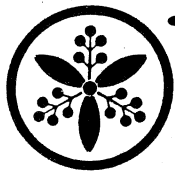


羅府合氣道學院古屋道場



AIKIDO CENTER OF LOS ANGELES NEWSLETTER

940 E. Second Street #7
Los Angeles, California
90012
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1993 DOJO \$10,000 FUND RAISING PROJECT

Dojo will raise funds this year for new mats.

This year we will make an effort to raise monies for the purchase of new tatami mats for the dojo. We will be soliciting donations and ask for everyone's help and cooperation.

The mats we bought in 1985 have already become worn out and we hope to buy new vinyl covered tatami mats from Japan. These are the very best mats for training and will last a lifetime. The price of the mats, reconstructing the mat area to fit the mats and the cost of shipping from Japan should come to about \$10,000.00. All donations are welcome. Mr. James Doi, our senior black belt, has set up a special account and will be handling all donations. All donations of any amount and pledges are welcome.

Recommended Pledge System

\$10.00/month for 10 months	\$100.00
\$20.00/month for 10 months	\$200.00
\$50.00/month for 10 months	\$500.00
\$100.00/month for 10 months	\$1,000.00

All friends, students and members who donate \$1,000.00 or more will receive 5 year Special Membership Card and an Invitation to Furuya Sensei's 30th Anniversary Celebration in April, 1993. We thank everyone for their cooperation and generosity.

FURUYA KENSHO SENSEI CELEBRATES 30TH YEAR IN AIKIDO

This year in 1993, Furuya Sensei celebrates his 30th distinguished year in Aikido. He is also celebrating 35 years in martial arts which represents over 2/3's of his life.

On April 25, 1993, on Furuya Sensei's 45th birthday, there will be a celebration for students, friends and patrons of the dojo. The time and place will be announced in a future issue.

Furuya Sensei is currently a 5th Dan in Aikido and 5th Dan Renshi in Battodo and Iaido. He also holds ranks in Kendo, Judo and Karate with some experience in Kung-fu and Tai-chi chuan. He has degrees in Asian Studies and Oriental Religions from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he attended under the National Defense Act and the Carnegie Project, a both federal grants. He was also honored with a 4-year departmental grant from USC. After graduation, he worked from the Bank of Tokyo and a publication company before teaching Aikido fulltime from 1975. In 1969, Furuya Sensei received special instruction at the Aikido World Headquarters under Grandmaster Kisshomaru Ueshiba and Master Kisaburo Ohsawa. Sensei has been honored to study under the very top Aikido masters in the world.

The Aikido Center of Los Angeles was established in 1985 in Little Tokyo. In 1991, the dojo was made the first official branch of the All Japan Battodo Iaido Federation outside of Japan. Furuya Sensei is also a contributing editor for Martial Arts Training magazine and in 1992, his column, Ancient Ways, was elected as one of the most popular columns in the nation.



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1993 Dojo Fund Raising Project

Dear Friends and Students:

We are now conducting a Fund Raiser for the dojo in order to purchase new high quality tatami mats from Japan. Our present mats have become very worn over the last eight years and no longer make an appropriate training surface.

We ask for everyone's help and generosity. Each mat is \$100.00 each. If fifty members and friends can donate one tatami mat each (\$100.00), we can order the mats immediately and beginning enjoying them at once.

We planned to take the entire year of 1993 to buy these mats. Our original budget was over \$10,000.00 because each tatami mat was priced at \$225.00 each. However, we now have a great deal that, if we buy these mats now, we can get them at \$100.00 each, a savings of \$125.00 for each mat or less than half-price. Shipping costs and repair of the floor to accomodate the mats is figured at around \$3,000.00. Our total Fund Raising Goal is \$8,000.00.

Originally, we installed ethyl-foam under the dojo carpet which is what they use for the Olympics gymnastics competition and is considered very good, however, they have not held up as well as we expected. The mats we plan to get are straw and covered with a light green vinyl made to look like the traditional Japanese style tatami. This makes absolutely the best surface for martial arts training and they are guaranteed to last a lifetime.

We ask for your help. Please, we need your donation to the dojo so that we can take advantage of the great deal we have to purchase new mats at this time.

Thank you so much.

The Aikido Center of Los Angeles

Kensho Furuya, Resident Chief Instructor

Sensei's Message:**30 Years**

After 30 years in Aikido, I am sure my students will indulge me if I reminisce a bit. Along with the years, one's memories and experiences increase as well.

Last month, I spoke about "A Life of Appreciation," and although it is easier to recall the bad times (because somehow they always make more exciting stories), I have to say that I have been very much blessed as well. When I was quite young, I remember having to beg the older students to take me to various dojos for training because I was not old enough to drive and our own dojo practiced only one day a week. In those days, we never heard of a dojo open everyday. I think the only reason I got my driver's license was to be able to get across town to visit others school for training. Every week, I had to drive as far as Torrance, West LA, Irvine, Westminster, San Diego, etc. I often I went as far as Santa Barbara and San Francisco, just for an hour or two of practice. Soon after O-Sensei passed away, many instructors broke away and tried to create their own schools and groups and it became very difficult to visit the various dojos freely. It was a very discouraging time and after several years of enduring this I reluctantly built my own school in 1975. Struggling for ten tough years, we finally realized our present dojo in 1985. To have a nice dojo, open everyday, where one can come and practice freely without so many unnecessary problems and worries, is a dream of youth which is realized today in our own school. I think we are all very blessed and always should fill our own practice with appreciation and gratitude everyday.

Thank you

I wish to express my thanks for all the Christmas cards and New Year's Greetings I received this year. They came as far as Chechoslovakia and Russia. I hope everyone received a calendar from the dojo. It is a small gift from me

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS ITEMS

All students who haven't done so are recommended to pay their annual membership fees of \$15.00. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Many thanks to Bill Gillespie who is helping the dojo with its non-profit status and many thanks to James Doi who helping with our fund raising account.

Dojo is looking for all volunteers with carpentry skills to help repair the mat area.

The current Martial Arts Training Magazine (MA Training) is out with Sensei's column Ancient Ways. This issue's column is entitled: "What Is True Strength?" In the next issue: "Make Mistakes Correctly." You can buy the magazine on the stands or order a subscription from Rainbow Publications.

**CHILDREN'S CLASS
Valentine's Party****February 14th, Sunday****Don't miss it!****Dojo T-Shirts**

Dojo T-Shirts are still on sale in the dojo.

Available sizes are medium, large and extra large in three different color styles. \$15.00 each.

Newsletter Subscriptions

Non-members who wish to continue receiving the Aikido Center of Los Angeles Newsletter should sent in their renewal subscriptions now. This is your last issue.