

Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - April 2024

We had a successful tournament sponsored by Kenshikan Kendo Club on Sunday, March 10. None of our Club members placed in their divisions but enjoyed seeing kendo friends again. We were very fortunate to have 2 kendo equipment companies come and answer Hawaii *kenshi's* equipment needs though our membership is smaller than Mainland ones. Also, we were honored that Kamiya Akihiro Sensei and Ugajin Toru Sensei, both 7 Dan Kyoshi, came and assisted *shinpan* duty. Kamiya sensei accepted Shinpan-Cho position. We were excited to hear that Kamiya Sensei will repeat his visit in this August.

Malia Kubodera, University of Washington student, came with her kendo equipment again to visit Hawaii Daijingu Kendo Club practices this year on Fridays, March 15 and 22 while visiting her loving grandmother. I was amazed that a young person like her to put efforts to get some practices rather than hitting beautiful beaches in Hawaii. No wonder that her advancement was noticeably greater than last year. Thank you, Malia, for showing your wonderful attitude toward kendo to other *kenshis*.

George Ogawa Sensei of Stanford University Kendo Club informed me that he would be in Hawaii from March 27 till April 9 and would visit our dojo. We are looking forward to having Ogawa Sensei.

Hawaii Kendo Federation has been looking for the site where we can have Sunday Honbu Dojo practices steadily without much interruption. Seth Harris Sensei was kind enough to secure his dojo, Myohoji Temple Auditorium. Effective Sunday, April 7, Hawaii Kendo Federation will have its *lai-do* practice from 8AM to 10AM and kendo from 10AM to 12PM. Myohoji Temple is located at 2003 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu.

Hawaii Kendo Federation is having 1 *Kyu* and Dan examinations on Sunday, May 26 at Myohoji Temple. The door will open at 8AM and the examination will start at 8:45AM. If you want to take the examination and eligible to take one, inform your instructors so that you and your instructors can work on passing your examination.

Leeward Oahu Kendo Tournament will be held on Sunday, June 23 at Mililani District Park Gym. Mark your calendar and enter the tournament when the invitation is received.

My long time friend, Buster Sefor Sensei's article appeared at the top page of *Kensoh* monthly magazine April issue. I did not know that he started his kendo when he was 46 years old. He is now 83 years old and Kendo Kyoshi 7 Dan. He created South African Kendo Federation and expanded it with other's help. He is one of people who are kendo pioneers and introduced kendo to the world. Those who started kendo in your later years, follow his footsteps. Never too late to start new adventures in your lives. Thank you, Sefor Sensei.

Iwao Sato

Chief Instructor - Wahiawa Kendo Club
Club website - www.wahiawakendoclub.com