

Wahiawa Kendo Club Bulletin - February 2023

We received sad news of Dr. Noboru Akagi's passing on January 15. He had been Hawaii Kendo Federation President from 1985 through 1997. After the tenure, he gave us advises as President Emeritus. His contribution to Kendo not only in Hawaii but internationally was well recognized enough to receive Distinguished Service Award from All Japan Kendo Federation in 2006. He was 94 years old just 10 days short of age 95. Rest in peace, Dr. Akagi. Memorial service is pending.

Waki Kimio Sensei, Kyoshi 7 Dan, will be in town from February 4 to 11. He will be with us at Kenshikan Dojo on February 7 and 8 for sure and may visit other dojo's if his schedule allows. He was observing Kenshikan Dojo practice on October 22, 2022 and decided to practice with us this time.

Dale Hatakeyema Sensei from San Jose Kendo Dojo will repeat his visit in February. He plans to come to practices if his family member allows him during their family vacation in Hawaii.

Steveston Kendo Club, Canada, is hosting their tournament on Saturday, February 11. It is good to maintain good friendship with other dojos by participating. I will be there to watch.

Yamada Masayuki Sensei, Kyoshi 7 Dan, from Morioka, Iwate, will be in town with his family from February 25 to March 3. Be with him. Besides being a good Kenshi, he is a wonderful teacher. He improves Hawaii Kendo every time he comes over.

American Zone Shinpan Seminar will be held in Inglewood California on February 25 and 26. I am hoping that multiple *kenshis* from Hawaii participate to make Hawaii's *shinpan* skill better.

Sasaki Hiroshi Sensei, Kyoshi 7 Dan, and his supportive wife Keiko Sensei, Renshi 6 Dan, were finally able to visit us from March 14 to 19 after absence due to Covid restrictions. We are happy to get their instructions again.

Kenshikan Dojo Tournament is on Sunday, March 5. We were disappointed to know that usual senseis from Japan decided not to come to help due to Covid situation. Our dojo has some participants. Good luck to them.

International Kendo Leaders' Seminar will be held in Chiba from March 18 through 24. If you want to get better, plan to be selected to attend this seminar in future years. This is known to be high quality seminar and you can make kendo friends internationally.

Submit Hawaii Kendo Federation and our Club dues if you have not done so, yet.

I had a question and called my high school era friend home to ask. His wife answered. I've never met this lady in person but since then we have been chatting in Facebook after she receives our club monthly bulletins and gives me brief comments. She sent Aida Mitsuo's (Poet, calligrapher and high school kendo champion in Tochigi Prefecture) "*Issho Benkyo, Issho Seishun.*" If I interpret this my way, "If you keep life long study, you can have everlasting youthfulness." Study, practice and try to improve yourself. Your life will become joyful, positive and rewarding.

Iwao Sato
Chief Instructor, Wahiawa Kendo Club.
Club website - www.wahiawakendoclub.com