

The Aikido Center of Los Angeles LLC, 1211 N. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 Tel: (213) 687-3673 www.aikidocenterla.com



The Aikido Center of Los Angeles

道の為、世の為、人の為 合気道

The Aiki Dojo

Direct Affiliation: The Aikido World Headquarters, 17-18 Wakamatsu-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Reverend Kensho Furuya Foundation
Los Angeles Sword & Swordsmanship Society Kenshinkai

August 2007

Volume XXVI Number 8

Hatsu-Bon Service for Furuya Sensei

The months of July and August are always very busy and happy times in Little Tokyo. This is the time when the Japanese-American community has their Obon festivals and Nisei Week. I still remember as a very young child going to Obon festival and winning a goldfish at one of the carnival booths. I even remember taking it home and watching my father placing the goldfish into a large bowl. I also remember that particular goldfish did not live to long! In high school and college, Obon was the place to hang out with friends, meet girls or take a date. For our dojo, Obon meant putting on Aikido demonstrations at various temples and churches. Though in the past I may have been much happier during the past Obon festivals, this year had very special meaning for me as I reflected on Sensei's passing.

Zenshuji Soto Mission had their 49th Annual Obon Carnival the weekend of July 7th and 8th this year. The Zenshuji Obon Carnival included Japanese cultural exhibitions, food, games, raffle, and entertainment. During Obon on each day, Hatsu Bon, a first-year memorial service is performed for the family of those who lost a loved one during the past year. It was an opportunity for dojo members to offer incense in the memory of Kensho Furuya Sensei. The service was



Zenshuji Soto Mission's Hatsu-bon service for those who lost a family member in the past year.

presided by Zenshuji's Bishop Gengo Akiba. Reverend Wako Kato, Ph.D, gave a lecture about the meaning of Obon. Obon came from an allegorical sutra about Mokuren, a disciple of the Buddha. In this allegory, Mokuren's mother was suffering from hunger. All food would burn before she could consume it. Mokuren asked the Buddha for advise to help his mother and the Buddha told Mokuren to offer lots of food to monks and lay people in order to save his mother. According to Dr. Kato, the essence of Obon is extending compassion to all beings selflessly.

July was also the month of our last practice and rank examinations in the dojo. To honour the dojo that Sensei built, we also had a farewell dojo party.

We also started Japanese classes on July

21st. What started as an idea for a few of us to get together to start learning conversational Japanese turned into an actual class with a Japanese sensei. We have a total of thirteen students learning Japanese from Keiko Takenaka Sensei. Surprisingly, we have several parents, girlfriends and other non-doj members in the class. The demand to learn Japanese at the Dojo has been a very pleasant surprise. We welcome Takenaka Sensei as the first class left the students eager to study more Japanese.

Now that we are practicing in the temporary space, we all are rather impatiently waiting for our new dojo to be completed. Everyone, please train hard and be patient as it is only a short amount of time before we are practicing in our new dojo.

-Kenneth Masami Furuya

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NYU Law

by Mark Cornillez-Ty

I'm going to be a student again. Though I was sure I was done with the academic life when I graduated from law school, I now find myself getting ready for another year of classes. From September to May, I will be attending the New York University School of Law's Graduate Tax Program as a full-time student to pursue an L.L.M. (i.e., Master of Laws) degree. Fortunately, the program is only for one year, so I will be away for only a short while.

I have mixed feelings about the coming year. On the one hand, I really don't want to be away from the dojo, especially during this time. There's a very real possibility that construction of the new dojo will be completed while I am in New York, and I would really hate to miss the grand opening. I'll also miss practicing with everyone at the dojo.

But despite my reservations about going, I know it's something I must do for my career. Tax law is such a highly specialized field that it virtually requires the L.L.M. degree; it's very hard to even get your foot in the door without one. NYU's tax program has long been considered the best in the nation, so I think the degree will create a lot of opportunities for me. With such a prestigious program, I expect the classes to be extremely difficult, but I am actually looking forward to and excited by that challenge.

In the end, I must look at the big picture. I will only be away for a total of nine months, and in that time, I will have taken a big step towards establishing a solid foundation for my career. Once those nine months are over, I will hopefully have a good job secured and will be back here at the dojo. I'm sure the time will fly by, and I'll be back before you even know it!

Happy Birthday!

Robert Lew
Ty Tanita
Kevin Shon

Japanese Language Classes

The Aikido Center of Los Angeles started Japanese classes on Saturday, July 21. Classes are taught by Ms. Keiko Takenaka. Takenaka Sensei is working on a single subject credential program at the California State University of Long Beach to teach Japanese. She has a bachelor of arts, in Psychology from CSU-Long Beach and is a graduate of Chinzei High School in Kumamoto, Japan.

There will be four sessions a year. Each session will last at least 10 weeks and classes will be from 12:30pm to 3:30pm on Saturday afternoons. The ACLA will be offering beginning Japanese and the sessions will be open to anyone.

REQUIRED TEXT - Genki textbook and Genki workbook by the Japan Times. The Dojo will have books available prior to the start of the each session.

CONTACT - Please let David Ito know if you are interested in enrolling for the fall session. Email him at info@aikidocenterla.com.

New Dojo Baby!

Rey and Cheryl Espino are the proud parents of their fourth child, a baby girl, born on June 30, Jean Emilie Espino.



The Kensho Furuya Foundation:

Mr. Mark Ty - President
Mr. David Ito - Vice-President
Mr. Gary Myers - Secretary
Mr. Bill Allen - Treasurer
Mr. Jonathan Altman - Legal
Mr. Michael Vance - Publishing

The Furuya Foundation is dedicated to preserving the Dojo and its continued operation maintaining the highest standards of practice and the work of Furuya Sensei in research and education in Aikido, the traditional Japanese sword and related arts.



Takenaka Sensei teaching the first Japanese class

Kyu and Dan Examinations

In June and July kyu and dan examinations were conducted. Students who have the appropriate amount of practice days and experience may apply for examination. Examinations will be given on Saturdays at 10:45am. For extenuating circumstances the exam may be taken on Tuesday at 7:45pm. Applications must include the application fee. Please submit your application into the dojo inbox.

Congratulations to the following students:

Paul Major	1st Dan
Jindrich Novak	1st Dan
Jacob Sisk	1st Dan
Michael Van Ruth	1st Dan
Kay Sera	1st Dan
Leonard Manoukian	1st Kyu
Ty Tanita	2nd Kyu
Muhammed Anwar	2nd Kyu
Shaun Menashe	4th Kyu



Paul Major executing technique from kata-tori



Suwari-waza by Leonard Manoukian



ACL A Grading Committee and Candidates



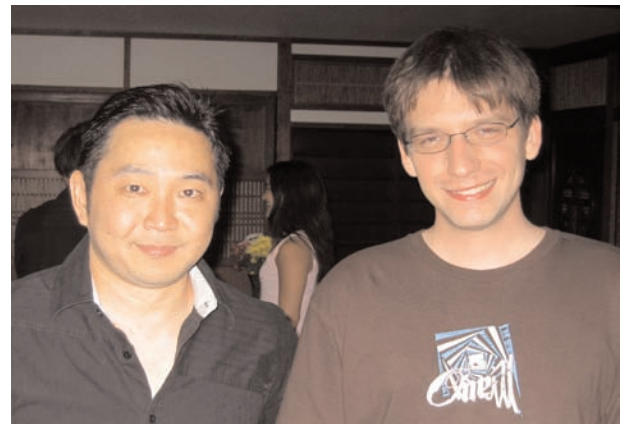
Reviewing Paul Major's examination

Dojo Farewell Party

The evening of July 14th we had a final going away party for the dojo and to celebrate the tests earlier that day.

Many thanks to everyone who brought food and helped cleanup, and a special thanks to Brett Rushworth, Mike Van Ruth, Norm Lew and Ken Furuya for building out the mats in the temporary space that day.

Also many thanks to Frances Yokota for her wonderful catering!



Aikido Center of Los Angeles:

We are not-for-profit, traditional Aikido dojo dedicated to preserve the honored values and traditions of the art. We are continually focused on maintaining the highest standards of the art in a Dojo which, itself is considered a work of art. With your continued understanding and support, we hope that you will dedicate yourself to your training, enjoying all the benefits Aikido can offer.

The Aiki Dojo Newsletter

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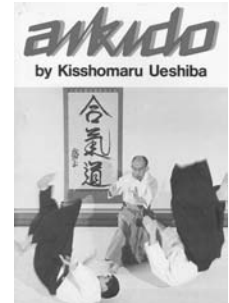
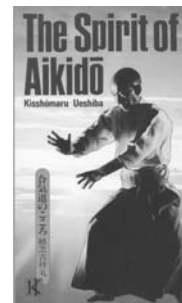
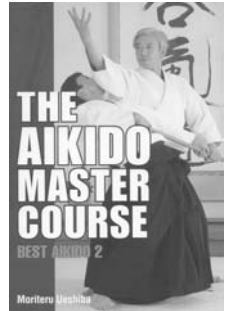
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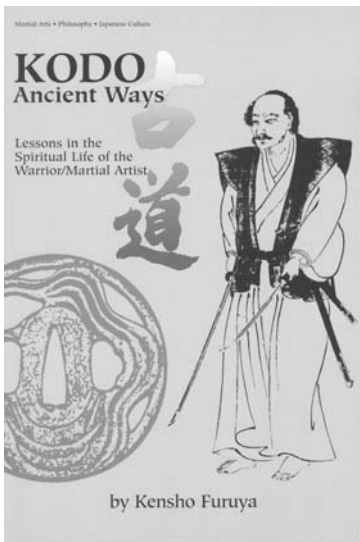
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Recommended Readings:



Publications By Kensho Furuya:



**Kodo:
Ancient
Ways:
Lessons In The
Spiritual Life
Of the Warrior**

By Kensho Furuya

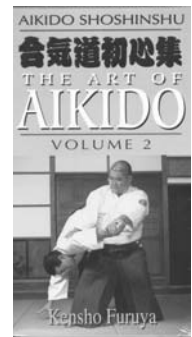
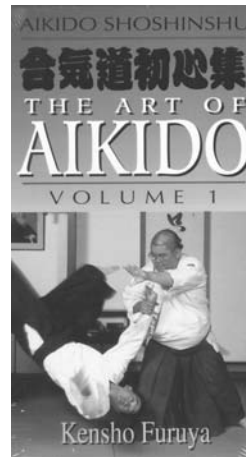
Highly recommended for all students of the Dojo.

The Art of AIKIDO

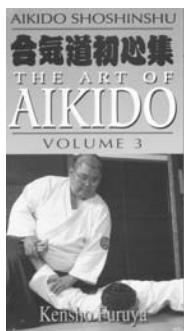
Instructional Video Series s Now Available in a new DVD format.

"Top Rated" Karate Illustrated
"Impressive Scope" Aikido Today,
"Exhaustive" Aikido Journal" "Best in the English language on the market today," Budovideos.com.

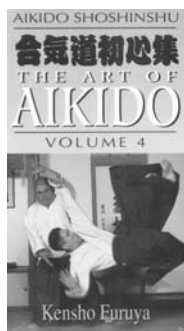
This video series is considered to be the most comprehensive and detailed instructional video on Aikido available today. Clear depiction of each technique and very detailed explanation of all of the fine points.



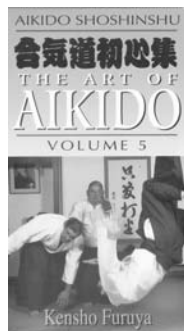
Basic Techniques
 Throwing & Joint
 Techniques, Ikkyo, Nikyo, Sankyo, Yonkyo & Gokyo



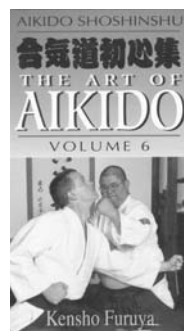
Ukemi-Breakfalling Basics Continued
 Free Style Techniques
 Tenshin. Ki. Breathing.



Katatetori Ryotemochi:
 Ryotetori: 2-hand.
 Reigi-saho: Etiquette.
 Koshinage-Hip throws.



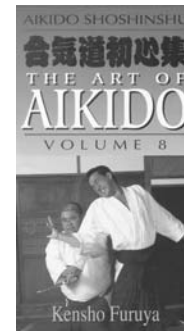
Suwari-waza. Gokyo.
 Hanmi-handachi. Kokyudosa. Katatori: Shoulder.
 Multiple attackers.
 Five-man Freestyle.



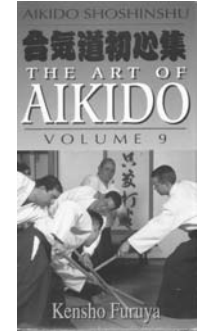
Tsuki: Strikes & Punches
 Yokomenuchi: Strikes to the side of the head & neck.



Shomenuchi,Ushiro Katatetori Kubishime:
 Chokes from behind.
 Ushiro Ryotetori,
 Ryohijitori, Ryokatatori.



Atemi-waza: Striking Defense against kicks.
 Tanto-tori: Knife defense.Aiki-ken:
 Sword Training



Jo: Basic long staff Fundamentals.
 Complete 1st Degree Black Belt Examination

Aikido TRAINING SCHEDULE

Sundays: Children's Class: 9:00-10:00am.
Open - All Levels: 10:15-11:15am.

Mondays: Fundamentals: 5:15-6:15pm.
Open - All levels: 6:30-7:30pm.
Aiki Weapons: 7:45 - 8:30pm

Tuesdays: Open - All Levels: 6:30 - 7:30am.
Open - 6:30 - 7:30pm

Wednesdays: Fundamentals: 5:15- 6:15pm.
Open - 6:30 - 7:30pm
Aiki Weapons: 7:45 - 8:30pm

Thursdays: Open - All levels: 6:30 - 7:30am
Open - All levels: 5:15-6:15pm.
Bokken 6:30-7:30pm.

Fridays: Fundamentals 5:15-6:15pm.
Open - All levels: 6:30-7:30pm.

Saturdays: Open-Intermediate: 9:30-10:30am.
Advanced: 10:45-11:45am.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

6 to 16 yrs old

Sunday Mornings 9:00 -10:00am

Sign-up anytime for on-going classes.

We are directly affiliated with:

AIKIDO WORLD HEADQUARTERS

Aikido So-Hombu Dojo - Aikikai

17-18 Wakamatsu-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN

We are committed to the study and practice of the teachings of the Founder of Aikido, Morihei Ueshiba and his legitimate successors, Kisshomaru Ueshiba and the present Moriteru Ueshiba Doshu.

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Iaido TRAINING SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL JAPANESE IAIDO SWORDSMANSHIP

Saturdays: 7:15-8:15am Beginning.
8:15-9:15am Intermediate-Advanced.

Sundays: 7:45am-8:45am.

Thursdays: 6:30-7:30pm (Bokken).

No Classes on the last weekend of the month.

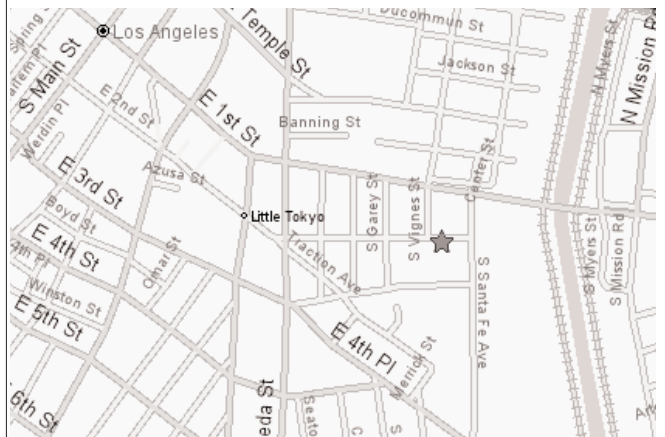
Private Classes Available.

No Appointment Necessary To Join:

You are welcome to visit us anytime during our Open and Beginning Classes. Signing up for classes is very easy and only takes a few minutes. We accept personal checks, MO and cash. Please bring valid ID such as your driver's license and the name of your insurance company. Welcome!

Finding Our Dojo:

As construction is under way of our new dojo, we will be temporarily located at 929 E 2nd Street #107, Los Angeles, CA 90012. We are across the street from our old dojo. We are convenient to most major freeways. From Alameda go east on 2nd St and make a right turn into the private lane at Vignes.



Please park on the east side of the private lane or on the street. We are temporarily across the street at 929 E 2nd Street #107. You may continue to park on the east side of the private lane or on the street.