

AUSKF

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8 No. 2
December 12, 2005

KENDO J

2006-2008 OFFICERS:

New 2006-2008 AUSKF Officers & Directors!!!

PRESIDENT:
Atsushi Hori

EXECUTIVE VP:
Norman K. Otani, Esq.

VP-PROM & EXAMS:
Ichiro Murakami

VP-COMPETITION:

VP-EDUCATION:
Yoshiteru Tagawa

TREASURER:
Tomoji Kato

SEC-HISTORIAN:
Yoshinobu Yonekawa

AUDITOR:
Masaharu Makino

DIRECTORS: *Arnold Matsuda Yuji*
Onitsuka Masashi
Shikai Shozo Kato
Shinichi Koike Maki
Miyahara Shinobu
Maeda Takeshi
Yamaguchi Charlie
Tanaka

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Report submitted by Atsushi Hon.

Greetings to all members and families of the All United States Kendo Federation {"AUSKF"}!

On the weekend of November 12 & 13, 2005, the newly elected 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors conducted their initial meeting and resulted in the election of the 2006-2008 AUSKF Officers [see list in column one].

As your newly elected 2006-2008 AUSKF President, I would like to say a few words about my personal kendo history and my thoughts about the future development of kendo in the United States.

When I first joined the national kendo organization in the United States thirty six years ago, the total kendo population was only about 800 kenshi. Today, as I begin to serve my first term in office, the current AUSKF membership is reported to be in excess of 4,000 kenshi.

This increased interest and growth of the kendo population in the United States has been due to the personal sacrifices and dedication of the many past AUSKF officers, board of directors, member federation leaders, dojo head instructors and supporting members, families, and friends. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of these persons from the bottom of my heart.

With this solid foundation to work from, I will pledge to work equally as hard as my predecessors, if not more so; and, together with the

and board of directors, member federation leaders, dojo head instructors, and the supporting members, families and friends, I want to continue the steady progress and momentum that has been built up to this date.

Lastly, it is my hope that through my own and others personal sense of responsibility and awareness, and with a spirit of harmony and cooperation, there will be several additional accomplishments made during my term of office, that will promote the further growth of the kendo population in the United States, and at the same time work towards making further improvements in the development of kendo in the United States.

So to this end, I am asking for everyone's continued support of the AUSKF in all of our future endeavors.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Atsushi Hori, AUSKF President
3041 S. Bristol
Santa Ana, CA. 92704 Tel.
(H): (714) 994-6344
Tel.(W): (714) 557-3282
FAX: (714) 557-1920
[e-mail: thehoris@usinter.net](mailto:thehoris@usinter.net)

Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Santa Clara, California: Reported by AUSKF Executive VP Norman K. Otani

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[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the November 12 & 13, 2005, AUSKF Board of Directors meeting, • the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification/

I. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Committee Report Update RE: Guidelines for Member Association.

Committee members [K. Ariga, T. Inoshita, and N. Otani] submitted for approval the updated proposed AUSKF PPG 4.00.00 through 4.06.00 as follows:

4.00.00 Guidelines for Member Association.

The following guidelines are to provide a standard of admission and criteria for the member association applicants.

4.01.00 Effective November 12, 2005, applications for Member Association will be accepted for review, utilizing the procedures as follows:

4.01.01 Each application for Member Association shall be submitted to the AUSKF President, with the following:

A. A roster listing the names of one hundred (100) or more members.

B. A non-refundable application fee consisting of the full payment of the equivalent of the AUSKF membership dues for each of the one hundred (100) or more members listed on the roster submitted.

C. If the submitted application for Member Association is denied; a subsequent application must follow all of the same procedural requirements set forth herein, including an additional non-refundable application fee.

4.01.02 After receipt of the application for Member Association, the AUSKF President will review the documents to ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in AUSKF PPG 4.01.01 above. If these requirements have been met, the application for Member Association will be immediately forwarded to the AUSKF Member Association Committee for further review, investigation, and a recommendation to the AUSKF President for approval or denial of the Application for Member Association.

4.01.03 Upon receipt of the recommendation of the AUSKF Member

Association Committee, the AUSKF President will make the pre-probationary period decision to approve the application for Member Association.

4.01.04 From the date of the pre-probationary decision by the AUSKF President to approve the application for Member Association, a one (1) year probation period shall then begin.

4.02.00 A new member association shall consist of a collective of organizations without regard to geographical location.

4.03.00 A new member association shall consist of at least five (5) distinct entities known as dojo, club, or any equivalent organization.

4.04.00 A new member association should have an aggregate population census of at least 100 individuals.

4.05.00 A new member association shall be placed on a one (1) year probationary period. During this one (1) year probationary period, the new member will NOT be able to conduct its own promotion examinations.

4.06.00 Following the beginning of the one (1) year probationary period for the new member association; the AUSKF President shall request the AUSKF Member Association Committee to investigate the new member association and make a recommendation for final approval at the next AUSKF board of directors meeting following the completion of the one (1) year probationary period.

Prior to considering approval of the updated proposed AUSKF PPG 4.00.00 through 4.06.00, the committee members reminded the AUSKF board of directors that on April 9, 2005 a "new" **AUSKF Promotion Examination Regulation Section 1. Article 14** was approved, as an adjunct matter to be followed by new Member Associations as follows:

Section 1. Regulations for Conducting Promotion Examinations.

Article 14. Effective 4/9/05, and henceforth, all individuals who belong to a new AUSKF member association approved to join the AUSKF and who have received a kendo rank which was not given by an authorized International Kendo Federation ("IKF") member federation country, shall be requested

to take a qualifying examination given at an AUSKF member federation or AUSKF promotion examination. These individuals will then be recommended for promotion by the qualified AUSKF member federation / AUSKF Examination Board.

If the individual in the above described circumstances decides not to take the qualifying examination; then, alternatively, the kendo rank of I-kyu will be the rank given to such individuals until taking the next AUSKF member federation / AUSKF promotion examination.

The individuals taking the qualifying examination given by the AUSKF member federation / AUSKF Examination Board, shall be given a recommended kendo rank and following payment of the AUSKF menjo fees a menjo with the new kendo rank will be issued.

If the previously granted kendo rank given by an unauthorized IKF member country is determined at the AUSKF member / AUSKF qualifying examination to be valid; the waiting period for the next kendo rank shall begin from the date of the initial granting of the kendo rank given by the unauthorized IKF member country.

After review of the above two matters, the board of directors approved the updated proposed PPG 4.00.00 through 4.06.00.

B. Develop and Propose Mission Statement.

Committee chairman Norman Otani requested additional time to research further ideas for the proposed AUSKF Mission Statement. Matter was tabled to the next meeting.

C. 13th WKC-Team U.S.A. Selection Process.

2003-2005 AUSKF Vice-President of Competition, Yoshiteru Tagawa reported on the following events:

(1.) 2005 AUSKF Championships. "This event was successfully held on July 2 & 3, 2005, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the University of Michigan.

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Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting: [continued]

C.13th WKC-Team U.S.A. Selection Process.

(1.) 2005 AUSKF Championships. [continued]

Results of the 2005 AUSKF Championships can be located on the AUSKF website: www.auskf.info

(2.) Final Kyoka **Senshu**. This event will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2006, at the Cabrillo High School, in Long Beach, California [Note: The venue previously announced was NOT available].

(3.) **Dates of the 13th WKC-Taipei, Taiwan** was confirmed as follows:
Friday: 12/8/06-Women Ind. Champ.
Saturday: 12/9/06=Men Ind. Champ.
Sunday: 12/10/06=Men Team Champ.

(4.) 13th WKC-Selection of Maximum ten (10) Men & Women Individual discussed; initial preliminary entry information has been submitted for Team USA.

(5.) Budget for Team U.S.A. -13th WKC. AUSKF Manager: Masashi Shikai submitted a proposal for approval of a Team USA Trainer. The board of directors approved the proposal submitted by Masashi Shikai; 13th WKC expenses for the Team USA Trainer will be treated the same as the Team USA members for travel expenses, meals, etc.

D. AUSKF Official Tie and Polo Shirt.

2003-2005 AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka reported that several AUSKF member federations [PNKF, SEUSKF, SCKF] lodged complaints regarding the previous Executive Order that each AUSKF member federation purchase a quota number of AUSKF Official Ties.

Upon further review by the 2006-2008 AUSKF board of directors, it was decided that a new plan will be

recommended to all AUSKF Member Federations as follows:

A. While current supplies last the AUSKF Official Ties will be sold for the recently reported cost of \$15.00 per tie. Orders can be made by contacting:

Ichiro Murakami
4305 Mountain Shadow Dr.
Whittier, CA. 90601

[e-mail: ichiro_kendo@earthlink.net](mailto:ichiro_kendo@earthlink.net) [Note: AUSKF Member Federations that already purchased the AUSKF Official Ties at the original price of \$35.00 per tie, will be sent additional ties to makeup the amount overpaid]

B. Previously purchased AUSKF Polo Shirt [for sale at the 2005 AUSKF Championships] supplies were also reviewed. The 2006-2008 AUSKF board of directors approved a new plan: "**while current supplies last**" the AUSKF Member Federations, dojos, or individuals can purchase an AUSKF Polo Shirt for the at cost price of \$25.00 per polo shirt. Orders for the polo shirt should be made to: Ichiro Murakami [see contact information in section A. above].

E. AUSKF Data Base Project & ID Cards.

Tim Yuge submitted a written progress report dated 1118105, which was reviewed by the 2006-2008 AUSKF board of directors. This report explained that Phase I involved the initial issuance of ID cards for each member, then, in Phase 2 additional data collection, photos, etc., will be needed to develop the data base part of the project.

Some of the AUSKF member federation representatives [present as a current 2006-2008 AUSKF board of director] received supplies of printed AUSKF ID cards. For those AUSKF member federations not represented as a current 2006-2008 AUSKF board of director, the AUSKF ID card supplies *will* be sent to them by Tim Yuge.

Discussion was held regarding the limited information currently shown on the

AUSKF ID cards issued by Tim Yuge as of November 12, 2005; and, questions were raised as to the budgeted costs in Phase 2 for data entry, etc.

No further action was taken on this matter, as of this date.

F. Koushinkan [Yale Kendo Club] Proposal to Establish AUSKF Collegiate Kendo Federation.

Show Kato reported that there have been no further discussions regarding this agenda item with Koushinkan [Yale Kendo Club].

2003-2005 AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka recommended that as there does not appear to be any further progress being made, this matter will be taken off of the old business agenda, unless there is a future new proposal.

G. 2005 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp.

Koki Ariga, 2003-2005 AUSKF Education VP reported that the 2005 AUSKF Summer Camp event took place on July 22-24, 2005 in Covington, Kentucky.

In addition, it was reported that two(2) AJKF sensei: Eiji Taguchi sensei [8 dan, Hanshi] and Fumio Kubota sensei [8 dan, Kyoshi] were the 2005 AUSKF Summer Camp guest instructors; further, the event was reported to be a successful learning experience for all participating kendoists.

H. 2005 AUSKF laido Summer Camp.

Takeshi Yamaguchi, AUSKF laido Committee Chairman provided a written report [including the financial report] for the 2005 AUSKF laido Summer Camp which was held on Thursday, September 29, 2005 to Sunday, October 2, 2005 at the Charles Wilson Park Gymnasium in Torrance, California.

Two (2) AJKF laido sensei: Sadanori Ueno sensei 8dan Hanshi, and Kiyofusa Takeda sensei were the guest instructors of the event

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Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting: [continued]

H. 2005 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp[continued]:

A total of 98 participants attended the camp, which consisted of a two-day seminar, the 2005 AUSKF Iaido Tournament, and a promotional examination.

I. 2005 IKF Kitamoto Foreigner's Summer Kendo Camp Report.

2003-2005 AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka reported that the two AUSKF participants selected to attend the 2005 IKF Kitamoto Foreigner's Summer Kendo Camp were:

- Michael Quinn: SEUSKF
- Isabella Church: GNEUSKF

J. 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors Election Report.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive VP reported that the previously approved **record date and subsequent election** procedure timelines were followed for the purpose of the 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors election which resulted in **successfully electing the seventeen** (17) 2006-2008 AUSKF **Board** of Directors [see list on page one, column one].

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Election of 2006-2008 AUSKF Officers:

Following the nominations, seconded nomination, and secret ballot election procedure; the following 2006-2008 AUSKF Officers were elected:

- .\tsushi Iiori.....President
- Norman OtaniExecutive VP
- Yoshiteru Tagawa..... VP-Education
- Ichiro Murakami VP-Promotions
- Koki Ariga VP-Competition 1

- Yoshinobu Yonekawa.... Sec.-Historian
- Tomoji Kato Treasurer
- Masaharu Makino Auditor

B. 2006-2008 AUSKF Committee Assignments:

1. Budget-Finance Committee:
Tomoji Kato, Chairman
Masaharu Makino, Member
2. Competition Committee:
Koki Ariga, Chairman
Masachi Shikai, Member
Arnold Matsuda, Member
3. Promotion Committee:
Ichiro Murakami, Chairman
Yoshinobu Yonekawa, Member
Shinichi Koike, Member
4. Education Committee:
Yoshiteru Tagawa, Chairman
Masaharu Makino, Member
Yuji Onitsuka, Member
Shinobu Maeda, Member
5. Iaido Committee:
Takeshi Yamaguchi, Chairman
Shozo Kato, Member
Tatsuhiko Konno, Member
6. Development Committee:
Norman Otani, Chairman
Ichiro Murakami, Member
Richard Hill, Member

C. AUSKF Liability Insurance Policy.

Prior to the discussion regarding this agenda item; the current AUSKF Liability Insurance carrier: INVENSURE, sent a representative: Ms. Carole Bradford, to make an oral presentation regarding the provisions of the current policy effective 7/1/05, audit procedures, etc.

Atsushi Hori, 2006-2008 AUSKF President appointed Masaharu Makino as the "new" AUSKF Liability Insurance Coordinator.

Due to the amount currently being paid by AUSKF members for the secondary medical coverage [as part of the per

member premium charged to the AUSKF], a review of the past medical claims, was requested to determine whether or not this type of coverage is needed by the AUSKF members; if found to not be needed, AUSKF will compare the current premium paid per member by the AUSKF for the yearly liability insurance coverage [without the medical expense premium] with other comparable martial arts liability insurance companies and the premium that they would assess the AUSKF per member for the required amount of liability insurance coverage currently required.

D. Annual Disney Martial Arts Festival: AUSKF Championships Venue.

Prior to this agenda item being discussed; Mr. Andy Ching, was introduced by Dr. Walter Hashimoto [2003-2005 AUSKF Auditor and 2003-2005 AUSKF board of director] to make an oral presentation as the representative of the Annual Disney Martial Arts Festival that has been held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida; this venue was proposed as a possible location to host a future AUSKF Championships, etc.

Mr. Ching reported that for the past seven (7) years the Disney Corporation has initiated a division named Disney Sports which has developed attractions within the larger consortium called Disney Entertainment Group.

To assist the 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors to understand the organization structure of Disney, Mr. Ching further elaborated and explained that the Disney Entertainment Group owns all of the Disney theme parks throughout the world [Japan, France, China/Hong Kong, and USA], owns its own cable television network [Disney Channel], and other time share properties.

The Disney Sports division did not begin to attract the attention of the Disney Entertainment Group officials until the unfortunate event of 9/11; due to the public fears of air travel, etc., the attendance at the Disney theme parks was

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Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting: [continued]

D. Annual Disney Martial Arts Festival: AUSKF Championships Venue: [continued]

dismal, so there was a new focus taken towards the Disney Sports division during the past three years. As a result, the current Disney CEO and executives are very much in support of Disney Sports.

Currently, the Disney Sports division has made agreements with sports groups such as the NCAA, AAU, etc., and each of the national sports groups is working in conjunction with the Disney Sports Commission.

Notwithstanding the corporate nature of the Disney Sports division, Mr. Ching emphasized that the Disney Sports Division is a very *traditional* based organization that follows the original Walt Disney philosophy that *Disney* projects be family oriented.

In addition, Mr. Ching stated that the Disney Sports division is more interested in promoting a lesser known individual or entity and help them to become more of a household name in the United States and to serve as mentors to children, than to take on an already well known popular individual or group and make them more famous.

From this understanding, Mr. Ching went on to explain that the Disney Sports division is interested in the amateur level of participants and for this reason has made the Disney Medal the most prized award that the participants compete for during the annual Disney Martial Arts Festival, held in Orlando, Florida.

To begin to develop a relationship with the Disney Sports division, Mr. Ching has had to navigate the Disney corporate structure in order to learn the many tiers of the organization, and the specific protocols that are mandated in order to use the Disney logo, icons, etc.

The specific details of the Disney Martial Arts Festival held in Orlando, Florida, includes the current four (4) year contract [through 2009] with two individual coordinators. Due to their earlier success, the Disney Sports division has now mandated that new sports groups/participants be expanded nationwide, and not limited to the East Coast.

Mr. Andy Ching is now a consultant for the Disney Sports division to assist in the development of new sports groups during the next three to four years. As an example of a recent sports group that Mr. Ching has helped to develop and build a relationship with Disney Sports, it was mentioned that the *traditional* French sport of Savate and their national federation in the United States recently completed an agreement with Disney Sports and will begin participation in 2006.

In general, a new sports group that makes an agreement with the Disney Sports division, includes participation in two annual events; the January Disney Martial Arts Qualifier Festival and culminating in the October Disney Martial Arts Festival held in Orlando, Florida. *Alternatively, a separate agreement can be made to hold a national tournament event, if this is what the new sports group is interested in doing.* The details of these agreements are worked out with a designated coordinator for the new sports group, and a committee made up of Disney Sports division staff.

At the end of the presentation by Mr Ching, an invitation was extended to the AUSKF Board of Directors to have a kendo demonstration at Disneyland on the weekend of January 6-7, 2006, if the AUSKF Board of Directors approves of exploring and expressing an interest in being considered as a new sports group for Disney Sports.

The AUSKF Board of Directors held further discussion about the Disney Sports ideas presented by Andy Ching; subsequently a motion was approved to

send a Letter of Interest and to have a kendo demonstration at the January 6-7, 2006 Disneyland Martial Arts Festival.

Charlie Tanaka was designated as the AUSKF liaison to meet with Andy Ching to discuss the above matters further.

E. SEUSKF: Assault on Michael Meade by Frank Nieves, Jr.

A copy of the letter dated 8/22/05, sent to 2003-2005 AUSKF President Charlie Tanaka by individuals: Michael Meade and Lewis Murphy, was provided to all of the 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors for review.

AUSKF board of director, Shinobu Maeda stated that this matter was initially reviewed and recommendations and directives made to the affected SEUSKF individual members by James Parker, SEUSKF President. In addition, Mr. Maeda explained that this matter is being overseen on an ongoing basis by James Parker, SEUSKF President and other SEUSKF officials to ensure that there is a clear understanding that the alleged conduct that occurred between the affected individual members of SEUSKF will not be tolerated and if repeated will result in possible recommendation for expulsion from all SEUSKF kendo activities, etc.

After further discussion, a motion was approved to leave this matter to be resolved by the SEUSKF, and no further AUSKF involvement was needed at this time.

F. Committee Reports:

(1.) Budget-Finance Committee report.

Masaharu Makino, 2003-2005 AUSKF Treasurer, submitted the year end financial report for the period ending 10/10/05.

It was recommended that the AUSKF Board of Directors change the fiscal year to a calendar year from January 1/December 31, as this would eliminate a separate financial report currently done

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Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting: [continued]

F. Committee Reports:

(1.) Budget-Finance Committee report [continued]

from the end of the current fiscal period to December 31. [Note: The result of approval of this change, would be that the AUSKF financial report for the end of each year would NOT be received until the Spring, Annual Meeting of the AUSKF board of directors]. A motion was made and approved to change the AUSKF fiscal year to the calendar year effective 1/1/06.

(2.) Competition Committee report.

Koki Ariga, 2006-2008 AUSKF Vice-President-Competition reported that the committee members agreed on the following:

1. 2006 AUSKF Shimpan Seminars will be held in two(2) venues:

- A. Western Region.
Tent. Date: 3/19/06
- B. Eastern Region.
Tent. Date: 9/23/06

2. Final Kyoka Senshu to be held on 1/14/06, will be jointly coordinated by Yoshiteru Tagawa, 2003-2005 AUSKF VP-Competition and Koki Ariga, to ensure continuity, etc.

(3.) Promotion Committee report.

Ichiro Murakami, 2006-2008 AUSKF Vice-President Promotion & Examinations reported that the committee members agreed on the following:

1. New AUSKF Promotion Application Form will be developed.
2. Efforts will be made to develop consistent promotion examination standards for the promotion examination board examiners; one idea is to begin reviewing the promotion board examiners evaluation sheets completed by each

examiner..

(4.) Education Committee report.

Yoshiteru Tagawa, 2006-2008, AUSKF Vice-President-Education reported that the committee members agreed on the following:

1. Proposed date for the 2006 AUSKF Summer Camp is: June 23-25, 2006, to be held in Northern California.

2. Education Tour Program was introduced for implementation in 2006:

- A. Spring-2006: Georgia, Texas, Colorado, Southern California.
- B. Autumn-2006: North East, New York, Midwest, Central U.S., PNWKF, NCKF.

Budget and other details need to be finalized.

(5.) Iaido Committee report.

Takeshi Yamaguchi, AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman reported there are four (4) proposed locations being reviewed for the 2006 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp.

(6.) Development Committee report.

Norman K. Otani, AUSKF Executive Vice-President distributed a Development Committee report updating the current projects under his responsibility: 1. AUSKF Newsletter, 2. AUSKF Archives, AUSKF Hall of Fame & AUSKF Oral History Project; 3. AUSKF Website; 4. Marketing and Advertising; 5. Policy and Procedures Guidelines; 6. AUSKF Office & Part-time Staff Person.

G. Other:

1. Charlie Tanaka, 2003-2005 AUSKF President requested that the 2006-2008 AUSKF Board of Directors consider modifying the past resolution regarding the amount to be reimbursed by the AUSKF for the AUSKF board of directors travel expenses.

Discussion was held regarding the higher

air travel expense to and from the East Coast regions of the United States; in addition, discussion was held regarding those AUSKF board of directors who travel by automobile to attend the AUSKF board of directors meetings.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to modify the previous AUSKF Board of Directors Resolution for Reimbursement of travel expenses to attend AUSKF Board of Directors Meetings as follows:

1. Up to maximum of \$800.00 will be reimbursed for travel expenses for an AUSKF board of director to attend a bi-annual board of directors meeting [Note: This does NOT include any 1st Class air travel tickets; but, does include round trip air travel, hotel accommodations, airport parking, taxi's to the hotel, and for automobile travel, rate of \$.40 per mile].

2. 14th WKC-America Zone Host Country Needed.

Charlie Tanaka, 2003-2005 AUSKF President reported that the Hawaii Kendo Federation has decided NOT to host the 14th WKC.

After further discussion, it was decided to recommend that the Canadian Kendo Federation host the 14th WKC in Vancouver, as the United States was the host of the 11th WKC in 2000.

3. Promotion Regulations Under 1-kyu.

Tim Yuge submitted an e-mail agenda item to review the current AUSKF Promotion Regulations regarding the kendo ranks of 2-kyu and below.

This matter was referred to Ichiro Murakami, 2006-2008 AUSKF VP-Promotion & Examinations for further review and follow-up.

H. Spring, 2006-AUSKF Board of Directors meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the date

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Highlights from the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting: [continued]
H. Spring, 2006-AUSKF Board of Directors meeting. [continued]

and location of the Spring, 2006-AUSKF Board of Directors meeting. Proposed date was April 8 & 9, 2006 [pursuant to the AUSKF by-laws Article VII, Section 2].

Possible locations of the Spring 2006-AUSKF Board of Directors meeting mentioned, included Tennessee, Georgia, and, Florida.

Due to conflicting events planned on April 8 & 9, 2006, it was decided that the **date of the Spring, 2006 AUSKF board of directors meeting will be held on April 1 & 2, 2006.**

The proposed location was Orlando, Florida, and, if possible to coordinate the location with the Disney Sports organization, so that the AUSKF board of directors can get a first hand tour of the Disney Wide World of Sports facilities, etc.

From VP-Competition:

Report submitted by Koki Ariga..

Final Kyoka Senshu and the related 13th WKC events information is reported in the **Highlights of the November 12 & 13, 2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting** section of this newsletter.

If there are any additional questions about competition matters, please contact: Koki

Ariga
223 S. Plum
Troy, OH. 45373
PH: (937) 335-7417
Work: (937) 339-0212, ext. 111 E-mail: kariga@fandp.com

From VP-Prom & Exams:

Report submitted by Ichiro Murakami. See

Highlights of the November 12 &

13.2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting section of this newsletter for promotion committee report, etc.

If there are any questions about AUSKF Promotion and Examination matters

please contact:

Ichiro Murakami
4305 Mountain Shadow Dr.
Whittier, CA.90601 PH:
(562) 692-4943 FAX: (562)
463-3604

E-mail: ichiro kendo@earthlink.net

Report From VP-Education:

Report submitted by Yoshiteru Tagawa.

See **Highlights of the November 12 & 13.2005 AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting** section of this newsletter for education committee report, etc.

Yoshiteru Tagawa
41444 Fawn Trail Novi,
MI. 48375-4813 PH:
(248) 349-5209 FAX:
(248) 349-9718

E-mail: duke@twmi.rr.com

Report From Treasurer:

Report submitted by Tomoji Kato.

For any questions regarding the 2006 AUSKF Membership Dues, AUSKF treasury matters, etc., please contact:

Tomoji Kato, AUSKF Treasurer
35402 Wyse Rd. Agua Dulce, CA.
91390 PH: (661) 268-0672 E-mail: tmkato@earthlink.net

REGIONAL MEMBER'S NEWS:

1. Report from the Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation, submitted by: Tom Bolling, Recording Secretary 7318 23rd Avenue N.E., Seattle, WA. 98115.
See PNKF's *Kenyu* online at:
<http://www.kendo-pnkf.org/news/kenyu.phtml>

2. Report from Southwest Kendo & Iaido Federation; submitted by Steve Sasaki.

2006-2007 Election Results:
Carl West President
Mark Uchida Vice-president Russell
Ichimura VP-Education Steven
Sasaki VP-Promotions Charlie
Howell Treasurer
T.K. Gwin Executive Secretary
Howard Fuerst Historian

IAIDO NEWS:

Report submitted by Takeshi Yamaguchi.

See Highlights of the November 12 & 13.2005 AUSKF Board of Directors

eating section of this newsletter regarding iaido event updates.

Any additional questions regarding iaido matters contact:

Takeshi Yamaguchi, Iaido Comm. Chr.
13434 E. Reis
Whittier, CA. 90605
PH: (562) 693-0088

E-mail: kendotiger@earthlink.net

International Kendo Federation IIKFI News:

1. Charlie Tanaka 2003-2005 AUSKF President will attend the IKF meeting to be held on December 8 & 9, 2005 in Taipei, Taiwan.

Thereafter, Atsushi Hon, 2006-2008 AUSKF President will attend the December, 2006 IKF General Assembly meeting, and is recommended for election as one of the IKF America Zone directors.

2. IKF North America Zone Referee Seminar will be held on March 25 & 26, 2006 in Toronto, Canada. Interested kendoists should submit names to Atsushi Hori, 2006-2008 AUSKF President, by DEADLINE DATE: 1/30/06.

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AUSKF WEBSITE:

Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster.

AUSKF website is located at:

html://www.auskf.info.

Please send any changes in dojo address, contact person, etc., to: Richard Hill, AUSKF Webmaster at: e-mail address: rhill@nckf.org

OTHER KENDO RELATED NEWS/INFORMATION:

I. GUEST AUTHOR:

Tom Bolling, PNKF Recording Secretary and Editor of Kenyu, recently authored an article about AUSKF sensei, Rod Omoto, 7 Dan. This article was featured in the November-December, 2004 Issue of Kendo Nippon Monthly Magazine, and with permission of the author will be reprinted in the AUSKF Newsletter, in several parts.

Part three:

KENDO GIVES LIFE

"This reminded me of Naito Takaharu Sensei, the first Head Sensei of Busen. I remember reading Kensei Naito Takaharu Sensei by Takaoka Kenji. On page 20, I highlighted it that said that Budo Ka should not have any desire for wealth. If you want to be rich, take another profession Naito Sensei lived by this example. "

"I also read in a story of 'Takasebune' by Mori Ogai, introduction and translation by Kikuoka Tadashi, in The East Magazine, Vol. 37.4 November / December 2001. This story reminded me of 'Katsu Jin Ken' which is always in my mind and Naito Sensei's attitude of a Budo Ka "

One of the phrases every student of Omoto Sensei's has heard many times is "Katsu An Ken," the sword that gives life. Omoto Sensei contrasts the Katsu 1 in Ken with Satsu Jin Ken, the sword that kills. For Omoto Sensei, the ethical implications of Kendo are what the art is really about.

TRADITIONS AND LINEAGE'S

When Omoto Sensei was studying in the pre-war and immediate post-war period, essentially all teachers were first and foremost practitioners of some RyuHa or particular ancient lineage of Kendo. For example, Naito Takaharu Sensei and Ogawa Kinnosuke Sensei were in the Hokkushin Itto Ryu, while Takano Sasaburo Sensei was in the Ono Ha Itto Ryu, Nakayama Hakudo Sensei was Shinto Munen Ryu, Miura Kenji Sensei was Hold Ryu, and so on. Omoto Sensei explains that he had a clear sense of the signature or stamp of various RyuHa showing through into their standard Dai Nippon Butokukai or Zen Nihon Kendo Renmei Kendo.

KENDO IS COMPOSURE

One day a student asked Omoto Sensei if a certain thing had surprised him. In a very simple and matter-of-fact way he replied "Things don't surprise me."

"Like Oka Sensei used to say, 'So far so good' That means a lot to me because, since the Japanese Army experiences, where I escaped close to death situations several times, and especially the Atomic Bomb! Therefore, from the Atomic Bomb on, everything is BONUS to me. I am a very fortunate person "

HIROSHIMA SURVIVOR

Ogawa Kinnosuke Sensei had arranged to have Omoto Sensei's military obligation deferred each year, but as the war became worse, the situation at Busen suffered. Omoto Sensei's classmates scattered, blown by the winds of war. Their ties were strong, and a few, such as Kendo Hanshi 9th Dan Horigome Keizo, are still in touch with Omoto Sensei to this day. But by 1942, the school was closed, all the teachers had been drafted, and Omoto Sensei was drafted too.

Omoto Sensei's professional training from Ogawa Sensei and Busen was utilized and soon Second Lieutenant Omoto was teaching Kendo and Jukendo in the Japanese Imperial Army.

By the summer of 1945, Omoto Sensei was commander of a four-truck company whose mission was hauling logs from Shikoku to build fortifications. Hunger and starvation were widespread, but he and the men had a place to hide food at the farmers who befriended them. They heard that the war was over, and that there had been a "Pikadon" flash bomb but they didn't believe it. When they arrived at Hiroshima there were flies all over the place and it was a living hell. He said goodbye to the other men, and walked to Kure, about 50 miles from there. As he approached Kure there were some people who had survived the bomb living in makeshift huts. Omoto Sensei says, "I was in perfect shock - I can't say 'Kendo spirit.'"

[To be continued in next issue]

AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Norman K. Otani, Esq., Editor

*Future news items for the next issue to be published on or about May, 2006, can be submitted to my e-mail address:
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