

Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - December 2021

This year was the 2nd year Hawaii Kendo Federation asked Foodland Supermarket Give Aloha Program to enroll our organization to raise fund. Foodland matches 20 - 25 per cent of customer donations to the organization of his/her choice. Customers can donate through this program up to \$249. Hawaii Kendo Federation received \$507.67 about \$200 more than last year. Thanks to those who donated money. Remember, HKF is 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

Hawaii Kendo Federation in-person practices at Kaimuki Honbu Dojo resumed on Sunday, November 7. We were so thrilled to see our kendo friends and practice together though we had to follow very strict Covid mitigation protocols.

Wahiawa Kendo Club fundraiser, Zippys ticket sale, is in final stage. \$9 ticket will give you a choice of 5 items. Tickets are valid till December 5 with 5 days grace period. Make sure that you and your friends who got tickets to redeem in time. If you still have some tickets, please return to me by the expiration date so that I can return unsold tickets to Zippys in time to get credit. Though we are doing very good, I still have many tickets left. If you and your friends happen to request more tickets, I will do my best to get tickets to you. Contact me.

Wahiawa Kendo Club T-shirts are on sale. We have sizes S, M, L, XL and XXL. \$15 each except XXL is \$17. We only have only black color now. The back of T-shirt says, "Kendo will make it better." It may become a good Christmas present for yourself or kendo friends.

Ray Murao Sensei of Steveston Kendo Club, Richmond B. C., Canada made an announcement that their tournament has been canceled next year again. We miss the tournament and more so miss seeing kendo friends.

Garrett Matsumoto Sensei of Kenshikan Kendo Club informed us that their tournament next year has been postponed with possible cancelation depending on Covid situation. Their tournament is normally held in February and several enthusiastic kendo *sensei*'s from Japan come and help with the tournament. They teach us before and afterwards as well as developing friendships. Japan *sensei*'s just like us must be so disappointed.

Tokyo Art University professor, Takahashi Tohru Sensei, Kendo Kyoshi 8 Dan, is in charge of Kendo Club of the university. He told me that art students did not want to do same things with other kendo students when they had club practices. They wanted to be different from others. They wanted to be unique, independent, creative and original. That is the nature of arts, I think. So, Takahashi Sensei had a hard time to have them practice in unison. However, art students and kendo students must go through mastering basics in order to jump up on to next levels. After obtaining basic techniques, we can add your own flavor to it and becomes your own, not someone else's.

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