

## Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - August 2022

Ono Tomohide Sensei from Saitama will be in town from August 8 through 20. I believe that due to Covid pandemic this is his first Hawaii visit after he had passed Kendo 6 Dan on April 28, 2019. It is nice to have him back with us.

Yamashita Shiro Sensei, Kendo Renshi 6 Dan, and few others will be temporarily stationed at Pearl Harbor sent by Japan Maritime Defense Force from August 24 to November 23. They may be very busy with their works but do their best to join us with practices in Hawaii while being here.

Leeward Oahu Kendo Tournament will be held on Sunday, August 21 at Mililani District Park Gym. It starts from 8:30AM and expects to last till 4PM. This is the first tournament in 2 years after Covid shut down activities in Hawaii. Tell your instructors if you want to participate. If you just want to observe, they can order lunch for you, so you do not need to go somewhere to get lunch. Contact your instructor for bento order, too. Check Covid mitigation protocol before you come out to participate or observe.

Wong Po Kit Sensei, Kendo Kyoshi 7 Dan, President of Hong Kong Kendo Association, will come to Kaimuki Honbu Dojo on Sunday, August 28. It is exciting to have another international Kenshi to visit us. Please welcome Wong Sensei.

Hawaii Kendo Federation is participating in ***Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program***. This program honors Foodland's founder, Maurice J. "Sully" Sullivan, and continues his legacy of giving back to the community. From September 1 till 30, customers are invited to make donations up to \$249 to participating Hawaii non-profit organizations at check out. Foodland will match a portion of each donation. You must use your own Maika'i membership to make a donation. Please donate through this program to get additional fund for Hawaii Kendo Federation. I and many others did in recent years.

When I was young, my father suggested me to take Kendo Dan promotion examination. I declined by saying that I had already obtained the next rank caliber and no need to have the certificate for it.

My father told me when parents want their children start kendo practice and how they search the right dojo for their children to join because they do not have much knowledge of kendo. They will look at instructors' ranks. They normally select the dojo with higher rank instructors because they know instructors may be good and have practiced hard enough to achieve higher ranks. They must have better experience how to teach students than lower rank senseis.

Try to get Dan promotion as quick as possible. As you try for higher ranks, it gets the harder. The higher ranks go, the harder to pass examinations. As you grow older, you may develop physical limitations. In my father's case, worsening knee problems prevented him to continue to seek higher rank.

Iwao Sato

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