

羅府合氣道学院古屋道場



AIKIDO CENTER OF LOS ANGELES NEWSLETTER

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古屋顕正師合氣道三十周年記念 Celebrating 30 Years of Aikido

September 1, 1993

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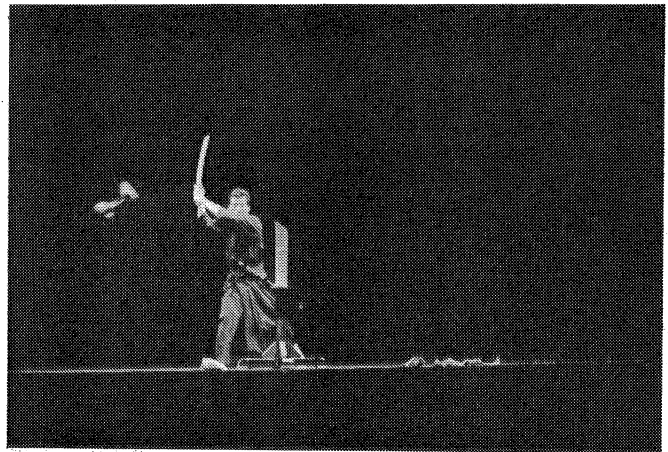
53rd Nisei Week Aikido & Traditional Martial Arts Exhibition on Aug. 8th - A Great Success!

It was a packed house and sold-out demonstration with over 100 people turned away. One of the most successful demonstrations ever with 72 participants and 1000 guests.

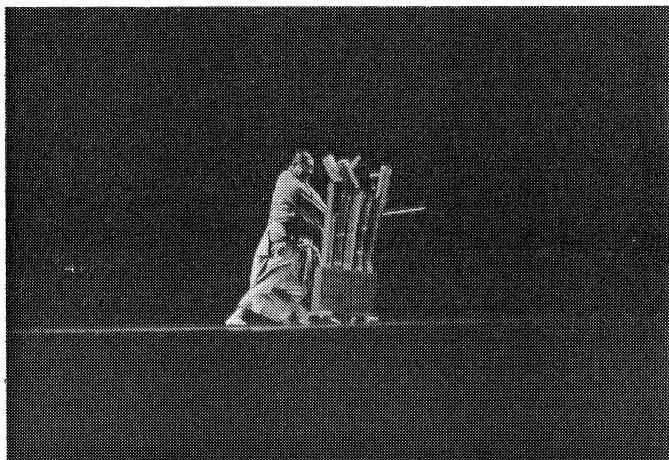
Many thanks to all of our supporters, friends and guests for making our Nisei Week demonstration and Kensho Furuya's 30th Anniversary Celebration a great victory.



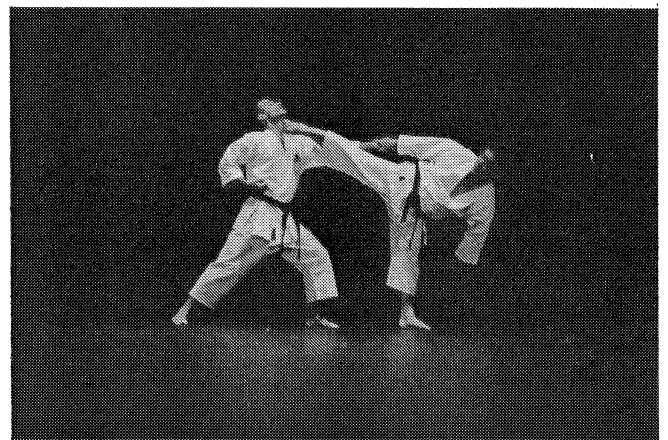
Members of the Exhibition Team.



Master Toshiyuki Satsumi, Head of the Kiryu Branch Dojo in Gumma Pref.

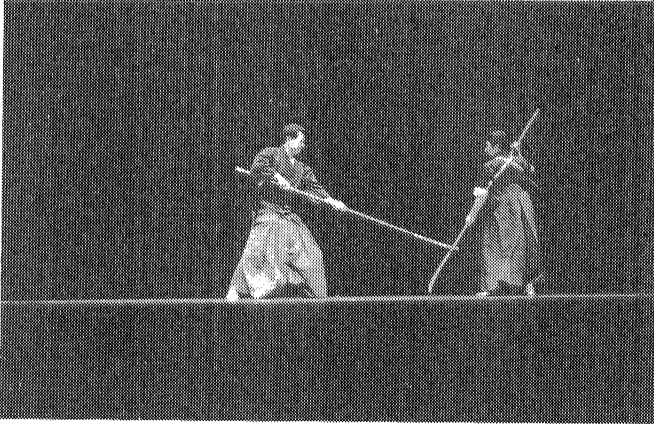


Master Kazuichi Ueki opens the demonstration.

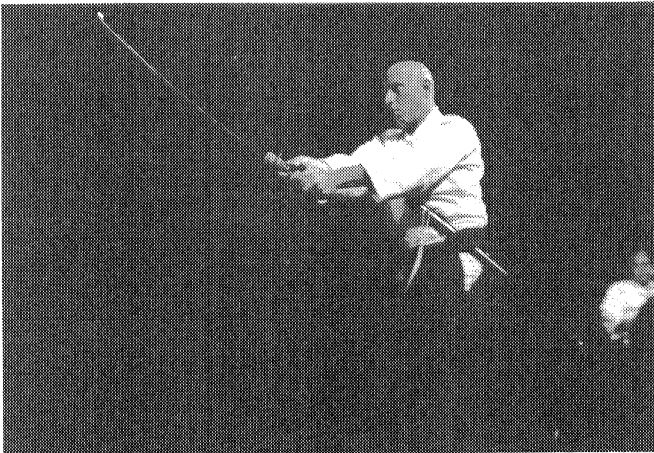


Master Fumio Demura of the Shito Ryu Itosu Kai offered a great display of Karate technique.

Nisei Week A Huge Sellout



Mitsuo Hataya and Toshie Terajima demonstrating the naginata kata.



Our Jeff Wheeler executing powerful laido technique.



Our Mitsuko Yoshimoto demonstrates beautiful technique against Ken Watanabe during the ACLA Aikido segment.

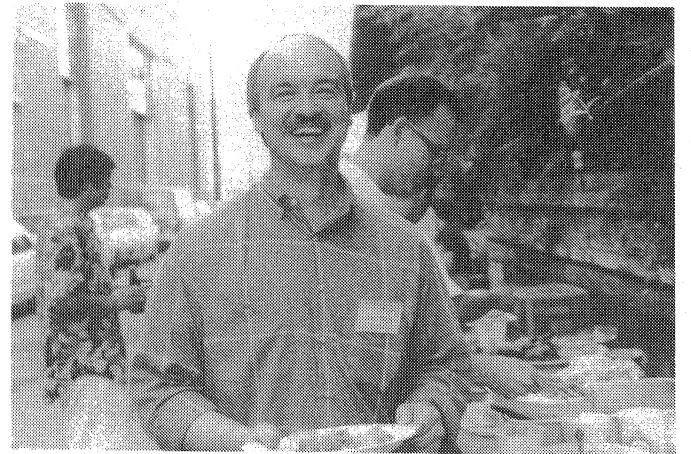
Dojo Welcome Party on Aug. 7th



Welcome Party on August 7th for our demo guests. Another great dojo pot-luck party.



Kevin Sonico scarfing up at the party. Kevin will be getting married in September.

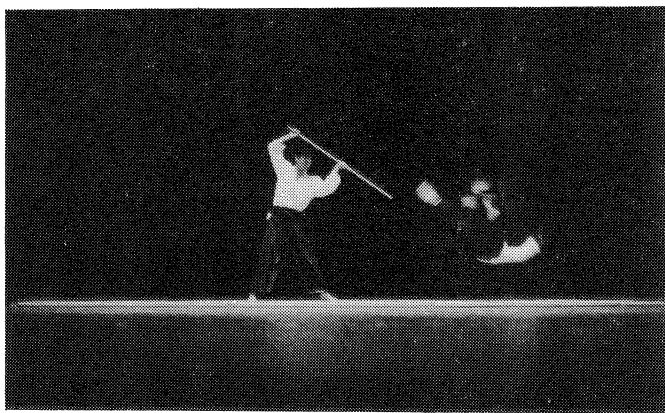


Gary Myers, assistant instructor for our Ken-shinkai, brought great shiskabob to the pot-luck party.

The Challenge of Nisei Week

This year's 53rd Nisei Week Aikido and Traditional Martial Arts Exhibition and our 30th Anniversary Celebration on August 8th was a big success. It was a sell-out crowd with almost 200 people turned away. People were lined up well into the demonstration hoping that seats might open up. One student reported that someone was trying to buy a ticket for \$100.00 just to get in. We had guests coming in from Alabama, Texas, Washington, Arizona, Florida and New York. Despite the Nisei Week Parade at 4:00pm, everyone stayed to the very end of the 3 hours and fifteen minute event.

Our guests from Japan were impressed saying that they rarely participate to such a huge and receptive crowd. Our local instructors, Fumio Demura Sensei of the Japan Karate Federation, Masashi Shikai Sensei of the Chuo Kendo Dojo and Hayward Nishioka Sensei of LACC Judo were very happy with the audience reaction. Everyone seemed to have loved the demonstration. The dojo received many letters of congratulations from out-of-towners who travelled to Los Angeles just for our event. Everyone loved the emcee.



Ken Watanabe demonstrating jo technique

Planning for the demonstration began in December of 1992 and is the culmination of nine months of work and organization in coordination with the Nisei Week Japanese Festival Committee and the Japan America Theatre. Our guests from Japan arrived on August 6 and stayed in the best rooms of the Hotel New Otani in Little Tokyo. On August 7th, we had a very nice Pot Luck Welcome Party at the dojo with so much great food and drink. Everyone had a good chance to meet and get to know all of our guests.

Everyone met at the Theatre at 9:00am and rehearsal began around 10:00am on the next day.

Fumio Demura Sensei flew in from Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he was teaching a special seminar for police departments from all over the world, just to be there. His flight was on time and he was on time. Hayward Nishioka Sensei just remembered another tournament he had to attend and came late but was still able to participate. The demonstration began at 12:15pm, fifteen minutes late because there were still so many guests who were not seated yet.

The Theatre darkened, a light came on suddenly and Mitsuo Hataya Sensei cut through one wara consisting of six mats rolled up into one thick mat and Kazuichi Ueki Sensei cut through a row of six consecutive mats. The lights darkened again and all the participants rose up from the pit stage to be introduced by Kensho Furuya and the demonstration began.

Despite several problems with the lighting and curtain failure, the demonstration went on very smoothly to the end without incident. The audience was extremely receptive and seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. Everyone laughed at Sensei's jokes and comments. One person even wrote down all the comments and funny lines!

The Japan America Theatre members, Nisei Week Festival Committee and the JACCC were all happy with the outcome and the great response. Indeed, it was a great success.

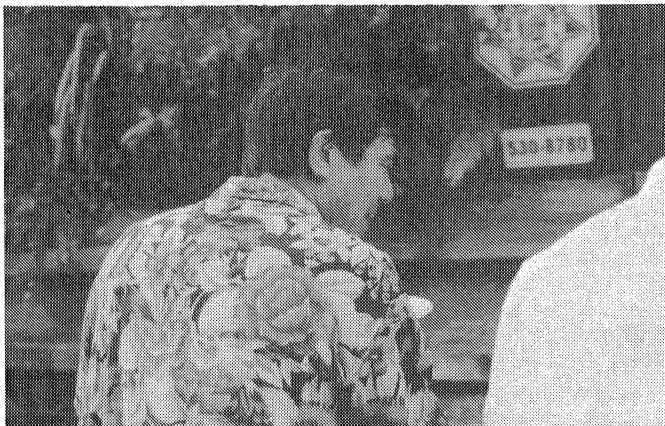
Sensei's Personal Memories

At this point in time, I am still recovering from the event. Many people have asked me when I am doing the next demonstration but I refuse to answer. Please don't ask me now because you will not get a happy answer!

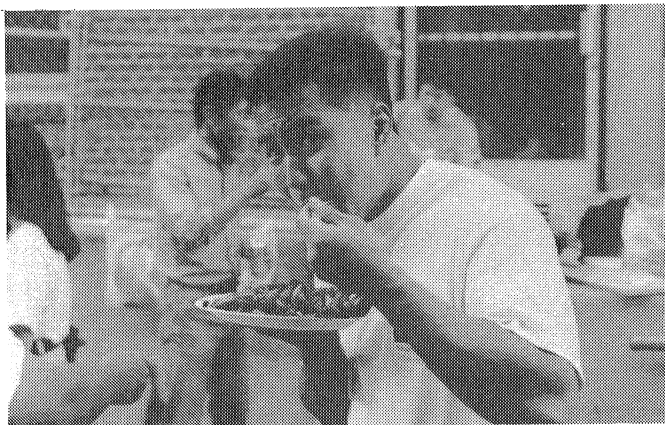
It was a lot of work and one really doesn't know what the outcome will be until the very last minute. I was worried about people showing up and ticket sales, etc. There was a fantastic amount of work and last minute details to accomplish before D-day. After the successful event, several people came up to me and said, "See, you had nothing to worry about at all!" But indeed, there was a lot to worry about. And I believe that the demonstration could not have gone on smoothly without the effort.

Sensei's Nisei Week continued

I hope my students will follow my example and challenge themselves, work hard and try to create a successful event such as our Nisei Week demonstration. My motivation for this demonstration was, first of all, to contribute to Little Tokyo's Nisei Week celebration. My second motivation was to challenge myself to see if I could accomplish such a major task again. It isn't easy but this was my own test for myself on my 30th anniversary in Aikido.



Yasushi Matsuki enjoys cold beer at our Welcome Party for all of our special guests.



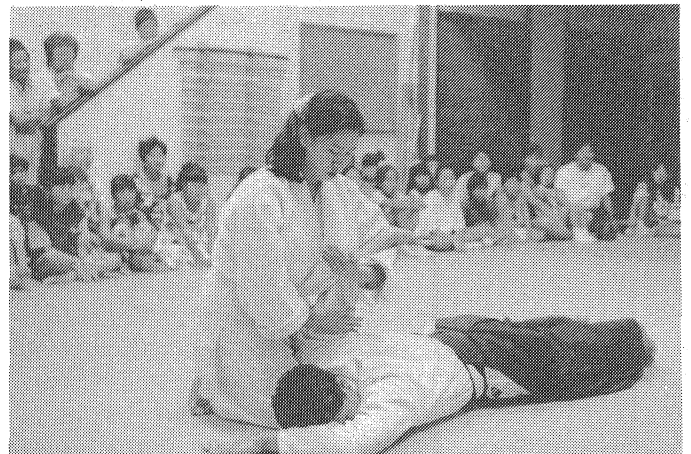
Kenny Furuya proves beyond a doubt the food was good.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and this is very important too. Because of our limited budget we couldn't be too extravagant but we all had a good time. The Pot Luck Welcome Party at the dojo was a very big success. I am glad that so many people participated and contributed to all the good food and fun. Our Japanese guests never had such an experience and enjoyed themselves greatly.

The day after the demonstration, as tired as I was, I took the entire group for two days in San Francisco which was a greatly memorable and an almost totally exhausting experience. We got back to Los Angeles and checked into the hotel on Tuesday, August 10th, around 10:00pm and, then everyone decided to party again so we went to Suehiro Restaurant in Little Tokyo and ate and drank until 1:30am! On the following morning, everyone checked out of the Hotel New Otani at 9:00am on Wednesday, August 11th, and departed to LAX on their way back to Japan, leaving Satsumi Sensei and Endo Sensei still cozily sleeping in their beds at the hotel.

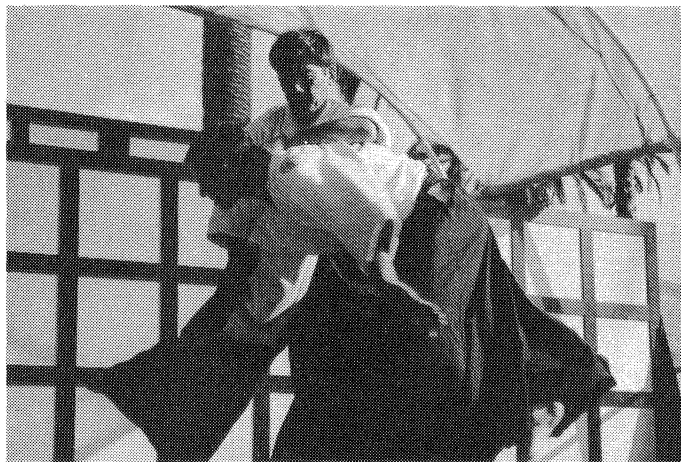


72 members of the Chibi-no-Gakko Children's School of Orange County visit the dojo for a demonstration of Aikido and Japanese swords.



Kristine Lew demonstrates for the Chibi-no-Gakko along with other helpers: Kenny Furuya, David Ito, Kevin Sonico and Rick Parents. The children as well as the parents all enjoyed themselves.

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NEWSLETTER**



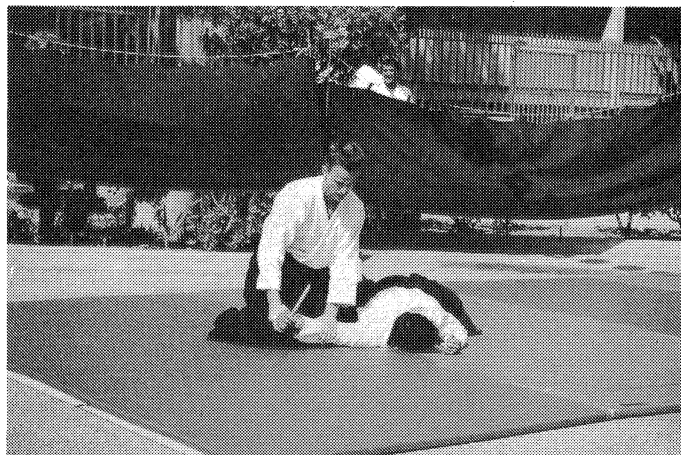
Matsuki-san demonstrating at the Lotus Festival in Echo Park on July 10th . Uke is Mark Moore.



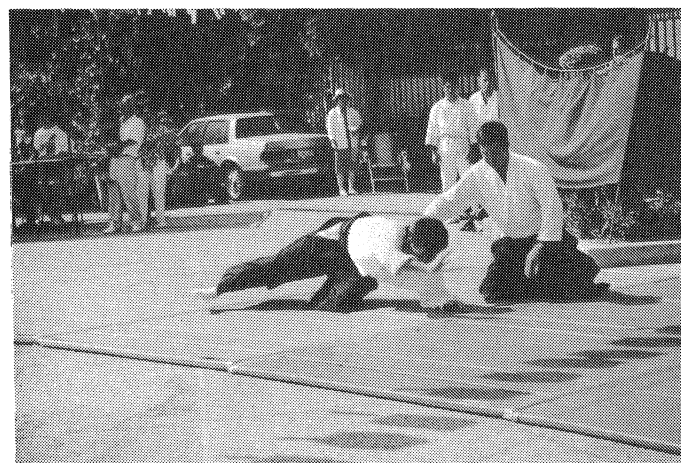
Members at the Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple in Little Tokyo on July 17 & 18th.



Members at the Pasadena Buddhist Church on July 18th.



Bill Gillespie demonstrating knife defense at the Higashi Honganji Obon Festival on July 17th. Bill is getting married in October.



Kenny Furuya demonstrates excellent suwari-waza technique at the Higashi Honganji demo.



Mitsuko Yoshimoto easily throws Richard Elorriga at the Higashi Honganji demo.

Many Thanks

Many thanks to those who participated in the following demonstrations in July, another very busy summer month before Nisei Week for the dojo:

West Covina Community Center Demonstration on July 3rd.

Lotus Festival in Echo Park on July 10th. Yasushi Matsuki, Mitsuko Yoshimoto, James Doi, Ken Watanabe, Kenny Furuya, Richard Eloriagga, Mark Moore, Bill Gillespie, Steve Tarango, Andy Kissel, David Ito. Kenshinkai: Gary Myers, Jeff Wheeler. Special thanks to Cheryl Lew who took photos.

Higashi Honganji Obon Festival on July 17th & 18th. Yasushi Matsuki, Mitsuko Yoshimoto, James Doi, Ken Watanabe, Kenny Furuya, Richard Eloriagga, Mark Moore, Bill Gillespie, Steve Tarango, Andy Kissel, David Ito. Special thanks to Cheryl Lew who took the photos.

Pasadena Buddhist Church Obon Festival on July 18th. Yasushi Matsuki, James Doi, Ken Watanabe, Kenny Furuya, Richard Elloriaga, Steve Tarango and David Ito. Cheryl Lew, photogrpaher.

Chibi-no-Gakko Orange County Children's School at the dojo on August 4th. Kenny Furuya, Rick Parents, Kevin Sonico, David Ito and Kristine Lew.

Many thanks to the following, among many unnamed, who helped with our Nisei Week demonstration:

Dr. Chery Lew - Medical
 Dr. Jeffrey Johnson - Medical
 Joe Quinn - Security
 Charles Steele - Photography
 Norm and Marlene Lew - Receptionists
 Richard and Lois Kageyama - Receptionists
 Andy Kissel, Steve Tarango, Chris Prejean - Receptionists
 Kevin Sonico & Larry Moncado - Video
 Drivers: Ken Watanabe, Gary Myers, Cheryl Lew, Norm Lew, Kevin Sonico, Kenny Furuya and David Ito.

Special thanks to Charles Steele for excellent photos of the Nisei Week Demonstration.

菅沼守人

Morito Suganuma Sensei Seminar

October 29th - November 1st

October 29th, Friday

6:30pm - 7:30pm

8:00pm - 9:00pm

October 30th, Saturday

10:00am - 11:00am

11:30am - 12:30pm

Lunch break

2:00pm - 3:00pm

3:30pm - 4:30pm

October 1st, Sunday

10:00am - 11:00am

11:30am - 12:30pm

Lunch Break

2:00pm - 3:00pm

4:30pm - Dojo Pot Luck Party

November 1st, Monday

6:30pm - 7:30pm

8:00pm - 9:00pm

Seminar Fee: \$75.00

(For one or two days: \$60.00)

Please send in your remittance early. Space is limited and this is a very important seminar.

See Black Belts for application form. We would like to see as many Black Belts and advanced members as possible participate in this seminar. We do need your fees to reserve your space. All dojos and active Aikido students are welcome to participate.

For further information, please call dojo (213) 687-3673

SUGANUMA SENSEI

I am really looking forward to having Suganuma Sensei visit our dojo in October. It is something that I have long dreamed of and truly hope our Seminar will be a big success. I met Suganuma Sensei when I was training at Hombu dojo about 25 years ago and I have the same respect for him now as I did so many years ago. He had strong, clean technique and always took Doshu's ukemi wherever he went. One time, he took all the ukemi for all the Black Belt candidates during one examination day which lasted about three hours.



Suganuma Sensei at his dojo during a recent celebration.

Soon after I returned to Los Angeles, he was assigned to the Kyushu area. This was a very difficult area to develop Aikido in because of a long history of various problems. One teacher said, "Only Suganuma Sensei can handle such a difficult matter." In the 25 years or so he has been in Kyushu, he has successfully developed over 50 dojos in the area.

I hope everyone will take advantage of this rare opportunity to study under a great teacher. I really expect all Black Belts and advanced students to participate. I hope we can have a successful seminar and have Suganuma Sensei back each year.

Black Belts, Attention!

Please help out with the pre-practice chores and keeping the dojo in good working order in general.

You also must be more conscientious in attending Advanced Classes and the Black Belt Meetings. Your considerate attention in this matter is appreciated.

Training Schedule

AIKIDO

OPEN & BEGINNING CLASSES

Mondays thru Friday

7:00am - 8:00am

6:15pm - 7:15pm

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

7:30pm - 8:30pm

Saturday Mornings

10:15am - 11:30am

Sunday Mornings

9:30am - 10:30am

ADVANCED CLASSES

2nd Kyu & Up

Tuesdays

7:30pm - 8:30pm

Saturdays

11:30am - 12:30pm

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Sunday Mornings

8:30am - 9:30am

KENSHINKAI

Iaido Battodo Swordsmanship

Official LA Br. All Japan Battodo Federation

Wednesdays

8:45pm - 9:45pm

Saturdays

9:00am - 10:00am

Sundays

7:30am - 8:30am

RAFU TOKEN KAI

Japanese Sword Study Society

1st Friday of every month

7:30pm - 9:00pm

Announcements

September 3rd. Kenshinkai Sword Study Association from 7:30pm. Lecture on swords and social hour.

September 4th. Yudansha Kai Black Meeting from 12:30pm. All Black Belts and advanced students are required to attend.

September 18th. Kenshinkai Iaido Intensive Seminar from 6:30am - 8:30am.

October 1st. Kenshinkai Sword Study Association from 7:30pm.

October 2nd. Yudansha Kai Black Belt Meeting from 12:30pm. All Black Belts and advanced students are required to attend.

October 23-24th. Major dojo clean-up. Bring towels, vacuum cleaners, tall ladders and lots of elbow grease. Everyone please help!

October 27th - November 3rd. No 7:00am morning classes during Suganuma Sensei's visit.

October 28th. Special Yudansha Kai Meeting.

October 29th - November 1st. Suganuma Sensei's Seminar.

ACLA Newsletter

Published monthly by the ACLA. Free to active members. Annual Subscription is \$25.00 donation to the dojo.

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Nisei Week

Nisei Week Posters: \$15.00 each. Limited quantities.

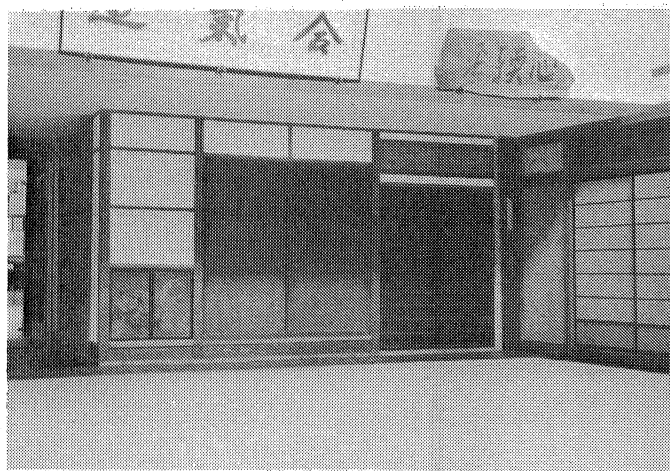
Nisei Week Demonstration Video: \$25.00 each. Please order now with your remittance. We will only make enough to fill the orders of those who pre-order.

Nisei Week Programs: \$1.00 each.

**ACLA Kenshinkai
Rafu Token Kai
Japanese Sword Study Association**

NEXT MEETING: Sept. 3, 1993

*1st Friday of the Month from 7:30pm
Sword study and social hour.
Everyone is welcome.*



DOJO TEA ROOM COMPLETED

The dojo three-tatami tea room is finally completed in the dojo. Many thanks to Mark Moore and Jeff Wheeler for all the final touches.

ELECTRICIAN NEEDED

Skilfull electrician for simple job. Please see Sensei.