sources. I have been advised to simply run with whatever material that I receive, even if it means releasing a very brief issue. However, I really do care about putting out a polished and informative issue each time, something worthy of the Jikishin-Kai, its leadership and its membership. I am sure that many of you have perspectives and impressions of our training or have had experiences at various events that are well worth sharing. Perhaps some of you have photos from events or even original artwork that you would like to share. Whatever it may be, I invite you all to participate in the production of Kagami.

Dotoku: The Moral Education of Bushido *(continued from Page 1)*



Statue of Kusunoki Masashige, a warrior who exemplified Bushido

A natural outgrowth of the values of the samurai class and its rules of conduct in daily life, Bushido, along with the samurai class itself, has come to symbolize the Japanese martial arts. Bushido is characterized by the following seven virtues: integrity, courage, benevolence, respect, honor, honesty and loyalty.

Although Bushido may seem to be merely an antiquated code of conduct developed by a warrior class of Japan's feudal past, I believe that the teachings of Bushido have profound relevance in our modern society. As a tangible code of ethics that is based on fairness, politeness, and self control, Bushido, studied through etiquette and conduct of traditional budo, serves as dotoku kyoiku, or a "moral education" of proper conduct in daily life.

Our training in Iaijutsu and other forms of budo may serve to provide this dotoku, teaching characteristics that are of utmost importance, including courtesy; honor; duty and obligation; and the determination to honor an obligation, regardless of the circumstances. Additionally, the moral education that is offered through training may allow us to reach a very high goal indeed, that of victory over one's self, or self-mastery. However, while the goal of self mastery is certainly of great personal benefit, the higher purpose of self-mastery is to benefit others. Like the samurai before us, we should strive to apply the moral education provided through the teachings of Bushido as a way to self mastery in order to have the greatest positive effect in any situation that we may encounter.

It is also important to understand that while we seek victory over ourselves, we are not seeking victory over others. Rather, our attitude with respect to relationships and interactions with others is "not to lose." This principle of "not losing" is applied to one's self as well as to others with who may interact. These principles make Bushido very different from sport, where the objective of any game or contest is to win.

Sadly the dotoku that Bushido provides, this moral education, seems to be missing in much of society. In fact, a proper education in fundamental morals is often entirely absent in places where one would most expect to find it, such as schools, places of worship, family homes and sadly, many martial arts schools. We need only to watch the news or observe everyday interactions between people to observe this. What we frequently observe that is considered to be proper conduct, manners or protocol by many in our society, is often largely artificial; completely devoid of any real heart or higher purpose. This artifice does nothing to replace the "me first" attitude in our society with that of self-mastery for the benefit of others. The absence of a moral education in many segments of our society is expressed in unfair and cowardly conduct and most alarmingly, violence against others. This was the most shameful condition for samurai, and by extension, is just as shameful for budoka of today.

Fortunately, the dotoku, the moral education, of Bushido can still be found in many dojo today. Indeed, it is the responsibility of any good dojo to provide such a model education; our society is clearly in need of these teachings. As we all know, good budo is so much more than simply swinging a sword well, or executing a powerful strike or throw. Budo is the embodiment of the positive characteristics of Bushido. In fact, without the moral education that Bushido provides, budo would be little more than the study of systemized violence.

Bushido, which evolved as a model of conduct for the samurai class, is as relevant in today's society as it was in feudal Japan. Bushido and the moral education that it provided taught positive qualities that served as the glue that continues to bind Japanese society today. It is the moral education of Bushido, which provides a foundation of proper courtesy and a positive, selfless philosophy that tempers the potential to cause harm and transforms martial arts into paths that provide the tools to build better communities and a better society.

Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu with Sasamori Soke *by Erik Johnstone*

The second weekend of August 2008 brought with it yet another rare training opportunity in a year that has been marked with “once in a lifetime” events. As if the experience at the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai World Butoku Sai and Ren-sei Taikai held at the Butokuden in Kyoto, Japan wasn’t enough to ask for, many of us were fortunate enough to take advantage of the opportunity to attend this past summer’s seminar in Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu with Sasamori, Takemi, the 17th Soke of Ono-ha Itto-ryu.

As many know, Ono Ha Itto-ryu is a classical Japanese school of Kenjutsu that was founded by Ono Jirouemon Tadaaki who had inherited the Itto-ryu school from Ito Ittosai Kagehisa. Sasamori Soke inherited the Ono-ha Itto-ryu directly from his father Sasamori Junzo, the 16th Soke of Ono-ha Itto-ryu. One of the most highly regarded teachers of the koryu Kenjutsu in Japan, Soke is also the headmaster of Shin Muso Hayashizaki-ryu and Chokugen-ryu Naginata-jutsu.

This seminar was the first ever taught by Sasamori Soke in North America. Given that Sasamori Soke rarely teaches outside of his own dojo in Japan, the opportunity to receive instruction from him was a rare privilege indeed. Soke’s visit was sponsored by the Jikishin-Kai International and was arranged through the tireless and dedicated work of Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi and Carl Long Shihan. The event was held at the Fleischer Athletic Center on the campus of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in Newark, with access to the training venue arranged through the graciousness of the NJIT Aikido Club, lead by Fred Little Sensei.



As a result of both the unique nature of this event as well as the influence of Ono-ha Itto-ryu on many modern martial arts, the two-day seminar was attended by participants from all over the country. The attendees represented a wide range of training backgrounds, including, among others, Aikido, Daito-ryu Aikijujutsu, Kendo and of course, Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iaijutsu and Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu.

With the assistance of Shimabukuro Sensei, Sasamori Soke began the first day’s training by teaching reiho as conducted in the Ono-ha Itto-ryu. This was followed the practice of kamae, known as Kake Kyuhin in Ono-ha Itto-ryu, and kihon, with an emphasis on kiriotoshi, the “signature” technique of Ono-ha Itto-ryu. Due to the emphasis on kiriotoshi in Ono-ha Itto-ryu and the

exacting nature of that particular technique, we spent quite some time practicing this technique before moving on to the formal kumitachi.

Soke then proceeded on to teaching the first ten kumitachi, providing in depth instruction in both major points as well as some fine points that, based on my limited experience, made significant differences in the actual success of the technique. Soke’s instruction was exacting, requiring all of the afternoon of the first day and the entire second day to cover the first ten kumitachi.

(Continued on Page 5)

Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu with Sasamori Soke *(Continued from Page 4)*

There was so much detail that was covered in the first ten kumitachi that I believe, at least for myself, that it would have been impossible to absorb anything beyond that portion of the curriculum. Despite the detail of instruction that Soke provided as the kumitachi were demonstrated, he, along with Shimabukuro Sensei, made sure to observe and directly instruct every participant of the seminar.

I, along with my training partner, was fortunate enough to be asked to “demonstrate” Wakigamae no Tsuke, the fifth kumitachi. I was not asked to do



so because I was practicing the technique correctly; instead it was because of what I was not doing correctly. Soke had observed a few vital components that were absent (along with many other vital components, I am sure) from my attempts at executing the technique, components that were absolutely essential for the success of that particular kumitachi. I had the great fortune to receive instruction directly from him, to feel from him what he was looking for. And while I cannot say that I got the “it” that he was trying to teach, I can say that I came away with at least a glimpse of the feel of direct instruction from a special man.

Based on the backgrounds of many of the seminar participants, I would imagine that everyone that he “touched” through his attention understood the significance of receiving direct instruction, even if only for a moment or two, directly from the source. And perhaps as a result of that moment of direct instruction, everyone left the seminar a little bit different person than they were when they arrived.

For those who could not attend the seminar, there is potentially good news. Soke, when asked at the end of the seminar if he would like to come back to instruct us again replied “it is not if I want to come back, but that now I have to come back.”

2008 JKI West Coast Gasshuku & Taikai Report *by Erik Tracy*

The 2008 JKI West Coast Gasshuku, held on Labor Day weekend featured a special Taikai. Shimabukuro Sensei created an interesting format for the participants, with yudansha and kyusha mixed into relatively even matched teams of three. He then changed the usual team rules so that instead of being judged collectively as a team for all the cuts for rokudan giri, it was one team member matched against a member of another team for a “best out of three” type of format. This allowed kyusha to have a chance at cutting, but if they did not make their cuts, it did not disqualify the team collectively because the next team member up could win against a member of the opposing team to even the score.

It was also very good because we ran the rest of the Taikai as a standard batto-do type of event, allowing newcomers to become familiar with the format and conduct of a Taikai but in a less pressure situation in front of “strangers.”

The teams were identified as Team 1 through Team 8 (no unique or witty team names, just numbers!). The results are as follows:

1st Place: Team 6 - Chuck Arnold, James Stickney, Yuki Nakamura;

2nd Place: Team 4 - Robin Ramirez, Glenn Evans, Fred Woo;

3rd Place: Team 7 - Thomas Nygaard, Becky Savin, Jason Mizuno.

Sensei awarded some very nice trophies that he had ordered for the occasion: a samurai in full armor holding katana. Congratulations to the top finalists, as well as to all who participated. We look forward to future events and a greater number of participants next time.



Dojo Spotlight: Nevada Budo *by Ron Taniguchi & Erik Johnstone*

After recent spotlights on dojo in Latin America and the eastern United States, this edition of the Dojo Spotlight brings us once again to a dojo in the western U.S., focusing on Nevada Budo and Ron Taniguchi Sensei.

Nevada Budo is located in the beautiful Carson Valley just below Lake Tahoe. Nevada Budo offers classes in Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iaijutsu and Shindo Muso-ryu Jodo three times per week. According to Taniguchi Sensei, there are approximately 15 students currently training at Nevada Budo throughout most of the year, with enrollment peaking at 20 students during the winter months. Most of the students are relative newcomers to martial arts, but some have backgrounds in martial arts such as Filipino arts, Kenpo and Tae Kwon Do.

Ron Taniguchi Sensei has been teaching Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iaijutsu and Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu in the Carson Valley since 2005. With a long family history of swordsmanship (primarily kendo), Taniguchi Sensei began his study of Japanese sword arts in 1980. Taniguchi Sensei also studies Shito-ryu Karate-do as well as Jujutsu, and has previously taught children's Karate classes in Bakersfield, California. While many shy away from teaching children, especially the 4 to 6 year old age group, Taniguchi Sensei believes that this is a probably "the most important age group to teach in order to give children the right start they need to become the best people that they can as adults." He hopes to add Karate and Jujutsu to the offerings at his dojo in the near future.



Today, Taniguchi Sensei travels regularly to Bakersfield, California to train with his teacher Robin Ramirez Sensei. Taniguchi Sensei also travels to the JKI Hombu Dojo in San Diego and has been to events and seminars in Japan as well. Becoming a certified member of the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai in 2007, he was awarded the rank of Nidan (Iaido) in 2007. Receiving the Yushu sho award at the Third World Butoku Sai in Kyoto, he was also honored to be a part of the Team Yushu Sho awarded to the Jikishin Kai International / Kokusai Nippon Budokai during the 46th Japan Butoku Sai as well as the Third World Butoku Sai.

The Jikishin Kai International has been the primary source of authentic Japanese sword arts in this region for many years. Nevada Budo strives to continue this tradition in hopes of sharing the teachings of Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi, Carl Long Shihan and Robin Ramirez Sensei with dignity and courtesy to all. The goal of Nevada Budo is to improve the community through dedicated study of Japanese Budo while focusing on improving the character of each individual. Through spiritual and mental training, expressed through the physical practice of waza and katachi, the budoka can enhance the community by improving himself. Please visit the [Nevada Budo](#) website soon!

Our next Dojo Spotlight should find us back in the Northeast, focusing on the dojo of an old and dear friend teaching martial arts in a small Pennsylvania town. Stay tuned!

Latin American Report *by P. Gallo and Erik Johnstone*

Green, Red, Blue: Three Tatami for Costa Rica's Japanese Festival

The Japanese Embassy in Costa Rica sponsors an annual festival called "Semana Japonesa" (Japanese Week). Katabami Budokan Dojo and Bushikai Dojo are proud to be part of the organizational committee for this national event, and usually perform embu to demonstrate our arts for the general public.

As our seminar with Carl Long Shihan was scheduled to coincide with Japanese Week, the embassy asked to include his seminar as an official part of the event. As a result of the embassy's sponsorship, the seminar was held at the Centro Nacional de la Arte y Cultura (CENAC; National Arts and Cultural Center), a beautiful facility located at the site of the former National Liquor Factory.

Long Sensei arrived in Costa Rica, accompanied on this trip by his wife, Marguerite. Our involvement in Semana Japonesa activities began on October 17th, with a one-hour presentation of Iaijutsu on national television. The program was quite nice and well presented, with Long Sensei, Mrs. Long and a group of Costa Rican iaijutsuka performing variety of techniques. Additionally, Long Sensei provided a detailed discussion about the fundamentals and philosophy of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu. The Costa Rican JKI representation offers our sincere thanks to Channel 13 for airing the program.

Following the television production, an evening seminar with Long Sensei was held at Bushikai Dojo, beginning with instruction in Shoden waza. Additionally, Long Sensei introduced us to kamae such as Kasumi, In and Yo.

Saturday's training was held at the CENAC, which, due to other Semana Japonesa activities, including a presentation of Japanese "pop-culture," was quite crowded and noisy. Also, as the seminar was conducted as part of the Semana Japonesa and offered to promote traditional arts, we had a number of outside students in attendance. Sensei provided instruction in the Eishin-ryu Batto-ho for the morning session and taught Shinto-ryu Kenjutsu for the afternoon class. The Shinto-ryu kata were new for everyone at the seminar, but we all enjoyed the opportunity to practice this style of Kenjutsu.

The Sunday morning session, held at the Katabami Budokan, was for instructors. Sensei reviewed the Shoden waza, and as always, provided us with a variety of new details and insights to work on. The Sunday afternoon session found us back at Bushikai Dojo, with Sensei selecting waza from the Chuden and Okuden portions of the curriculum. Sensei taught all of the waza as standing versions, which was refreshing. Sensei wrapped up the afternoon session with Tachiuchi no Kurai prior to testing. We are pleased with the successful results: six students tested for various kyu grades; our wonderful student Nicole Vincent was promoted to Shodan; and Pedro Centeno was advanced to Nidan. Additionally, Alberto Paris Sensei and I received our membership credentials for the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai. Congratulations to all!

As a side note, due to a herniated lumbar disc (there is pressure on the sciatic nerve and I cannot feel my right leg, but I will recover quite soon), I was forced to sit out on the training during the seminar. However, I was happy to take detailed notes and film the classes, although I kept a bokken in easy reach just in case!



Bushikai Dojo



Cenac, National Arts and Cultural Center



Katabami Budokan Dojo



Sensei and Mrs. Long

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News & Announcements

Recent Seminars taught by Carl Long, Shihan:

- Long Sensei taught his second Iaijutsu seminar at Aikido of Cincinnati over the weekend of September 26th through the 28th, including a Friday evening Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu session. Following Friday's training, the course of study for the seminar weekend included Iaijutsu waza; focusing on Batto-ho, Shoden Waza and Okuden Tachiwaza and Katachi. Following a "mat rolling party" on Saturday, we enjoyed a great picnic and discussion at the dojo. Sunday's training featured an introduction to Sueomonogiri, which was conducted outdoors in the warm sunshine. Everyone received superb instruction and had a great time enjoying the learning experience and fellowship. The members of Aikido of Cincinnati are looking forward to Long Sensei's next visit to their dojo.



- Long Sensei was in Pensacola, Florida over the weekend of October 3rd through the 5th for a seminar hosted by Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts and Patty Heath Sensei. Heath Sensei tells us that the course of study included Shoden Waza, Chuden Waza and Okuden Waza as well as the Tachiuchi no Kurai. With a maximum attendance of 12, everyone received a lot of personal attention, worked many little details and some variations. Everyone at Big Green Drum is already excited about and making plans for the spring seminar with Shimabukuro Sensei.
- The weekend of October 17th and 19th found Long Sensei making a return visit to Costa Rica for a pairing of seminars sponsored by Bushikai Dojo and Katabami Budokan. The October 17th session was held at Henry Steinberg Sensei's dojo in Escazu; the Saturday and Sunday sessions were held at the Centro Nacional del Arte y la Cultura.

New MJER Group in Miami:



Edgar Sequeira of the Katabami Budokan in Costa Rica, has recently relocated to Miami, Florida, and has been leading a Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu group at the Gold Coast Aikikai. Sequeira Sensei, studying under the direction of Carl Long Shihan, has been teaching at the Gold Coast Aikikai for approximately 4 months and is very happy with the progress of the group, as well as the support for that he has received from Gold Coast Aikikai. Iaijutsu classes are offered on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Sequeira Sensei extends an invitation to all JKI members to visit him at the dojo should anyone happen to be in the Miami area. We offer our congratulations to Sequeira Sensei and wish him the best of luck in his endeavors at the dojo. Please be sure to visit the [Iaijutsu page](#) of the Gold Coast Aikikai at www.aikikai.com/iaido and to say hello to Sequeira Sensei at edzenqueira@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Seminars

Winter Gasshuku at Bakersfield Budo

Bakersfield Budo is proud to present the JKI/Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai Winter Gasshuku, featuring Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi. This year's Gasshuku will focus on the core elements of Seito Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai-Heiho and Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu. Saturday's training will focus on the Shoden, Chuden and Okuden waza of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu; Sunday's practice will be devoted to Ono-ha Itto-ryu. Please visit the [Bakersfield Budo](#) website for additional information.

Dates: November 8th and 9th

Instructor: Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi

Host: Bakersfield Budo

6801 White Lane Suite E-3
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Seminar Fee: \$150 (includes lunch and refreshments);
Saturday Night Banquet: \$25 (optional)

Contact: Robin Ramirez

Phone: (661) 398-2100

E-mail: info@bakersfieldbudo.com

East Coast JKI Instructors Seminar

On the weekend of November 22nd and 23rd, 2008 Carl Long, Shihan will be hosting the annual East Coast JKI Instructors Seminar at Sakura Budokan. Shimabukuro Sensei will be at this year's seminar and looks forward to everyone's attendance. Long Sensei is also planning on a nice dinner celebration and some after hours fun! Please contact Long Sensei as soon as possible if you plan on attending. Additional information can be found at the [Sakura Budokan](#) website and on Page 12 of this issue. Mark the dates on your calendar!

Dates: November 22nd and 23rd

Instructors: Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi and Carl Long, Shihan

Host: Sakura Budokan

390 Tioga Ave
Kingston, PA 18704

Contact: Carl Long, Shihan

Phone: (570) 228-7865

E-mail: clong@jikishin-kai.com

Long Sensei in New England

Carl Long Shihan will be returning to New England in January for a seminar sponsored by Shindokan Dojo. Specific details, including dates, venue and other information will be provided on the [Shindokan Dojo](#) website soon.

Dates: January, 2009 (specific dates TBA)

Instructor: Carl Long, Shihan

Host: Shindokan Dojo

Contact: Erik Johnstone

Phone: (401) 474-2568

E-mail: eajohnstone@cox.net

West Coast JKI Instructors Seminar

The JKI Hombu Dojo will be hosting the annual West Coast JKI Instructors Seminar in February 2009. There will be an "open mat" and a small welcome gathering at Hombu Dojo on the Friday evening before training. More information will be provided when it becomes available. Please be sure to check the [JKI Website](#) for details.

Dates: February 21st and 22nd

Instructor: Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi

Host: Jikishin-Kai International Hombu Dojo

5505 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92117

Contact: JKI Hombu or

Reuben Veliz

Phone: (858) 560-4517

E-mail: hq@jikishin-kai.com or

rveliz@san.rr.com

Shimabukuro Sensei in Pensacola, FL

We have received word from Patty Heath Sensei that Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi will be visiting Florida in early march, 2009 for a three-day seminar at Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts in Pensacola. More information will be provided when it becomes available. Please be sure to check the [Big Green Drum Website](#) for details and be sure too mark the dates on your calendars!

Dates: March 6th through 8th, 2009

Instructor: Masayuki Shimabukuro, Hanshi

Host: Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts

2447 Executive Plaza, Suite 5
Pensacola, FL 32504

Contact: Patty Heath

Phone: (850) 479-1907

Upcoming Events and Seminars

2008 JKI INSTRUCTOR SEMINAR



Date: Sat. & Sun., November 22nd & 23rd, 2008



We would like to invite you to participate in the 2008 East Coast Instructor Training Seminar.

This years seminar will be taught by **Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi**, International Chairman of the Nippon Kobudo Jikishin-Kai, Sensei will be teaching the requirements for testing and teaching all JKI Samurai Arts. This years event is sure to be an inspiring and enlightening experience for all participants.

SCHEDULE	
Sat. 10:00 to 12:00	Policy Updates & Shoden Waza
Sat. 1:00 to 5:00	Batto-ho Waza & Kunitachi / Chuden waza
Sun. 10:00 to 12:00	Okuden Tachi & Suwari Waza
Sun. 1:00 to 5:00	Katachi & Kenjutsu / Dan Testing

Mail Registration to:

Sakura Budokan
390 Tioga Ave.
Kingston, PA 18704
 or
 on-line at
www.sakurabudokan.com

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Signature _____

Shodan-Ho \$ 75.00
 Shodan \$100.00
 Nidan \$200.00
 Sandan \$300.00
 For other ranks inquire about test fees...

Pre-registration Required!!!

Sign up for:	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar Registration	150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Dinner on Sat Eve.	<u>\$25.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Iaido Test	_____
Subtotal:	_____
Total:	_____

Latin American Report *(continued from Page 8)*

We were also happy for the presence of Edgar Sequeira Sensei, our technical chief now living and studying music in Miami, who came in from his new home to attend the seminar here in Costa Rica. Sequeira Sensei is teaching at MJER at the Gold Coast Aikikai in Miami, which you can find more out about elsewhere in this issue. We wish Edgar all the best.

It was, as ever, a great experience and honor to have Sensei visit us once again. We were also very happy that Mrs. Long was able to accompany him this time. We are very grateful to Sensei for providing us with the opportunity to advance in our practice. We will be sure to work very hard to continue to improve; we will not disappoint him.

Asociación de Iaido Jikishin-Kai de Costa Rica

We recently signed official papers to form the Asociación de Iaido Jikishin-Kai de Costa Rica. The Board of Directors includes Patrizia Gallo, Henry Steinberg, Alberto París, Pedro Centeno, Nicole Vincent and Nurienska Rubio. The Jikishin-Kai name is now registered and protected in Costa Rica.

JKI Karate-do in Argentina

Javier Machado, the JKI representative in Argentina, in addition to his training in and teaching of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu, is also diligently studying Shito-ryu Karate-do as taught by Masayuki Shimabukuro and the Jikishin-Kai International. With the release of study materials in the form of Shimabukuro Sensei's Karate-do book and dvd series, the task of transitioning to Shimabukuro Sensei's Shito-ryu should be much smoother. We hear that they will test grade in Shito-ryu within the JKI in December! We wish them all great success!

Pedro Centeno in Chile

In other news, Pedro Centeno, recently promoted to Nidan and teaching regularly at Bushikai Dojo, is, at the time of this writing, visiting our study group in Santiago, Chile under Pedro Riquelme. The meeting of the "Two Pedros" is a wonderful opportunity to share knowledge and experiences, and of course, to keep updated on the progress of our Chilean study group. Despite the very great distance between Costa Rica and Chile, Pedro Riquelme is doing a wonderful job leading the study group there. He is constantly in contact with us, sending pictures and videos, working with us in the best way possible. We send our sincere hope for success to Pedro Centeno and his students.

New JKI Study Group in Puerto Aysén, Chile

In a remote city in Chile called Puerto Aysén (population 29,631 and 1,600 km from Santiago), a small but dedicated group has been practicing the Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu curriculum for approximately five years. They recently contacted us, and have begun to study under our guidance. As Chile is a very long country, distances can be very difficult. As such, they have no direct contact with our study group in Santiago. However, under the direction of Ricardo Sierra, they are practicing diligently, utilizing available study materials, corresponding with us regularly, and sending videos for critique and to demonstrate the progress of the group. Despite the considerably vast distances, their practice demonstrates that "you can get it if you really want it!" Good luck to our new Chilean group.

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