

# *Nashville Aikikai*

# *Newsletter*

*January 2005*

It's been nearly a year since the last newsletter. Lot's has happened. There's also a lot going on right now so I think it's time for another newsletter.

## Seminars

Upcoming seminars

Kevin Choate - February 4 - 6 - Aikido of Louisville

Ikeda Sensei - April 2005 - Ash St. Dojo

Wendy Whited - *Hosted by Nashville Aikikai*

Date TBA

Saotome Sensei - *Hosted by Nashville Aikikai*

Oct. 15 - 17, 2005 - Joe C. Davis Center in Nashville

Check the web for additional seminars.

Our seminars this year

As soon as I have a date for the seminar with Wendy, we'll set up a meeting to discuss our seminars for this year. The seminar with Saotome Sensei will take a lot of planning and preparation. Fliers for it should be sent out this Spring.

## Attendance

As many of you know, I like to keep track of our attendance as a group. It shows a lot about how we are progressing in many ways. Last year was the first year that we had over 3,000 ASU hours for adult students. This means if you count each day an adult student in our dojo attended class, you get over 3,000. This is only the Nashville location - I don't have records on the other locations.

I haven't asked the youth class instructors for a total. However, I'll check with them and then we can announce the grand total for our dojo for the year.

### Recent Promotions

There have been several promotions since the last newsletter. Congratulations to all the people listed below.

Lara Bratlien	Rokyu
Craig Schuff	Rokyu
Carol Freund	Gokyu
Jean-Paul Hardison	Gokyu
Eric Biren	Yonkyu
Mike Smart	Yonkyu
Rick Taylor	Nikyu
Stuart Jones	Ikkyu
Jacques Crist	Ikkyu
Gene Senibaldi	Ikkyu

### Multiple Locations

Our dojo is spreading and by this spring will have four locations.

1. Our main location on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Nashville
2. Eric Umstead's group in Murray, Kentucky. Eric is teaching a few of the students at Murray State University. They will be coming to Nashville occasionally.
3. Mark Clark's group in Cookeville, Tennessee. Mark has been working with a group in Cookeville the last several months. They will also be coming to Nashville occasionally.
4. Steve Matthew's group in Cool Springs. Steve has been asked to teach in the Cool Springs area. I imagine a few of his students will also come to Nashville occasionally.

From time to time, Tom and/or Mary may go to visit location number 2, 3, or 4 above. Please let us know if you'd like to join us.

### January Testing

Mark Clark recently contacted us and said that two of his students (see number 3 under Multiple Locations) are ready to test for 6<sup>th</sup> kyu. Because of their schedules, Friday evening is by far the best time for them to make a trip to Nashville.

We also have people here in Nashville ready to test for various kyus. So we've decided that the class on January 28<sup>th</sup> will not be an open class. It will be a formal (regular) class with Tom or Mary teaching. We will have testing at the end of class. If any of the Nashville people who are scheduled to test between Jan 21<sup>st</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> want to test on the 28<sup>th</sup> they should see Mary Sensei. If we have a lot of people testing that night, we'll plan on class lasting a little longer than usual. Class will start at 6:30. Join us if you can - we'll need some ukes.

### Web Page

John Wise has been very busy and has basically turned the web page over to Mike Smart. Mike has worked hard to develop a new web page for us. Please check it out at <http://www.asu.org/NashAikikai>. It looks great. Thanks Mike!

I also want to thank John for all the work he's put into the web page over the last several years. Thanks John - and don't be a stranger.

### Youth Class

The Youth Class is doing great! The student's just keep getting better and better!

### Dojo Focus

Our current focus is hamni, irimi, and tenkan. This sounds simple, but most Aikido-kai can use a lot of work in this area.

### Curriculum Class

The Curriculum Class (Monday and Wednesday from 8:00 to 8:45) started with Rokyū and is going through the test requirements for each kyu, putting an emphasis on hamni, irimi, and tenkan.

### Additional News

Let Mary Sensei know if you have any additional news that you'd like to see on the web site (our new site has a page for news) or in a newsletter.