

Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - March 2024

We were very happy that Wesley Fujimoto Sensei and Grant Matsubayashi Sensei had passed Kendo 7 Dan examination on February 3 in Fukuoka, Japan. That was their 1st try for 7 Dan. Years of their diligent practices bore fruits. I asked them to continue to support Hawaii Kendo Federation and improve themselves in Kendo. Congratulations.

When we had Yamada Masayuki Sensei from Iwate visited our club on Wednesday, February 21, we also welcomed 4 *kenshis* from San Francisco. They were Mr. Francis Liu, Mr. Jonathan Deutsch, Mr. Philip Garfagnoli and Mr. Rodney Yano. And, later on Monday, February 26, their dojo members, Mr. Koji Ozawa and Mrs. Wendy Lau-Ozawa came and practiced with us. We were glad that they could join our practices.

Over 40 people from Hawaii went to Canada to join 60th Steveston Kendo Tournament on Saturday, February 24 as participants or chaperons. Shu Etsumi, Erika Hill and Issei So placed in their respective divisions. Kenshikan Kendo Club Senior Team ended one of the best 8 and Aiea Taiheiji Kendo Club Senior Team came in 3rd among 34 senior team entries.

Kamiya Akihiro Sensei from Tokyo is repeating his visits in Hawaii coinciding with Kenshikan Kendo Club Tournament. He arrives on March 7 and leaves March 14. He will visit our dojo on Monday, March 11. You are welcomed to come and practice with us on that day.

Kenshikan Kendo Club is hosting their tournament on Sunday, March 10 at Halawa District Park Gym. The start time is 8:30AM. We have 4 club members participate in it. Good luck. Make friends. Enjoy the tournament. Two Kendo equipment companies will be there for your equipment needs. Go and buy what you need so that they continue to come and help us out when we have tournaments.

The majority of our club members have submitted year 2024 Hawaii Kendo Federation and Club dues. If you have not done so, please do so soon.

My pianist friend wrote to me. She is happy to have time to practice, happy to have a place and happy to maintain her motivation to get better even with some pains in her fingers and arms. I know that some older musicians can produce excellent tender expressions through music. When I practice kendo, I develop pains and aches now. But, I am trying to maintain good posture and proper fundamental movement. Though I get hit by young kendoists, I am quite happy to be able to participate in practices.

Iwao Sato

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