# N E W S

## AUSKF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 16 No. 2 October 28, 2013

**KENDO** 

### FIK Reminder and Reports on 2013 AUSKF Events

2012-2014 OFFICERS:

<u>PRESIDENT:</u> Arthur I. Murakami <u>EXECUTIVE VP:</u> Jeff Marsten

VP-PROM & EXAMS:

Yoshiteru Tagawa VP-COMPETITION:

Tim Yuge VP-EDUCATION:

Shozo Kato
TREASURER:

Tsuyoshi Inoshita

SEC-HISTORIAN:

Norman K. Otani, Esq.

AUDITOR:

Court Tanouye RECORDER:

Shinichi Koike

LIABILITY INS.

<u>COORD.</u> (Interim)

Tim Yuge IAIDO:

Shozo Kato

2012-2014
DIRECTORS:
Christopher Yang, Esq.
Yuji Onitsuka
Shinobu Maeda
Atsushi Hori
Tomoji Kato
Robert Souder

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings to all members of the All United States Kendo Federation, and their families.

I have noted that in the recent few years, there has been an increase in the number of AUSKF kendo & iaido sensei being recognized and invited to go to other FIK (International Kendo Federation) countries to give seminars and to act as judges for shinkyu shinsa. This is a great honor for those AUSKF kendo & iaido sensei who are requested and receive such invitations. However, I want to **REMIND** those kendo & iaido sensei receiving these invitations to remember that it is the current FIK (International Kendo Federation) policy that the AUSKF and All Japan Kendo Federation (AJKF) be notified of such invitations before accepting to do them.

I would also like to acknowledge that many of the previous 15<sup>th</sup> WKC-Team USA members, have worked very hard in leadership roles to plan for the 4<sup>th</sup> AUSKF Jr. Open National Championships. Through these efforts the many children/youth practicing kendo in our fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations, will be able to compete in this event and be qualified to become future WKC Team USA members and ultimately become future kendo instructors.

Due to the late publication of this issue of the AUSKF Newsletter; the 4<sup>th</sup> AUSKF Junior Open National

Championships already has been successfully held on Sunday, June 23, 2013 at the Coronado High School venue in Henderson, Nevada. Congratulations to all the youth kendoists who competed and an extra congratultions to those who received medals for their successful results [see details inside this newsletter].

In addition, as noted above, due to the late publication date of this issue of the AUSKF Newsletter, the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp was also already successfully held in Council Bluffs, Iowa on June 27-30, 2013 [see details inside this AUSKF newsletter].

On August 30-September 1, 2013, the 2013 AUSKF Kendo Summer Camp and Kodansha Shinsa was also held in Cleveland, Ohio. I believe that many of the AUSKF kendo sensei who attended this annual kendo training event will enable them to make kendo in the USA stronger. In recent years, the AUSKF has recognized that the kenshi worldwide are getting better and stronger. For this reason; I encourage our AUSKF kendoists and sensei to practice hard together so that we are able to maintain the world class recognition achieved by the AUSKF over the past several years.

Lastly, please e-mail or write to me any suggestions or ideas to improve AUSKF operations and these will be reviewed at the next AUSKF board of directors meeting in November 2013.

Sincerely,

Arthur I. Murakami, AUSKF President \*Note: "new"e-mail address:

ichiro.kendo@yahoo.com

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Highlights from the April 13 & 14, 2013, AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Santa Clara, California.

Reported by Norman K. Otani, 2012-2014 AUSKF Secretary-Historian.

[Note: This report is being made pending the approval of the minutes of the April 13 & 14, 2013 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting; the reader is forewarned that this information is subject to modification]

#### I. OLD BUSINESS:

A. AUSKF Liability Insurance [Update]: (1.) Previously an additional laibility insurance coverage for the AUSKF board of directors and officers {"D & O"] at a cost of \$50 per individual director and officer was approved and was pending completion of the application, etc. It was reported that this D & O liability insurance coverage was no longer available to the AUSKF at this time, by the previous AUSKF liability insurance provider. (2.) Discussion was held about the recent decision to terminate the AUSKF liability insurance policy effective 4/1/13, with the previous provider and the efforts made to locate a new AUSKF liability insurance provider. Although there was ongoing communication with an interested liability insurance provider; due to the urgency of the immediate needs of the AUSKF member federations, dojos and members to have liability insurance coverage to continue current kendo classes, etc.; it was decided to review on a day-by-day basis to make a diligent effort to obtain a AUSKF liability insurance policy ASAP. An e-mail notice would be sent by the AUSKF President, to the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations to advise that there was currently no AUSKF liability insurance coverage effective 4/1/13. Also, this e-mail notice would include an advisement that if there was any urgent requirement for liability insurance coverage by any of the fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations/dojos, a separate temporary liability insurance policy was recommended to be obtained by the AUSKF member federation/doio, and the AUSKF agreed to provide reimbursement of these temporary costs to the affected AUSKF member federations/dojos, pending the AUSKF obtaining a new liability insurance policy.

B. Report on the 2013 FIK Shinpan seminar.

It was reported that on March 9 & 10, 2013, the FIK held the America Zone FIK Shinpan Seminar, hosted by the AUSKF-GNEUSKF in Annandale, Virginia. The guest AJKF instructors were: Chief Instructor: Taizan Shimano sensei, 8 dan Hanshi, Takao Fujiwara sensei, 8 dan Hanshi, and Norio Ohsawa sensei, 8 dan Kyoshi. For future FIK America Zone Shinpan seminars hosted by the AUSKF; it was suggested that the AUSKF member federations provide the basic training regarding shinpan duties, so that the FIK Shinpan seminars hosted by the AUSKF can then cover more advanced shinpan topics in the future trainings.

#### C. Committee Action Items:

- (1.) Budget/Finance: The 12/31/12 end-of-year financial report was presented and approved.
  - (a.) Microsoft Office 365 [update]
- AUSKF board of directors and officers have now been provided a password, for view only capability of the information now available in the AUSKF Virtual office.

#### (2.) Education:

- (a.) 2012 AUSKF Education Tour-Western Region [November 30-December 10]. It was reported that Yuji Nakata sensei 8 dan Hanshi, former Vice-Chief Instructor of Tokyo Metropolitan Police was a success. The tour covered seven (7) AUSKF member federations [PNKF, NCKF, SWKIF, SUSKIF, CCKF, SCKF and SCKO].
- (b.) December 8-15, 2012 AJKF Champion Tour. It was reported that Susumu Takanabe sensei, 6 dan Renshi, [2010 and 2011 AJKF Champion] was wll received in the six (6) AUSKF member federations visited [AEUSKF, EUSKF, GNEUSKF, SEUSKF, ECUSKF and MWKF].
- c. ) November 30-December 1, the AUSKF Mentor Program was utilized to conduct the MWKF Iaido Seminar led by Tatsuhiko Konno sensei, Iaido 7 dan Kyoshi and Pam Parker sensei, Iaido 6 dan

Renshi; this event was held in Fargo, North Dakota (Agassiz Dojo).

(d.) The 1<sup>st</sup> AUSKF Iaido Education Tour

was held on February 1-10, 2013. It was reported that Chihiro Kishimoto sensei, Iaido, 8 dan Hanshi and Kendo, 7 dan Kyoshi [former Chairman of the AJKF Iaido Committee] with the assistance of Shozo Kato sensei, conducted a successful tour that included ten (10) of the AUSKF member federations [AEUSKF, EUSKF, GNEUSKF, SEUSKF, SWKIF, PNKF, NCKF, CCKF, SCKF and SCKOl. An unfortunate incident occurred during the Seattle portion of the tour, in which there was a theft of four (4) iaito belonging to both Kishimoto sensei and Tatsuhikko Konno sensei. The AUSKF reviewed this unusual situation and determined that the amount/value of the losses was estimated to be \$4,000; if uncovered by a homeowner's insurance policy, the AUSKF approved the payment of the amount/value of the loss, estimated to be \$4,000 to Konno sensei/Kishimoto sensei.

- (e.) 2013 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp will be held on June 27-30. There will be a AUSKF Iaido Kodansha Shinsa; approval from the AJKF will be requested to use the two (2) invited AJKF iaido instructors as examiners. Also, the AUSKF Jodo program will be included as a workshop; currently, the AUSKF has three (3) 5 dan Jodo sensei. In response to AUSKF members' questions about having a AUSKF Jodo promotion examination; it is proposed to conduct a AUSKF Jodo promotion examination in 2014, and a AUSKF Jodo sub-committee will be setup during the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp, for this purpose.
- (f.) 2013 AUSKF Kendo Education Tour-Eastern Region [March 29 to April 9]. It was reported that Masaharu Kakehashi sensei, 8 dan Hanshi [(ret.) Chief Instructor of Tokyo Metropolitan Police] conducted a successful tour that included six (6) AUSKF member federations [GNEUSKF, EUSKF, AEUSKF, SEUSKF, MWKF and ECUSKF].

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Highlights from the April 13 & 14, 2013, AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Santa Clara, California.

I. <u>OLD BUSINESS</u>: C. Committee Action Items: (2) Education: [continued]

A separate report was made regarding the progress made to replace the Iaido medals for the AUSKF Iaido National Taikai [Tournament]; the budget of \$8,818 was previously approved for the replacement of the Iaido medals.

Also, a progress report was made regarding the replacement of the three (3) Perpetual Trophies for the AUSKF Iaido National Taikai [Tournament], which is also near completion with the engraved name plates, etc.

#### (3.) Competition:

(a.) Training for Trainers program [update] It was reported that the Training for Trainers program was successfully held in combination with the AUSKF Zone 1 Referee Seminar on January 26 & 27, 2013 in Torrance, California. There were a total of ninety two (92) participants from the SCKF, SCKO and WKF: 39 were 3 dan, 26 were 4 dan, 19 were 5 dan, and 7 were 6 dan. Also, it was decided that the FIK (International Kendo Federation)

**Regulations of Kendo Shiai and Shinpan**[2006 edition] will be required for the AUSKF participants in the AUSKF referee seminars. In addition, it was recommended to download a copy of the AJKF Shinpan Handbook which was translated by Robert Stroud.

Further, some of the previous proposed Zones have been changed due to logistical issues, etc.: Zone 2: SEUSKF, AEUSKF, ECUSKF, Zone 3: MWKF, GNEUSKF, EUSKF, Zone 4: NCKF, CCKF, Zone 4A: PNKF, Zone 5 [no change]. Discussion was held regarding the certification procedure; a common standard is needed to be certified as a AUSKF shinpan.

(b.) 4<sup>th</sup> AUSKF Jr. Open National Championships.

It was reported that the venue in Henderson, Nevada has been visited by several 4<sup>th</sup> AUSKF Jr. Open tournament planning committee members. New fundraising ideas include a

photo of kendo kamae with a kendoist posed within the background. Budget was presented and reviewed.

c.) 1st Jr. Team USA Training Camp. A report was presented for the proposed two (2) AUSKF 2013 Jr. Team USA gassshuku training camps in April 2013 and Summer 2013. After discussion, this matter was approved with the proposed budget of \$33, 269.

Also, there was discussion that the Summer 2013 AUSKF Jr. Team USA gasshuku, may be able to include eligible girls; the initial considerations for this to be feasible, include separate accommodations, etc.

(d.) 2014 AUSKF National Tournament. It was reported that there was previous interest expressed by PNKF to host the 2014 AUSKF National Tournament; however, after discussion, it was mentioned that the PNKF would not be able to locate a gym facility for six (6) courts, but would still be interested to host this event, but would require three (3) days if a four (4) court gym facility was used. Also, there was a proposal to have the 2014

Also, there was a proposal to have the 2014 AUSKF National Tournament in the Washington D.C. area; however, after discussion, there were concerns about the proposed date of this event, assistance needed from AUSKF for logistical matters, etc.

In addition, discussion was held regarding whether or not to combine the 2014 AUSKF Jr. Open Tournament with the 2014 AUSKF National Tournament; this may require changing the previous format as to ages of the youth divisions, etc.

(e.) 16<sup>th</sup> WKC- Team USA. Selection of Coaches and Manager.

The 16th WKC-Team USA manager approved is Yuji Onitsuka; additionally, Spencer Hosokawa will be the assistant manager, Dr. Sean Shinada will be the Men's Team Coach, Marvin Kawabata will be the Women's Team Coach, Kevin Her will be the Assistant coach, Chris Yang will be the Men's Team Captain, and Sachi Tamura will be the Women's Team Captain.

Yuji Onitsuka announced that the 16th

WKC-Team USA Tryouts: 1st Kyoka Renshu will be held in September 2013 and all fifteen (15) AUSKF member federations will be invited to send their eligible kendoists. A new selection process format was proposed and approved to give the interested eligible kendoists the required training regimen consisting of: Saturday: all day training and shiai. Sunday; all day training and shiai. Then, after the initial selection of the 16th WKC-Team USA men's and women's team members is made: there will be subsequent kyoka renshu in October 2013, November 2013 and December 2013; AUSKF would provide travel stipends to the selected kenshi, after the 1st tryouts/kyoka renshu, through the final selection.

#### (4.) Promotion:

A review was held regarding the AUSKF policy when a private invitation is received from FIK countries requesting AUSKF kendo sensei to conduct kendo and or iaido seminars and serve as examiners for kendo and or iaido shinsa. As there is no current AUSKF policy regarding this matter; a draft AUSKF policy and procedure will be written for further review.

Another matter reviewed was the AUSKF policy & procedure regarding non-AUSKF members [member of FIK country] taking a promotion examination while visiting in the United States. It was decided that a AUSKF Promotion Examination form for non-AUSKF members from other FIK countries, requesting to take a promotion examination in the United States conducted by one of the AUSKF member federations, will be prepared and posted on the AUSKF website.

#### (5.) Development:

1. Virtual office/website:

Discussion was held regarding the development of a *Google* calendar, on the AUSKF website, to include AUSKF member federation events.

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Highlights from the April 13 & 14, 2013, AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Santa Clara, California.

I. <u>OLD BUSINESS</u>: C. Committee Action Items: (5) Development: [continued]

2. College Liason Committee:

It was reported that the AUSKF College website is being developed; a domain has been purchased and should be available soon.

3. College dues rate proposal.

This matter is still under review: an

This matter is still under review; and there is no recommended proposal at this time.

4. Data base Virtual Office.

It was reported that the AUSKF Virtual Office is now accessible for promotion records, membership records, treasurer records, etc. AUSKF officers and board of directors will be issued passwords to allow access.

Additional AUSKF records will be added, in the future, when scanned and made available in an electronic format. AUSKF has retained an IT person to assist with the development of and inputting AUSKF Virtual Office information.

- (6.) Other:
- 1. The current AUSKF by-laws description of each officer's duties is out of date; each AUSKF officer was requested to review their current duties and propose updates. Tabled to next AUSKF board of directors meeting.
- 2. Establish clearer definitions of certain areas of concern, e.g. which AUSKF committee is in charge of shinpan seminars: Education or Competition? Clear decisions and determinations in these areas should be made by the AUSKF board of directors; so that future planning of these programs can be done by the appropriate AUSKF committee, without any confusion.
- 3. How to manuals.

Currently available is the topic of hosting an AUSKF board of directors meeting; others needed are: Hosting an AUSKF National Championship tournament; WKC-Team USA Procedures; Jr. Team USA Training Camp Procedures, etc.

III. Committee meetings: Committee reports:

A. Budget:

The end of year 2012 Summary Financial report was reviewed.

B. Education.

It was reported that there will be a November 2013 Western Region Education Tour.

Also, the 2012 AJKF Champion, Kiwada sensei, will participate in the 2013 AUSKF Education Tour to be held in the West Coast area.

C. Promotion.

Review of the AUSKF policy regarding AJKF promotion records; it was determined that there should not be individual requests to AJKF for promotion records.

D. Competition.

It was reported that the AUSKF Shinpan Seminars schedules are being revised as follows: Zone 2 [SEUS, AEUS, ECUS] proposed to be held in Atlanta. Zone 3 [MW, GNEUS, EUS] to be held in Fall, 2013]. Zone 4 [NC, CC] to be held in Fall, 2013. Zone 4a [PNW] to be held in 2014. Zone 5 [SWUS, RM, SUS] to be held in Spring, 2014.

Also, it was reported that the 2014 AUSKF National Tournament proposed venues are in PNKF or SCKF.

In addition, the 16<sup>th</sup> WKC: Team USA selection procedure will begin in September, October, November and December 2013. Final Team USA members to be selected by January 2014.

Discussion held regarding the 2002 medal replacement for the 2014 AUSKF National Tournament; a budget has been approved.

It was discussed that the AUSKF is in need of having a AUSKF flag for major AUSKF competition events, and a AUSKF flag for other AUSKF events.; this matter will be reviewed and a design drafted.

E. Iaido.

It was reported that the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Summer Camp budget is pending; due to several matters still undecided.

There will be new Iaido Championship medals, and perpetual cups made for the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Championships.

F. Anti-Doping.

It was reported that the 2013 FIK OOCT program included AUSKF selected participants.

IV. New Business:

a. Create Appendix D for policy and procedure regarding Team USA.

The policy and procedure for selection of the Team USA manager and coaches and budget matters was approved.

b. Request by SCKO to review "Hanshigo."

After discussion, it was decided that the AUSKF Promotion committee will take this matter under review for recommendation.

C. AUSKF relation with KKA and FIK. After discussion, as the KKA is a recognized FIK member affiliate country; the KKA issued menjo can be accepted for all kendo ranks by the AUSKF.

However, the concern that the KKA is able to conduct promotion examinations in the United States is to be discussed by Arthur I. Murakami, AUSKF President/FIK Vice-president with the FIK officials, at the 2015 FIK meetings.

- D. 2014 AJKF Foreign Leader Kendo Seminar Rotation Correction.

  Due to an error in the early submission of the AUSKF recommendations for the 2013 AJKF Foreign Leader Kendo Seminar; it was agreed to make a correction to allow CCKF to remain in the first position for the 2014 Foreign Leader Kendo Seminar Rotation.
- E. November 2013 AUSKF Board of Directors meeting was confirmed to be held in Houston, Texas, on November 9 & 10, 2013.

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<u>Highlights from the April 13 & 14, 2013,</u> <u>AUSKF Board of Directors Meeting, Santa</u> <u>Clara, California.</u>

IV. New Business: (continued)

#### F. Other:

2013 Sports Accord World Combat Games: Discussion was held regarding the AUSKF selection procedure and whether or not this should be part of the responsibility of the AUSKF Vice-president of Competition.

It was reported that in 2010, the AUSKF President coordinated the selection of the AUSKF participants for the 2010 Sports Accord World Combat Games [China] with the 15<sup>th</sup> WKC-Team USA manager and coaches, with review and approval by the AUSKF board of directors.

After review of the recommended selections for the 2013 Sports Accord World Combat Games, made by the AUSKF President Arthur I. Murakami,in consultation with Yoshiteru Tagawa 8 dan, and Shozo Kato 8 dan; it was decided by the AUSKF board of directors to approve those selected: Men's youth: Travis Michael, Women's youth: Martha Rebecca, Men's individual: Daniel Yang, Women's Individual: Nishiki Sano, Men's Special Invitation: Yoshiteru Tagawa, and also, the Women's Special Invitation, to be decided by the same procedure noted above.

Also, it was approved that the AUSKF provide financial support for travel expenses for two (2) 15<sup>th</sup> WKC-Team USA members selected to be the men's coach and women's coach, to travel with the selected participants for the 2013 Sports Accord World Combat Games.

## November 14-17, 2013: Latin American Kendo Championship.

It was reported that the AUSKF received a request to send AUSKF iaido sensei [A. Murakami and S. Kato] to be iaido shinsa examiners at the November 14-17,2013 Latin American Kendo Championships; due to the hosting group's limited budget; the AUSKF approved to pay round trip air fare for the two AUSKF sensei noted above.

#### **AUSKF SPECIAL REPORT:**

## Tim Yuge, (Interim Liability Insurance Co-ordinator)

Since becoming the AUSKF Interim Liability Insurance Co-ordinator; I would like to briefly provide the guidelines for each AUSKF dojo to submit requests for an AUSKF liability insurance certificate of coverage.

Please submit by e-mail, the AUSKF dojo request for a AUSKF liability insurance certificate to:

Tim Yuge, AUSKF Interim-Liabilty Insurance Co-ordinator.

e-mail:ins.auskf@gmail.com

The current turnaround time from date of e-mail request to date of issuance of the AUSKF liability insurance certificate, is between 10-days and 2 weeks.

## **2013 AUSKF EVENTS REPORTS:**

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> AUSKF Jr. Open Kendo Championships:

On June 23, 2013, a successful 4<sup>th</sup> AUSKF Jr. Openh Kendo Championships event was held in Henderson, Nevada

Results of Individual Divisions:

#### BOYS:

#### 9yrs and under:

1<sup>st</sup> A. Fujiwara, SCKO

2<sup>nd</sup> S. Yoo, SCKO

3rd A. Onitsuka, NCKF

3<sup>rd</sup> M. Nikaido, SCKF

#### 10-11yrs old:

1<sup>st</sup> R. Miyazaki, SCKO

2<sup>nd</sup> Y. Kojima, SCKO

3<sup>rd</sup> L. Levins, SCKO

3rd B. Yoo, WKF

#### 12 to 13yrs:

1<sup>st</sup> B. Wang, WKF

2<sup>nd</sup> A. Ogikubo, SCKO

3rd H. Cho, NCKF

3rd J. Young Kim, WKF

#### 14-15yrs:

1st B. Wi, WKF

2<sup>nd</sup> D. Kumagai, SCKF

3rd R. Ogikubo, SCKO

3rd T. Hori, SCKF

#### 16 to 18yrs:

1<sup>st</sup> Y. Nogimura, SCKF

2<sup>nd</sup> S. Park, NCKF

3<sup>rd</sup> D. Williams, CCKF

3<sup>rd</sup> K. Kobayashi, SCKF

#### **GIRLS:**

#### 13yrs and under:

1<sup>st</sup> T. Kim, SCKF

2<sup>nd</sup> H. Kiuchi, SCKO

3<sup>rd</sup> H. Yamamoto, SCKO

3<sup>rd</sup> B. Park, PNKF

#### 14-18yrs:

1st E. Kim, SCKF

2<sup>nd</sup> E. Dejong, PNKF

3rd D. Hahn, SCKF

3<sup>rd</sup> M. Sasaki, SCKO

**BOYS TEAM**: 1st SCKF A

**GIRLS TEAM**: 1st SCKF A

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**2013 AUSKF EVENTS REPORTS:** [continued]

#### 2013 AUSKF Iaido Camp

On June 27-30, 2013, the AUSKF Iaido Camp was hosted by the SWUSKIF and held in Council Bluffs, Iowa; under the supervision of Shozo Kato sensei, AUSKF Iaido Committee Chairman.

As a tribute to the late Takeshi Yamaguchi, the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Camp; was held <u>In Memory of</u> <u>Takeshi Yamaguchi Sensei</u>.

The guest Iaido instructors from the AJKF were:

<u>Yasuo Sakono</u> sensei Iaido Hanshi 8 Dan Fukuoka, Japan

<u>Teruo Mitani</u> sensei Iaido Hanshi 8 Dan Kouchi, Japan

Both of the AJKF Iaido instructors conducted a very thorough review of the twelve Sei Tei Iaido katas, as well as provide extensive iaido training for all levels of iaidoka attending the two-days of iaido seminar.

Special thanks to the Japanese to English translators during the 2-days of iaido seminar: Yuko Nishida and Kazuko Uchida.

AUSKF Iaido Championships On June 29, 2013, the results of the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Championships were:

#### 0 kyu to 2 kyu Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Allen Smith, SWKIF

2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Miyamoto, RMKIF 3<sup>rd</sup> David Aguero, NCKF 3<sup>rd</sup> Ruth Alessi, SEUSKF Fighting Spirit Award was awarded to Jennifer Mayo, RMKIF

#### 1 kyu to 1dan division:

1st Sean Hannon, RMKIF 2nd John Mullin, AEUSKF 3rd Douglas Picard, NCKF 3rd Serena Tang, EUSKF Fighting Spirit Award was awarded to Lynn Miyauchi, PNKF

#### 2 dan to 3 dan:

1<sup>st</sup> Kevin Loughlin, AEUSKF 2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Hall, AEUSKF 3<sup>rd</sup> Hiroaki Fukumoto, PNKF 3<sup>rd</sup> Gunner Goerlitz, PNKF Fighting Spirit Award was awarded to Yuko Nishida, GNEUSKF

#### 4dan and above:

1<sup>st</sup> Susan Sekreta, AEUSKF 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Shin, GNEUSKF 3<sup>rd</sup> Jason Hankins, RMKIF 3<sup>rd</sup> Terry Fukui, GNEUSKF Fighting Spirit Award was awarded to Debi Farmer, GNEUSKF

The AUSKF Iaido Championships Awards Ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of the "newly designed" medals prepared by the AUSKF Iaido Committee; and the inauguration of the "new" perpetual trophies: Murosako Cup, Yamaguchi Cup, and Murakami Cup.

There was also a Jodo Workshop led by Michael Skoss sensei, Jodo 5 dan.

Lastly, the proposed location of the 2014 AUSKF Iaido Camp was approved for New York City.

## **2013 AUSKF MEMBER** FEDERATION REPORTS:

- 1. All Eastern U.S. Kendo Federation. Noboru Kataoka, President
- e-mail: KataokaKen@earthlink.net
- 2. Central California Kendo Federation

Norman K. Otani, President e-mail: norm otani@auskf.info

3. Eastern U.S. Kendo Federation Mozart Ishizuka, President e-mail: 44524c@gmail.com

#### In Memoriam:

John Prough [1940-2013] While attending the 2013 AUSKF Iaido Camp; the editor was saddened to learn that a very good friend and the Head Instructor of the Japanese Swordsmanship Society dojo, the late John Prough, had passed away.

The AUSKF extends its very sincere and deepest condolences to the members of the Japanese Swordsmanship Society dojo, on the loss of their sensei, and good friend of the AUSKF. Mr. Prough was very helpful to provide historical information regarding JODO, that was included in a past issue of the AUSKF Newsletter.

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#### 2013 AUSKF MEMBER FEDERATION REPORTS:

[continued]

4. East Central U.S. Kendo Federation Koki Ariga, President

e-mail: koki.ariga@gmail.com

5. Greater Northeast U.S. Kendo Federation

Tsuyoshi Inoshita, President e-mail: pcancer@zoomnet.net

6. Midwest Kendo Federation Steve Voss , President

e-mail: vosssenshu@aol.com

7. Northern California Kendo Federation

Court Tanouye, President e-mail: c.tanouye@hotmail.com

8. Pacific Northwest Kendo Federatio

Curtis Marsten, President

e-mail: cvmarsten@w-link.net

9. Rocky Mountain Kendo & Iaido Federation

Hideki Iwakabe, President e-mail: Hiwakabe@aol.com

Submitted by: Monica Iwakabe: RMKIF hosted a Kendo Seminar with special guest, Migita, Kojiro Sensei (Kendo Kyoshi 8 Dan), from Kumamoto, Japan, on April 13 - 14, 2013. Participants were from RMKIF and SWKIF. The seminar's focused on proper kime and developmental drills. Migita sensei and his wife enjoyed a tour of the mountains of Colorado, the Grand Canyon, and the sights of the LA area.

10. Southern California Kendo Federation

TimYuge, President e-mail: yuge.kendo@gmail.com

11. Southern California Kendo Organization.

Atsushi Fujimoto, President e-mail: president@scko.org

12. Southeast U.S. Kendo Federation Jin-Kee Hyun, President e-mail: jkhyun22@yahoo.com

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** 

submitted by Ken Strawn

An updated and expanded version of KENDO TRAINING by Ken Strawn has been published by lulu.com. Price is \$12.99 plus shipping for the softcover version and \$3.99 for the e-book verson.

13. Southern U.S. Kendo & Iaido Federation.

Mark A. Kerstein, President email: kersteinlaw@gmail.com

14. Southwest U.S. Iaido & Kendo Federation.

Steve Sasaki, President e-mail: stevensasaki@comcast.net

15. Western Kendo Federation
Dongsoo Lee, President
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AUSKF NEWSLETTER

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Future news items for the next issue of the AUSKF newsletter to be published on or about January 2014, can be submitted to my e-mail address:

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