



Pacific Jujitsu Alliance

Newsletter – August 2011

Message from Professor Bob McKean

Where did the summer go? Jill and I have been busy with family and PJA friends visiting all summer long. We usually take out of area family and friends on a jet boat dinner ride down the Rogue River. This summer we have been on that jet boat ride three times. It is a beautiful trip and we never get tired of it or the great food.

Since the last PJA newsletter we have had the 2011 Summer Gathering and the 2011 KITW. I have taught several Shingun No Maki classes and we have been developing a basic dojo massage course. Please check out the newsletter for more details.

I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful summer. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you on the mat in the near future.

Stay safe.

Professor Bob McKean

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Recent Additions to the PJA

Congratulations to PJA member Isaac Leija who tested and was promoted to PJA nidan just before the 2011 KITW weekend.

Sensei Robert Kunkel is our newest PJA school head. Sensei Kunkel holds the rank of DZR yodan and is the head of Quiet Storm Jujitsu in Niagara Falls, New York. He is also a past "survivor" of KITW. Welcome aboard Sensei Kunkel.

I would also like to welcome Alfred Harris to the PJA. Alfred is a student of Sensei Robert Kunkel and has been recognized by the PJA as a DZR shodan.

2011 KITW – Update on the 2012 & 2013 KITW

The 18th Annual KITW was attended by thirty-eight warriors, all willing to learn and not afraid to get sweaty, dirty and bruised. Twelve were first timers, eleven were instructors and fifteen were past course survivors. Like most years, we had our share of minor cuts, scrapes and bruises but no major injuries. During the past 18 annual KITW events we have not had a serious injury occur. Our safety record is due to the quality of the students attending, the instructor/student ratio, required safety equipment and the enforcement of safety rules.

A couple of long time KITW survivors received special recognition this year. Brandon Johnson was promoted to KITW Advanced Instructor and Dan Butler and Kevin Osborne were promoted to KITW Basic Instructor. The KITW instructor ranks now include four Master Instructors, six Advanced Instructors and six Basic Instructors.

We are working on the dates for the 2012 KITW. This is the last KITW before our 20th anniversary in 2013. The 2013 KITW will only be open to alumni – no new (first time) attendees will be accepted for the 2013 KITW.

The 2013 KITW will not be like our traditional intensive boot camp type of training. All of you have already been through that – some of you several times. The 2013 KITW training will focus on reviewing and perfecting the forward and reverse grip cuts, target selection, knife against unarmed and knife attacks, sentry take outs, Apache drills, feeding drills and combat self first aid for knife injuries. More information will be coming.

For information about 2012 KITW, contact Sensei Robbin Miller at (707) 464-5632 or randsmiller@frontier.com

Summer Gathering June 18 – 19, 2011

The Summer Gathering at the Medford Judo Academy in Phoenix, Oregon was once again a fun and well attended event. Professor Larry Nolte was this year's lead instructor along with PJA black belts Kevin Colton, Troy Shehorn and Dominic Beltrami. The two day event focused on bo, hanbo, tessen, yawara stick, knife and gun defenses. 30 students were in attendance this year, including 15 PJA black belts.

PJA member Jesse Ellis hosted a great BBQ at his home in Central Point. No one went away hungry. A few people were introduced to plum sake for the first time. What goes on at the Summer Gathering stays at the Summer Gathering.

If you missed this years event, not to worry. We are planning on doing it again next year.

An article written by PJA member Eric Sores about the 2011 Summer Gathering will appear in the American Judo & Jujitsu Federation summer edition of the Kiai Echo.

New for 2012

Basic Dojo Massage Course

Course Director: Sensei Robert Korody, M.S. P.T. L.Ac.
NYS licensed Physical Therapist, Acupuncturist,
practitioner and instructor of Okazaki massage.

Professor Henry S. Okazaki developed a unique system of martial and healing arts. His students would often exchange a basic dojo massage with their training partners at the end of class. Today there are not many Danzan Ryu schools that still practice the exchange of massages between students at the end of a workout. The Basic Dojo Massage Course has been designed to teach the basic fundamentals and principles of the Okazaki massage method so this practice can once again be part of the dojo curriculum.

Some of the Okazaki massage programs currently being offered are often financially prohibitively due to high registration fees, time commitment and travel expenses. The Pacific Jujitsu Alliance is offering a shorter and less expensive version of the Okazaki massage which can be learned in a weekend and applied immediately in the dojo. The course was designed to vastly simplify instruction in anatomy, physiology, history and theory. It has been specifically designed for those interested in learning and practicing basic massage for use in the dojo and on friends and family.

The Basic Dojo Massage Course is not intended to replace the Okazaki massage programs currently being offered by the American Judo & Jujitsu Federation, the Kilohana Martial Arts Association and other Danzan Ryu organizations. Course participants wishing to further their personal knowledge and training will be encouraged to enroll in these other programs. It is hoped that interest in this course will prompt many to do so.

Participation will require the commitment of a full weekend, usually a Friday night and all day Saturday and Sunday (approx. 18 hours). The course will be open to the Danzan Ryu community and their family members. School heads are strongly encouraged to attend. Fees for the weekend will be as nominal as possible (approx. \$50) and collected only to cover expenses incurred by the course instructor. This is not intended to be a money making venture nor the cost of participation to be a detriment.

A certification of course participation will be issued upon the successful completion of the course hours. NOTE: The Basic Dojo Massage Course is not certified for continuing education units (CEU's) and may not be applied towards meeting local or state massage license requirements. Course dates and locations will be made available in the near future. If you have any questions about the Basic Dojo Massage Course please contact: Sensei Robert Korody at robertkorody@gmail.com or Professor Bob McKean at cop2rn@aol.com

Shingin No Maki

By: Professor McKean

I have started teaching full courses on Shingin No Maki to select members of the PJA. In the past I have only taught this course to my advanced black belt students. The Shingin No Maki course I teach was passed onto me by my sensei, Professor Bill Montero, and in turn I am teaching it to others in the same manner.

There have been a few outside comments made about me teaching Shingin No Maki. I want to set the record straight. I only teach this course to two students at a time. Shingin No Maki is not traditionally taught to a large group of students at one time. Those selected to attend my course, who are not my direct students, must first obtain permission from their sensei to attend. I invite attendees in person and not by a mass invitation mailing. I teach what was given to me by Professor Montero and not a hodgepodge of techniques that supposedly came from different students of Professor Okazaki. The only fee associated with taking my Shingin No Maki course is for the cost of a notebook each student receives. I will not prostitute the arts of Danzan Ryu. I do not believe it is ethical or honorable for a Danzan Ryu professor to charge large sums of money to a large group of students to take a Shingin No Maki course.

Shingin No Maki is not a “secret” list of arts. It is another list, or board, of arts that Professor Okazaki put at the end of his ryu. The secret of Shingin No Maki is in how it is taught and how it is integrated into the other boards of Danzan Ryu.

I recently released a DVD showing the arts of Shingin No Maki as taught by Professor Montero. This DVD only demonstrates the basic use of each of the arts. What is not taught or shown on this DVD is how each art is integrated into the others arts of Danzan Ryu.

If you have any questions about Shingin No Maki please feel free to contact me.

PJA and KITW Facebook

We now have a Facebook page that you might be interested in. PJA member Brandon Hamlet is the administrator of PJA/KITW. If you are not already a PJA/KITW friend, please, submit a request to join us. PJA/KITW is a restricted page that is specifically for PJA members and KITW course survivors.

PJA Website

Check out www.pacificjujitsualliance.com to see the most recent PJA rank promotions, new articles, updated calendar of events and the newest DVDs that are now available.