



KAGAMI

WINTER 2015-2016





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**KNBK**  
KOKUSAI NIPPON BUDO KAI  
国際日本武道会

# Welcome!

by Erik A. Johnstone, Doshi, Shindokan Budo Dojo, Kagami Editor

Hello and welcome to the Winter 2015-2016 issue of Kagami! We hope that this issue finds you all here in the first quarter of the New Year! Despite its release that now finds us well into 2016, this issue of Kagami serves to close out 2015. Last year was certainly a wonderful year for the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai, and many of us had the great fortune to witness first-hand a number of standout occasions. Among the most notable of these highlights was the bestowal of the Hanshi title by the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai on our teacher, Carl E. Long, Hanshi, the 22nd Generation Soshihan of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai-Heiho, in March of 2015 at the conclusion of the 5th DNBK America Butokusai and Gasshuku in Virginia Beach. It bears reiterating that this honour “secures the KNBK’s position of standing and respect within the DNBK community, both within Japan and throughout the rest of the world, as well as within the larger world-wide budo community. It also serves as a significant reflection of every KNBK member in terms of how we conduct ourselves and our perseverance in our study of budo.”

The past year also saw Long Hanshi once again travelling widely to teach at our far-flung KNBK dojo as well as initiating what we hope will become an ongoing Hombu Dojo seminar series. In July, Long Sensei held a three-day seminar at the KNBK Hombu Dojo, focusing on Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu and Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu. This was really quite a rigorous seminar, with training often extending well into the evening, with only a few breaks each day. We poured sweat, trained hard, and covered a significant amount of the curriculae of each art. Moreover, due to the relatively small number of participants, Long Sensei taught in very precise and exacting detail. We encourage you to make every effort to attend the next special seminar at Hombu Dojo!

The jewel in the calendar of KNBK events for 2015 was the 2015 KNBK Gasshuku, a three day event held in November at the Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. It was a fantastic long weekend of training and camaraderie, with sessions in Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iaijutsu, Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu, Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu, Karate-do (Shito-ryu, Ryuei-ryu, Goju-ryu, and bunkai/application sessions), and Okinawan Kobudo. These sessions held continuously and concurrently throughout each day of the event, with instruction provided by Long Sensei as well as senior KNBK and special guest instructors. Long Sensei also taught special evening sessions in Tessenjutsu and Hojojutsu. I am sure that everyone present found the the Hojojutsu session to be as fun as it was challenging!

The experience of an extended period of time of rigorous training and fellowship with our budo family is the heart and soul of gasshuku. It is a chance to not only make significant strides in our abilities and understanding of the various budo traditions that we study, but it is also a precious opportunity to strengthen our shared bonds of “skin-ship”, the deep relationships that we forge together through the shared experience of the determination, sweat, and exhaustion of intensive training. That said, gasshuku, which means “lodging together”, is also about strengthening our budo family bonds through a prolonged opportunity to spend time with one another off of the training floor. And as anyone who has ever attended a KNBK well knows, we take such opportunities very seriously! There can be no doubt that we always have a great time getting together following our budo training and the “after training sessions” at Gasshuku were no exception! As Long Sensei observed, they were “just as grueling and gruesome” as the budo training sessions (if you haven’t seen them yet, the photos of the 2015 Gasshuku on Facebook will certainly provide any needed explanation)!

Aside from the fantastic training opportunities and wonderful camaraderie, there were also a number of stand-out moments throughout the course of the weekend, many more than can be recounted here, but there are certainly a few that must be mentioned.

In honour of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Nippon Kobudo Jikishin Kai, Fred Lecut Sensei of Mokurai Dojo in Headland, Alabama, presented Long Sensei and the KNBK Hombu Dojo with a beautiful tile mosaic of Miura Takeyuki Hidefusa Hanshi, the 20th Soshihan of Seito Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai-Heiho. This “timeless tribute in mosaic tile”, as Long Sensei described it, is absolutely beautiful and the entire KNBK is grateful to Lecut Sensei for his dedication, time, and effort in creating this wonderful work of art.

A special banquet was held on Saturday evening, during which a photographic retrospective of Long Sensei’s budo career was shown. During the banquet Long Sensei presented recognition awards to all instructors who were invited to teach at the 2015 Gasshuku, as well as KNBK Distinguished Service Awards to a number of KNBK senior instructors. Finally, Long Sensei presented KNBK Pioneer Awards to Christopher Cortes of Iaido Gibraltar and to Jeffrey Bishop of the Bukonkai Dojo in Tonypandy, Wales. These awards are especially significant as they are awarded by the KNBK Soshihan to the a KNBK instructor who is the first to establish a KNBK dojo or training group in his or her country. As Long Sensei said, there can only ever be one first.” We are all certainly proud of their efforts!



The 2015 KNBK Gasshuku was certainly an exciting and challenging event, and was a fine example of the deepening of our "inner togetherness" that is a such crucial purpose underlying any true gasshuku. As Long Sensei wrote of the KNBK family members who participated in the 2015 KNBK Gasshuku, "One heart, one mind, one family...the one we get to choose."

With the events of 2015 in the rear-view mirror, but still held warmly in our hearts, we look forward to many more opportunities for growth in our practise and progress on the Budo path, and are now in fact already into the events calendar for 2016, with Sensei already having taught seminars in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania; Orlando, Florida; and San Diego, California. By the time you read this, he will also have made his way to Bakersfield, California to lead the KNBK Winter Gasshuku at Bakersfield Budo. Additionally, Long Sensei was also in Long Beach, California to for "another year celebrating Fumio Demura Sensei's Budo with him" at the Long Beach Batto Taikai. We are looking forward to hearing about each of these events, and hope to share some those memories here in Kagami.

Finally, the highlight for a number of KNBK members will be their participation as part of the KNBK team that will travel to Japan to engage in a week of budo training seminars, embu, and festivities of the 2016 Dai Nippon Butoku Kai World Butokusai in Kyoto, Japan in April. As the this is to be the last DNBK WBS to be held, this is

sure to be a memorable occasion that all KNBK team members will remember with great fondness. We will most certainly share memories and images of our time in Kyoto with you here.

Regardless of where it may be that the paths of our KNBK family members once again cross, we look forward to creating more memories together as this year unfolds.



# Know The Mountain

by Benjamin Greve, Sensei - Happokaze Dojo



November 20th through the 22nd of 2015 saw a truly landmark event in the history of the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai. We have had numerous gasshuku in the past, but none in my experience have had the same scope as this recent event. Past gasshuku have, for the most part, focused on nihonto related subjects; mostly Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu Iai Heiho with the occasional inclusion of Ono ha Itto Ryu Kenjutsu, or Shindo Muso Ryu Jodo. The KNBK 2015 Gasshuku at the Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony Pennsylvania, however, consisted of three days of multiple simultaneous budo training sessions including Iaijutsu, Kenjutsu, Jodo, Karatedo, Kobudo, Tessen, Hojojutsu, and even Shiatsu.

Participants were permitted to focus on one discipline the entire weekend or move from one to another each session to diversify their training. Iai offerings included Dai Nippon Batto-ho, Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu Iai Waza, and Tachi Uchi no Kurai (and even one Tsumi Ai no Kurai Waza for those who were paying attention). Karatedo sessions covered not only Shito Ryu, but Ryuei Ryu, Goju Ryu, and kata bunkai (application). In short, the weekend offered an unprecedented opportunity for training across a myriad of different subjects and disciplines.

In fact, the entire weekend reminded me of a quote that I have often heard over the years in the course of my martial arts training. I had heard the particular quote or something very similar attributed to several prominent historical budoka over the years, including Aikido founder Morihei Ueshiba. The quote is:

“There are many paths leading to the top of Mount Fuji, but there is only one summit.”

Now, this quote has always struck me as being particularly meaningful, but not necessarily for the reasons most might find it so. On the surface, it would imply that because the destination is always the same, it doesn't matter which path you take. This is a good notion to have in mind when trying to promote harmony and cooperation between different ryu or budo organizations. For me, however, the implication has always been that because “there is only one summit” the summit is not the important part.

As a lifelong student of the martial arts, I am discovering that I'm not in any hurry to get to that summit. Realistically, there is no actual summit that I can attain. As long as I keep studying and training, there will always be more to learn, always further to go on the climb. So, if the summit is not of the highest importance, what is? The only answer I can fathom is, “the mountain itself.” If “there are many paths to the top of Mount Fuji,” or in this case Mount Budo, I want to travel as many as I can. I want to know the whole mountain. I want to investigate each trail, see every vista, touch every tree, and smell every flower. This way, my understanding of that mountain will not be limited to a single path or perspective. It will be deep and rooted in many different experiences and viewpoints.



To me, Iaido, Kenjutsu, Jodo, Kobudo, Karate, Aikido, and Jujutsu are all parts of the same whole, all just different paths on the same mountain. They may have different appearances and flavors, but they are all just different tools in the same tool bag. Each of those tools has its specific aspects and applications. Each can be more or less useful in any given situation, but all are important and integral parts in the whole that is my study of Budo.

The weekend of the 20th through the 22nd was an excellent opportunity to study and, “know the mountain.” The inclusion of Karatedo, in particular, really broadened the horizons at this gasshuku. To take it one step further, though, participants of the karate sessions were exposed to not only instruction in Shito Ryu (a style included in the KNBK curriculum), but also from related styles such as Goju Ryu and Ryuei Ryu. This made for an interesting alternate look at a familiar subject. Or, one could say, “a jaunt down a different path on the mountain.”

This type of training is particularly useful in my mind because it allows one to compare what they practice on a daily basis with other methods. Thus, the student can see what is the same and what is different. If another style does a certain thing differently, why do they do it that way and why does the student’s own style do it the way it does? These are important questions for not only broadening one’s horizons, but actually understanding one’s own art more deeply.

I truly hope we continue to see such variety in future KNBK events. I believe it is the right path to foster continued growth in both our organization and its members. Thanks must be extended to Carl Long Hanshi and Kako Lee Renshi for organizing the event, as well as all the KNBK members and visiting sensei who made such a wonderful opportunity possible. I strongly





# The Importance of Research

by Beau Straub - Happokaze Dojo

Legend has it that some four and a half centuries ago, a nineteen-year-old by the name of Hayashizaki Jinsuke Shigenobu drew his sword and in that same motion cut down Sakagami Shuzen, avenging his father, and giving birth to dozens if not hundreds of schools of swordsmanship. Of course we're all familiar with this story, but I had never really given much thought to how this tale made its way to us. Until relatively modern times the histories and origins of swordsmen were rarely written down so, like our techniques themselves, it was primarily by direct oral transmission that we know them today. Because of this it has been critically important for each generation of students to carefully listen to and remember the words of their teachers. For the samurai such dedication to both scholarly and martial arts, called *bunbu ryodo* (文武両道), was the norm.

The phrase *bunbu*, meaning "the pen and the sword" or "literary and military arts," has been used in Japan at least as far back as the early 1300s. At the time of Hayashizaki in the mid-1500s, most warriors or leaders of any real quality would have been avid students of many different arts, including martial ones. By the time of our 7th headmaster's (Hasegawa Chikaranosuke Eishin Hidenobu) passing in the early 1700s, Japan was well into the relative peace and stability of the Edo period and the samurai were all but required to be well-versed in a wide variety of literary and other non-martial arts.

It's important to realize that all of the martial arts that we study are more than a mere collection of techniques. They contain hundreds of years of tradition and history that are essential to the understanding and mastery necessary to preserve these ways for the generations yet to come. Perhaps, like those scholar-warriors before us, the best way for us to contribute to the preservation and understanding of our arts is to take an active role in studying and learning these details.

It's likely that for these very reasons, at the 2015 KNBK Gasshuku in Pennsylvania, Long Sensei took a brief moment to highlight the importance of *kenkyuu* (研究), or "research." Sensei emphasized to those of us testing on the final day that one of the keys to continuing to improve as students was to continuously make an effort to learn not only the physical techniques but the history, strategy, and philosophy that make up the heart of our

style. This same guidance was given to Long Sensei by his own teacher, Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi, and I can imagine that same counsel has been passed from teacher to student for many generations.

How does a student "seek the root," as Long Sensei often puts it? In recent decades there has been some excellent research done on the histories and origins of many styles of swordsmanship in Japan. Unfortunately, few of us have access to these sorts of scholastic papers, and fewer of us are likely to be able to make much headway into the archaic academic style of Japanese they're often written in. So what does that leave the rest of us? Fortunately, Long Sensei himself is a tenacious student who continually shares his discoveries at the seminars and events at which he teaches. I've lost track of the number of times that Sensei has pointed out some minor detail or explained a concept that has changed my entire understanding of a technique! I can't more strongly recommend that my fellow students take the opportunity to train with Long Sensei when he teaches at a nearby seminar or event; it is one of the most enlightening and enjoyable martial arts training experiences you can have.



# Ichi-Go Ichi-E

by John Martin, Sensei - Pikes Peak Budokan

The phrase Ichi-go ichi-e (“one time, one meeting”) describes the concept of treasuring our meetings with others in this life. It can often be translated as “for this time only,” “never again,” or “one chance in a lifetime”. It conveys an important meaning to cherish any gathering that we may take part in, recognizing the fact that meetings that we experience in life are never repeated in precisely the same way. Even when the same group of people are able to get together again at the same place for a similar type of event, each time is a singular experience will never be replicated and thus, each moment is always a once-in-a-lifetime moment to be appreciated and not forgotten. An analogous concept is that where we are now, who we are with, and what we do at that moment is a gift. Of course, it is aptly termed “the present.”

The concept of Ichi-Go Ichi-E certainly illustrates our third annual Pikes Peak Budokan Gasshuku held this past October here in Colorado Springs. The dojo was once again honored to have Robin Ramirez Shushi visit and impart his vast knowledge of Muso Jikiden Eishin-Ryu Iaijutsu to the students here at Pikes Peak Budokan. However, this year was particularly treasured as an example of “for this time only” as this year’s gasshuku also happened to coincide with the annual Japanese American Society of Colorado Springs (JASSC) festival celebrating traditional Japanese art and culture, held at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. For the past three years, Pikes Peak Budokan has had the honour of being invited to demonstrate Muso Jikiden Eishin-Ryu Iaijutsu and Uechi-Ryu Karatedo as a part of the festival.



In planning for the gasshuku, it was originally the intention of the dojo members to invite Ramirez Sensei to come teach for a whole weekend, as we have usually done in the past. However, the dojo wanted to do something special in the spirit of Giri, “giving back...going forward”, to thank Ramirez Sensei for the expressions of kindness that he has shown all of us at Pikes Peak Budokan in the past. The dojo had been preparing for a demonstration of Iaijutsu and Karatedo for two months prior and, unbeknownst to him, we chose to have Ramirez Sensei here on the weekend of the JASSC festival so that he could relax on Saturday and enjoy the festival as a surprise.

In the end, it was we who were surprised, as when Sensei learned of the event, he enthusiastically offered to participate in the demonstration. Even after explaining what our original intention had been, Sensei still insisted on participating in our demonstration. We were all floored by his graciousness and altruism! So as expressions of Giri and Ichi-Go, Ichi-E began to



unfold in a way that became obvious to us all, the planned demonstration was altered on the day before the event was to take place! The festival itself was wonderful, with the high point for us being our demonstration of Muso Jikiden Eishin-Ryu Iaijutsu and Uechi-Ryu Karatedo, with Ramirez Sensei capping our very well received embu with Bangai No Bu.

In the end, Sensei taught - without outwardly teaching - why reiho is at the center of everything that we do and how the manner in which we carry ourselves is often more important than the waza or kata that we perform. His example gave me pause to consider that we must never forget that the virtues of Bushido - righteousness (gi), courage (yū), benevolence (jin), respect (rei), sincerity (makoto), honor (meiyo), loyalty (chūgi), and self-control (jisei) - lie at the heart of all that we do. And so our weekend with Ramirez Sensei, this combination of fortuitous circumstance and the example that he set, was truly “one chance in a lifetime” and are etched in my memory as a manifestation of Ichi-go Ichi-e.





# European Gasshuku Report

by Jason Hullot, Sensei - Nishimon Dojo



It was great to attend the 10th European Gasshuku, held this past October in Antwerp, Belgium, lead by Marc Mebis, Doshi. The European Gasshuku is an event that is always entered into the diary for the year as soon as it is scheduled, and I also always look forward to seeing fellow KNBK members for a few days of intensive training in Seito Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu Iai Heiho. This past year's Gasshuku proved to be no exception; we worked hard, covering we covered a lot of kihon, drills, waza, and katachi in three days of practice. Our training outline was as follows.

## **Friday - October 2**

Kihon  
Happogiri  
Cutting drills  
Chuden Waza - Hasegawa Eishin Ryu  
Batto-ho

Friday's session ended with gradings. It was good to see that everyone who took a grading passed, especially those who didn't realise they would be tested!

## **Saturday - October 3**

Kihon  
Happogiri  
Cutting drills  
Seiza no Bu - Omori Ryu  
Battoho

## **Sunday - October 4**

Tachi Uchi No Kurai

Being called out to demonstrate waza in front of the group was an interesting new experience. I guess that responsibility that comes with increasing experience.

We had dinner Friday at a Chinese restaurant and on Saturday night at an American style diner; I can't write this without mentioning the massive burgers that a couple of people ordered. You can see pictures of these of Facebook. I left on Sunday at the conclusion of the training, so missed out on the Italian restaurant!

All in all, it was a great Gasshuku; we trained hard and hopefully made good forward progress in our practice. This year, we had participants from Belgium, France, Gibraltar, Holland, Malta, and the United Kingdom; a truly European event! It was really nice to catch up with old friends as well as to meet new ones.

Thanks to Mebis Sensei for a leading a great ,fast-paced Gasshuku and to Kenneth Matthys for organising the lunches, drinks, and evening seminar dinners. There is a great deal of effort that goes into sponsoring a seminar and its associated activities, although it often goes unnoticed. The fact that most people probably don't see it is probably a good thing, as it means nothing that went wrong!

We here in the UK and in Europe are looking forward to seeing you all at a KNBK event soon. If you are interested in attending an event in our corner of the world, please remember to keep your eyes on the European KNBK website for event details at <http://www.knbk.eu>.



# Central Coast Iaido Conducts Embu at Obon Festival

by Jen Hooper, Sensei - Central Coast Iaido

For the past three years in a row, Central Coast Iaido has participated in the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple's annual Obon Festival. The festival is held on the first Saturday in August each year. They first opened the Obon festival to the public in 1963, but it dates back to 1929, and has been held every year since; excluding the period from 1942 through 1946.\* This lively festival, held this past year on August 1 in Arroyo Grande, California, is a cultural event that we look forward to every year. It has featured some excellent budo demonstrations and cultural arts performances including demonstrations of Judo, Kendo, and Daito Ryu Aiki Jujutsu, as well as a Bonsai demonstration, a Koto performance by Grammy winner Yukiko Matusyama, and finally, the Taiko performance which is one of the most exciting and well attended events of the afternoon. These are all in addition to the Bon Odori (dancing), kimono fittings, BBQ and sushi, handmade crafts, great people, and sake!



But Obon is really a season about memory. The Obon festival is an event to remember and honor one's ancestors. In celebrating Obon, we are meant to remember those that came before us, expressing our gratitude and joy for the lives of those individuals and reflecting on how their thoughts, words, and actions have affected our own lives today. Ultimately, we each owe our own personality and varied paths in life to others. Our interdependence and interconnected lives are a web of history and memories connecting us to countless other people over countless generations. Though we may not know all their names, those that came before us are meaningful to us and their significance in the flow of causes and conditions that have allowed us to experience our lives as we know them today are worth deep consideration. Through Obon, we are meant to reflect on these connections and delight in them, recalling our loved ones with joy and appreciation.



And if you didn't know, Obon includes dancing.

Some of the dances can require quite a bit of skill, especially if you are ungainly like me, but that can never be an excuse to avoid Bon Odori! The Obon dance participation is highly encouraged and you don't even need to be a Buddhist! The point is to leave your ego behind and fondly remember your ancestors while dancing to express your joy and gratitude for this life. The folk dances are done in a circle with a taiko drum in the center, while the dancers walk counterclockwise. The traditional dances tell stories from the countryside of old Japan, often focusing on activities such as fishing and farming.





The Obon Festival is a great event that we are proud and eager to attend every year. The San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple generously allows us to train along side the Kendo group every Tuesday and has honored my study group, Central Coast Iaido, by inviting us to perform a 15 to 20 minute demonstration at the annual Obon festival for the past three years. This annual event also assists the temple in cultural promotion and fundraising. In addition to conducting our demonstration, we also volunteer to help set up for the event.

Our embu group has a little grown each year that Central Coast Iaido has participated in the Obon Festival. This year I had four of my students along with me to participate. We also had the honour of having Robin Ramirez, Shushi and five of his students along with us, traveling in from Bakersfield just to take part in the embu. Our embu has consisted of Shoden seiza waza as well as Chuden Tatehiza waza, and has included some Tameshigiri (practice cutting) to generate more crowd enthusiasm. Each year, our embu has been well received by the temple and the local community. In fact, I have two current students who started their training as a direct result of our previous demonstrations at the Obon festival. Last year, one of them, Alexander Kim, was a spectator in the audience; this year, he was on the floor with us. Of his experience he has

this to offer: “My experience as a participant a year after first observing an Iaido demonstration at Obon was a high point as a student. It was an inspiring moment to be with fellow practitioners in representing this 450-year old art and lineage.” We also have a booth that we staff throughout the event, covering an array of duties such as fielding questions and handing out fliers for the club. We typically have bokken and our Iaito on display, and we have a few copies of Flashing Steel available. This year, one of my favorite experiences was a curly-haired boy of about 7 or 8 shyly coming up to the booth, who wanted to get a copy of Flashing Steel. He had seen our demonstration, and his mother commented that the book was the only thing at the entire event that he actively sought out and wanted to take home. That was one Obon experience I’ll personally treasure.

\*Due to the internment of the Japanese-Americans during WWII.





# Nishimon Dojo in the Spotlight

by Jason Hulott - Nishimon Dojo

Editor: This installment of the Dojo Spotlight takes us across the Atlantic to the United Kingdom, specifically to Nishimon Dojo in Broadstairs, located in the Thanet district of Kent in the east of England.

Thank you for the opportunity to share a little bit about our new dojo with everyone. We are a new dojo based in Broadstairs, in the southeast of the United Kingdom. Nishimon means West Gate, named for the village in which I live; we have been up and running for the last few months. We have a number of beginner students and the aim is to grow to a dedicated band of practitioners who practice in a traditional way.

As a Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai dojo, we practise Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai Heiho (MJER) and Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu (OHIR). In addition to the sword arts practised and taught within the KNBK, we are also the southern UK group hosts for Hyoho Niten Ichi-ryu (HNIR), the two-sword style of Miyamoto Musashi, which I have been practising for a number of years. We are exclusively a traditional Japanese sword school in that we only practice swords arts; we currently do not have any empty hand arts practice (although we have taken some koryu jujutsu training with a Tenjin Shinyo Ryu group). Because of our location here in the southeast of England, we also have frequent opportunities to expand our knowledge and experience by participating in events held abroad, and I always look forward to those times. I have been fortunate to have been able to travel around Europe frequently to participate in various budo seminars and I have been very lucky to have received instruction from a number of headmasters, including Carl Long Hanshi, Soshinan of MJER; Sasamori Takemi Soke of the OHIR, and Kajiya Takanori Soke of the HNIR.

We currently only have one practice session each week but are hoping to expand as there is interest in more training. We also host training events and seminars from time to time, which have proven to be excellent opportunities for the KNBK family from the UK and across Europe to come together for training and fellowship. We have a weekend event scheduled for May of 2016 and if you are in the neighbourhood, please feel free to look us up.

Being part of the KNBK has given me the credibility, confidence, and backing to take the leap and start my own dojo. While establishing the dojo was an initially daunting endeavour, we are already realising success in our efforts and I am sure that with the passage of time will come greater opportunities and further growth. The KNBK has provided much support thus far and has helped us to



grow significantly as budoka. While the KNBK is comprised of many dojo, it is but one family and I know that I or any of my students could walk into any other KNBK dojo anywhere in the world and be welcomed with open arms. I am not sure that there are many other organisations that can say that. We too would welcome any of our KNBK brothers and sisters with equally open arms, and we look forward to meeting you and sharing time in the Dojo with you in the future. Until then, you can visit our website at <http://www.nishimondojo.co.uk> or connect with us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/nishimondojo>.



# Around the KNBK

In this column, KNBK dojo share news and photos about localised KNBK-related events in which they participated. These can include, but are not necessarily limited to, public demonstrations, KNBK Hombu-authorized seminars and workshops, or individual dojo events. Please feel free to send us any news and photos that you might have so that we can share it with the rest of the KNBK!



## Long Hanshi and KNBK Members at the East Coast Taikai

Carl Long, Hanshi, along with Robin Ramirez, Shushi; Kako Lee, Renshi; Gil Gillespie, Sensei; and Jen Hooper, Sensei, were in attendance at the 2015 East Coast Taikai, held in Melbourne Beach, Florida from August 27th through the 29th. The East Coast Taikai, hosted by Tom Smyth, Sensei of the Seibukan Dojo in Palm Bay Florida, featured three days of Japanese sword arts training and competition. Senior teachers from across the United States,

including Long Hanshi were present to provide instruction as well as to conduct demonstrations and to serve as judges during competition.

Lee Renshi, Hooper Sensei, and Gillespie Sensei, all did the KNBK proud by placing first, second, and third, respectively, in the Open Kata Division.

## Long Hanshi at Shindokan Budo Dojo - Stonington, Connecticut

Carl Long, Hanshi taught one of his twice-yearly seminars at Shindokan Budo dojo in Stonington, Connecticut over the weekend of September 12th and 13th. With the previous seminar at Shindokan Budo focusing on Ono-ha Itto-ryu Kenjutsu and Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu, this seminar was devoted entirely to Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai-Heiho, covering Batto-ho, Shoden Waza, Chuden Waza, Okuden Suwari Waza, Okuden Tachi Waza, Katachi, and Mutodori. As is his way, Sensei provided numerous opportunities for us to deepen our insight into and understanding of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu and further refine our development as budoka.







**Long Hanshi at Santa Fe Budokan in Santa fe, New Mexico**

The weekend of October 10th and 11th found Carl Long, Hanshi, accompanied by Robin Ramirez, Shushi (who made the 17 hour drive in from Bakersfield, California), at Santa Fe Budokan in beautiful Santa Fe, New Mexico, hosted by Damon Apodaca, Sensei. Apodaca Sensei’s small but dedicated group of students turned out in enthusiastic support of Long Sensei’s first seminar at Santa Fe Budokan and are looking forward to his return.

**Ramirez Shushi at Ryushikan Dojo Tuscon, Arizona**

Over the weekend of October 17th and 18th, Robin Ramirez, Shushi lead a seminar in Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu and Shito-ryu Karate-do, hosted by Daniel Keupp, Sensei, Dojo-cho of Ryushinkan Dojo. The seminar was well received by the enthusiastic participants and KNBK study groups for both Jojutsu and Karate-do have been established at Ryushikan Dojo. Welcome to the KNBK!





## Long Hanshi at Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts in Pensacola, Florida

The weekend of October 23rd through the 24th saw Carl Long, Hanshi in Pensacola, Florida for the annual Fall Seminar at Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts. Training included Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iaijutsu and Shindo Muso-ryu Jojutsu.





## Upcoming Events and Seminars - 2016



### **Pensacola Sword Arts Seminar with Carl Long, Hanshi March 11 - 13, 2016 - Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts - Pensacola, Florida**

Carl Long, Hanshi, will be returning to Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts to lead a weekend of training in Muso Jikiden Eishin ryu Iai-Heiho (Iaijutsu). All are welcome to join us!

Location: Big Green Drum Japanese Martial Arts - Pensacola, Florida

Contact: Patty Heath

Phone: 850-479-1907

Email: [patty@aikidowestflorida.com](mailto:patty@aikidowestflorida.com)

### **New England Sword Arts Seminar with Carl Long, Hanshi April 2 - 3, 2016 - Shindokan Budo Dojo - Stonington, Connecticut**

Shindokan Budo Dojo is proud to once again host a visit by Carl Long, Hanshi, 22nd Generation Soshihan of Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu Iai-Heiho and Kaicho of the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai, for a weekend of intensive training in Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu, including waza and katachi from various sections of the curriculum and the principles and strategies underlying them.

Location: Shindokan Budo Dojo

Contact: Erik Johnstone, Doshi

Phone: 401-474-2568

Email: [shindokan1@gmail.com](mailto:shindokan1@gmail.com)



## **Dai Nippon Butoku Kai - 2016 World Butokusai Butokuden - Kyoto, Japan**

From April 24th through May 1st, 2016, the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai Team Members will be attending the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (DNBK) World Butokusai (WBS) in Kyoto, Japan. We are honoured to be attending this final WBS sponsored by the DNBK, Japan's most distinguished certifying body for Budo. Carl Long, Hanshi, will be returning to Upstate New York to lead a weekend of training in Muso Jikiden Eishin ryu Iai-Heiho (Iaijutsu). All are welcome to join us!

All members will partake in a week of training, seminars, and demonstration events before the DNBK Hombu Board comprised of some of Japan's senior-most Budo masters. We look forward to camaraderie and fellowship with our DNBK brethren from around the world. Our hope is to share our martial spirit with like-minded budoka in Japan's most revered training hall, the historic Butokuden!

## **UK KNBK Bokken Bootcamp 2016 May 20 - 22, 2016 - Nishimon Dojo - Broadstairs, Kent, United Kingdom**

Nishimon Dojo is sponsoring a weekend training intensive focused entirely on paired practise (katachi and kumitachi). To be lead by Marc Mebis, Doshi, training will include Tachi Uchi no Kurai from Muso Jikiden Eishin-ryu; Batto-ho Kumitachi from Eishin-ryu Batto-ho; and the first five kumitachi of Ono-ha Itto-ryu. Please contact Jason Hullot with any question that you might have. All are welcome!

Location: Nishimon Dojo  
Contact: Jason Hullot  
Email: [jason@speediepr.co.uk](mailto:jason@speediepr.co.uk)

## **Upstate Sword Arts Seminar with Carl Long, Hanshi June 25 - 26, 2016 - U.S. Budokai Karate - Clifton Park, New York**

Carl Long, Hanshi, will be returning to Upstate New York to lead a weekend of training in Muso Jikiden Eishin ryu Iai-Heiho (Iaijutsu). All are welcome to join us!

Location: U.S. Budokai Karate - Clifton Park, New York  
Contact: Susan Warzek  
Phone: 519-383-0484  
Email: [swarzek@gmail.com](mailto:swarzek@gmail.com)



## 2016 Shidosha Koshukai/ Instructor Training Seminar November 18-20, 2016 - Sakura Budokan - Kingston, PA

The annual instructor's seminar will take place again this year at Hombu Dojo in Kingston, PA. The KNBK 2016 Koshukai is open to currently certified instructors, or to those yudansha interested in becoming instructors. Non-certified yudansha will only be permitted to come if their registration form is accompanied by a recommendation from their respective Dojo-cho.

**Deadline for attendance confirmation is October 15, 2016.**

Location: Sakura Budokan, Hombu Dojo, Kingston, PA

Contact: Carl Long, Hanshi

Phone: 570-288-7865

Email: [clong@knbk.org](mailto:clong@knbk.org)

### Kagami Book

The Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai is pleased to offer \*Kagami\* by Masayuki Shimabukuro Hanshi. This book, available in a hardbound volume or as an eBook, is the collection of all articles by Shimabukuro Hanshi that appeared in Kagami from the first issue in 2006 through the summer of 2012. Now, they are all available in one volume. The production of these books was conceived of and spearheaded by Bob Morris Doshi of the JKI/KNBK Socal Dojo in San Diego, with the approval of Carl E. Long, Hanshi and Soshihan of the KNBK. The forward to the book was written by Erik Johnstone Doshi, Editor of Kagami: The Newsletter of the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai, who collaborated on this series of articles with Shimabukuro Hanshi.

Long Hanshi recently offered the following comments regarding this collection:

"I cannot think of a better word to describe this collection of insights and prose. The word "Anthology" comes from the Medieval Latin "anthologia", literally: a "flower gathering." This collection of thoughts blossomed from the minds and practice of the Samurai Warrior traditions and have been preserved here in a collection of articles and wisdom imparted by a 21st SoShihan of the Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu school of swordsmanship.

Wisdom is priceless."

On behalf of Long Hanshi, Morris Doshi, and the KNBK, we are proud to offer "Kagami" to all of our members. The following links will allow you to preview and purchase the book:

- To preview and purchase the hardcover edition, please visit:

<http://blur.by/1aTtnYm>

- To preview and purchase the eBook, please visit:

<http://store.blurb.com/ebooks/453063-kagami>

We hope that you all enjoy this volume and benefit greatly from the teachings contained within its covers. Please join us in thanking Morris Doshi for his dedicated effort in making this book possible and Long Hanshi for his support. And we thank all of you for your support in the ongoing project that is Kagami.



# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

As ever, we at Kagami welcome and encourage the active involvement in and contributions to Kagami by all members of the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai. Submissions could be in the form of articles, announcements, dojo and instructor profiles for the Dojo Spotlight section, event announcements and reports, appropriate media reviews, or photos and images.

Please feel free to send in materials at any time; we will do our best to include them in as early as possible, but we are also always happy to have a surplus of content, especially in the form of feature articles, photos, artwork, and Dojo Spotlight profiles (if your dojo has not yet been featured in Kagami, please feel free to send in a profile. Don't forget to include photos!). Kagami is YOUR publication, so please do not hesitate to contribute material. We can't do it without you.

## Kagami: A Publication of the Kokusai Nippon Budo Kai

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