



Ka Leo O Kodenkan

American Jujitsu Institute

Volume 2014

"Ua Mau Ke Ea O Ka Aina I Ka Pono"

Issue 1



**In honor of the founder of our system,
HENRY S. OKAZAKI**

We Are Celebrating AJI 's 75th Birthday at Ohana, 2014



President's Message

By: Professor Sam C. Luke

Dear Members and Friends,

Our organization is doing quite well. Yes, 2014 is the 75th Anniversary of the American Jujitsu Institute. Historical documents reveal that Professor Henry Seishiro Okazaki was the creator and founding father of the Institute, a fact that we are very proud of.

Our efforts of late have been concentrated on the 2014 Ohana and our 75th Anniversary celebration. I recall that our 70th anniversary celebration in Hawaii lasted nearly a week!

Due to our commitment to the Ohana Alliance, where all member organizations initially agreed not to have a major event in the year of the Ohana, we asked the Ohana committee to allow our celebration to be part of the Ohana event. Graciously, they not only agreed, but have been most helpful with our planning and accommodations. We would especially like to thank Chris Nicholas for all he has done to assist us with accommodations, space and logistics. The advantage this brings to the Ohana, with cost being a serious consideration for many is that AJI members and friends do not face a decision on which event to attend.

The leadership of the AJI has various assignments put together and we expect we will be having a blast renewing old and developing new friendships that, hopefully, will last a lifetime.

We intend that our gathering will be a grand tribute to our venerable founder, Prof. Henry S. Okazaki. To ensure that attendees enjoy their experiences, we will have special gifts for everyone as part of a tribute to the entire Okazaki family of which we are all a part.

Don't miss the Aloha greeting at the gathering. Looking forward to seeing and sharing the fun with you in Santa Clara!

Aloha!!!

Sam Luke

(Take a look at the AJI's 75th celebration flyer, registration form and liability waiver later in this issue.)

**American Jujitsu Institute
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I Seem To Be Always Training

By: Prof. Ron Jennings

Over the past 50+ years as a martial artist, I have experienced quite a few bumps, bruises, and dings and still bounced back. If you train hard you can expect to hurt afterwards. However, there is a difference between hurt and injury. A few weeks ago during a telephone conversation with another sensei, I mentioned having to do Physical Therapy for a torn rotator cuff. He then surprised me with the comment, "Ron, you are always hurt!" It made me think back and consider how other people see me and I realized he was right. It seems that at almost every national convention or clinic I manage to have some sort of injury or physical problem to deal with.

Not all of my injuries were directly related to martial arts but they did and do impact how I am able practice. Probably the most noticed is that I don't go too far anymore without my trusty cane or walking stick. I damaged my left knee as a Blue Belt back in the early 60's and took it completely out in 1966 during military service. That meant rolls and falls for the next 20+ years were all left-handed. I broke my hip on a weight lifting machine and crushed three vertebrae, in the process giving me a 'bad back'. I've broken fingers and toes, wrist and ankle, elbow and knee, and even popped the biceps tendon out of the groove on both shoulders at the same time. And of course there were the sprains and strains as well as torn ligaments, tendons, and separated shoulder. I've even had my heart re-plumbed, my colon shortened, and kidney stones removed.

The more I thought about my medical condition and injuries, the more I thought, "What a Klutz". People outside of my own dojo must think I am a walking disaster with an excuse for doing poorly. I asked myself if perhaps I have been accident prone as an excuse for not having to work hard or look good. Maybe I could get away with sloppy technique and awkward form just because of my 'special' condition. On the other hand, maybe I should just quit rather than get injured over and over again. Those were not pleasant thoughts.

The answer was there somewhere. It wasn't to avoid hard work. Anyone with physical disabilities knows it takes a lot of hard work just to do what others find easy. It wasn't to mask awkward or poor form. A short stocky martial artist seldom compares in form to the slender flexible high flyer. Then I thought about the positive comments I receive after teaching a clinic and of my own students who encourage me to stay on the mat and continue coaching. Seeing a student grow, develop, and change based on your own mentoring and teaching is almost a narcotic. Having a student say "Wow, that is neat. I'm going to put that in my notebook" is its own reward. It is hard to quit doing something you love.

Ah, that was it! I haven't quit. I have spent many thousands of hours on the mat. I still have my own dojo where I teach regularly. I belong to multiple martial organizations and I keep going to classes, camps, clinics, and conventions. I keep learning and training even when dealing with physical problems. With that many hours of exposure to new students, white belts, and even high testosterone Black Belts the probability of accident or injury increases considerably. But, on the mat is where I want to be. I've seen too many senior instructors who only teach at seminars and although they still put on a gi, it is only for special occasions.

So, I decided that if someone thinks I am always hurt I can tell them rather than 'always hurt', a better term for what I do is 'ALWAYS TRAINING'.



Prof. Ron Jennings shown with his arm in a sling following rotator cuff surgery in February.

Alameda Clubs Announce Promotions

By: Prof. Janice Okamoto



All Members promoted by the Alameda Jujitsu Clubs come together for a photo opportunity. Congratulations to all receiving promotions.



Prof. Janice Okamoto shares a smile with new 6th Dan Denise Gonzales.



Shihan Bernice Jay is shown presenting Sensei Denise Gonzales her 6th Dan certificate from the AJI and her new red and white belt.

December was a great time for promotions. The Alameda Judo/Jujitsu Club, Las Vegas Ohana Jujitsu Club, and Alameda Small Circle Jujitsu Club are proud to announce the recent accomplishments of the following students.

Many thanks to special guest Shihan Bernice Jay for presenting Sensei Denise Gonzales' 6th Dan promotion certificate from the American Jujitsu Institute.

9th Kyu – Adv
Landen Thongthap
Jordan Pham

6th Kyu – Adv
Antonio Arevalo
Isaac Thongthap
Michal Pham
Natalie Thongthap

5th Kyu
David Lee
Joe Luu

5th Kyu – Adv
Ryan Lynch
Ashish Kalakuntla

4th Kyu
Inpone Thongthap
Dulce Estrada

3rd Kyu
Tyler Primas
Ashley Lim

1st Kyu
Alex Lim

2nd Dan
Lan Luu

Instructor
Rachael Beatty
Danielle Primas

4th Dan
Matthew Beatty
Christopher Woo
Terrence Woo

5th Dan
Tatiana Deeff
Dennis Dias

6th Dan
Denise Gonzales



Promotions from the Las Vegas Ohana Jujitsu Club.



Congratulations to the Alameda Black Belts Promoted in 2013.

Photos Courtesy of Janice Okamoto and Marty Springer.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS

By: Sensei Sue Jennings

As we approach the Ohana 2014 event upcoming in June, excitement is running high as students try to figure out ways they can possibly attend Ohana and the special 75th Birthday Celebration of the AJI.

It looks like we'll have a cross-section of students in attendance representing KaishinKai. The mainstay of students attending will be from Washington state, however we'll have one student traveling from Wyoming, one student that is part of KaishinKai Seattle traveling from the East Coast where he's attending college, and one student attending from Oregon. Schools represented will be KaishinKai Grand Mound, KaishinKai Evergreen State College, KaishinKai Seattle, KaishinKai Portland, and Daikazokushin Budokai from Lyman, Wyoming.

It'll be exciting to get all of these members from the various locations of KaishinKai together. Their next opportunity will be the upcoming Kamp KaishinKai to be held August 8, 9 and 10th at KaishinKai's main location near Grand Mound, Washington.

But while we look forward to these future events, we continue to hold classes several times a week, with extra more advanced classes held each month as well. Students are all making good progress.

Congratulations to all the students from KaishinKai that have been promoted over the last quarter. Keep up the good work!

On April 18th Sensei Sue Jennings presented a 2-hour class on Self-Defense at the Evergreen State College in Olympia in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Our next Regional Pacific Northwest workout will be held Saturday, April 26th in Salem, Oregon. Sensei Chris Peterson from Jujitsu America will be guest instructor at the 4-hour workout. A barbeque will be held afterwards at Sensei Bob Parkson's home in Salem.

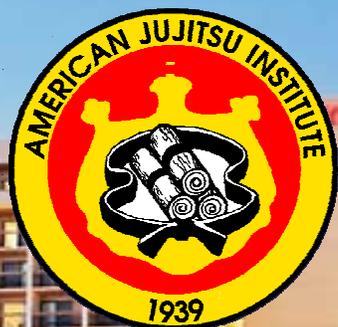
Kamp KaishinKai will be a 3-day event this year. The August Pacific Northwest Regional Clinic will be held in conjunction with Kamp KaishinKai on Saturday, August 9th from 10 – 2.

Students should plan to camp on the property of the Jennings during camp. As an option for those not willing to camp out, there's always room available in the dojo, but students doing so need to be out of the dojo early in the morning so classes can get underway.

Classes are scheduled on Friday during the day and then into the evening. Saturday we'll have classes starting early, then the Regional Clinic mid-day, followed by more classes into the evening hours. Dragon Steps, a performing troupe of which Seattle KaishinKai Sensei Chris Eller is a member, have agreed to perform in the evening. Last time they put on a fantastic show, so we're looking forward to experiencing this again. Sunday classes will begin early and end in the early afternoon to allow students to return to their normal schedules. You truly miss out on a great camping experience if you miss Kamp KaishinKai.

More details will be coming out about this camp shortly. Look for the event flyers that will be at Ohana and AJI's 75th celebration for more details about camp.

Also noteworthy for KaishinKai is that our former brown belt, Luke Cifka, is making good progress and is healing from injuries he sustained from an I.E.D. incident while serving with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. Luke is now being fitted with artificial legs and starting the process of learning to walk again. Luke's attitude has always been exemplary, so we know he will succeed in all that he tries to do. We wish him the best and send healing energy to Luke and his family.



American Jujitsu Institute



**75th Anniversary
Celebration
Friday, June 20, 2014**



Santa Clara Marriott Hotel

2700 Mission College Blvd.

Santa Clara, Ca 95054

Ph: (408) 988-1500

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 4:00 PM | Meet and Greet |
| 5:00 PM | No Host Cocktails |
| 6:00 PM | Program Begins |
| 7:00 PM | Awards and Presentations |
| 9:00 PM | Closing |

Cost: \$ 25.00

AJI 75th Anniversary
June 20, 2014
Santa Clara Marriott Hotel – California

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ Age: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School or Organization: _____

Instructor: _____ email: _____

Hotel Information:

Santa Clara Marriott Hotel

2700 Mission College Blvd.
 Santa Clara, California 95054 USA
 Ph: (408) 988-1500

This event is being sponsored in conjunction with the
 Ohana 2014 Conference.

Schedule:

4:00 PM Meet and Greet
 5:00 PM No Host Cocktails
 6:00 PM Program Begins
 7:00 PM Awards and Presentations
 9:00 PM Closing
“Pupus Only”
Hors d'oeuvres.

One Form Per Person Please!

Event	Cost	Amount
Event Fee	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
T-Shirt (75 th Anniversary)		
Adult - Small ___ Med ___ Lg ___ XL ___ XX ___ XXXL ___	\$ 18.00	
Youth Med ___ Large ___ XL ___	\$ 12.00	
AJI Patch	\$ 5.00	
Extra AJI Anniversary Pen (One free with Event Registration)	\$ 4.00	
AJI Polo Shirt		
Adult Med ___ Lg ___ XL ___ XXL ___ XXXL ___	\$ 25.00	

Make Checks Payable to: **AJI**

Do not send cash!

Web Site: <http://www.americanjujitsuinstitute.org>

email: pra0005@hawaii.rr.com

Event Coordinator: Daniel W. Saragosa (808) 224-1142

Total:

\$

Mail To: AJI ~ c/o Dan Saragosa ~ 1779 Koi Koi St. ~ Wahiawa, Hi 96786

Waiver of Liability

I certify that I am medically and physically able to participate in this activity. I have been made aware of the potential hazards involved in jujitsu, karate and other self defense training and competition. Knowing the potential hazards involved and in consideration of my application being accepted, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, waive, release and discharge the American Jujitsu Institute, it's instructors, it's officers and anyone acting on their behalf, from any and all claims of liability for personal injury and, or death arising out of, or in the course of participating in this activity. This release and waiver extends to all claims of every kind or nature whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown.

Your Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____
(Participants Signature if 18years or older - Only)

Print Your Name: _____
(Print participant's Name)

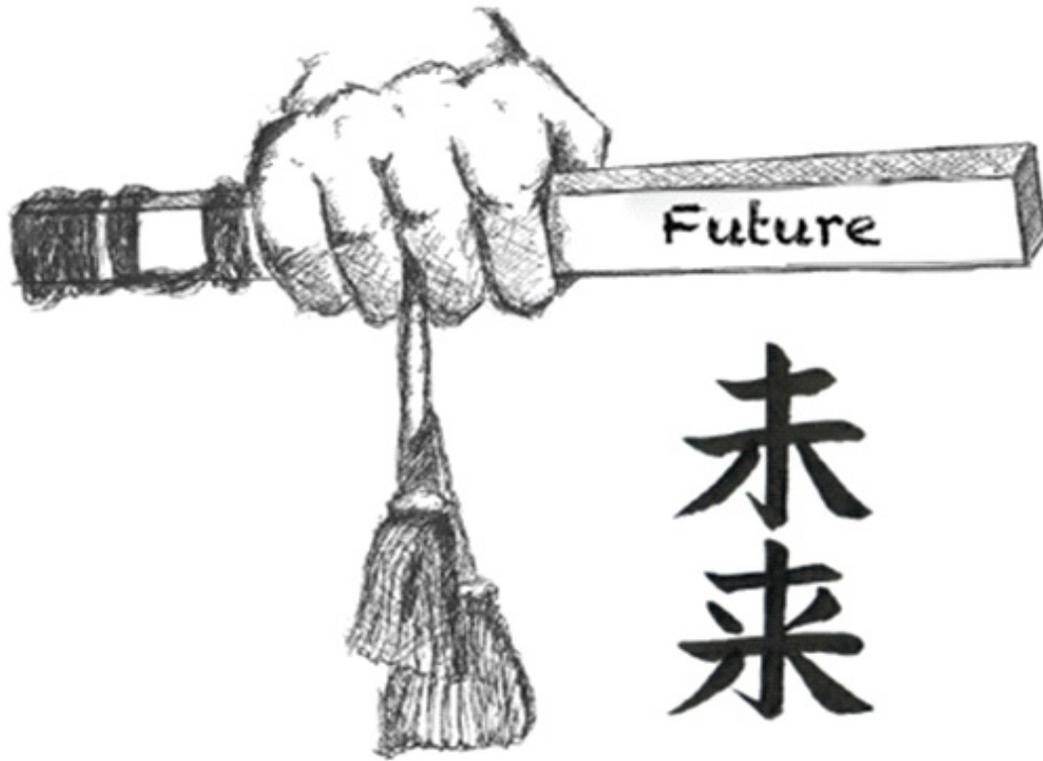
Note: If under 18 year of age, parental signature is required and noted below:

Print Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Parent or Guardian's: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Signature

'Ohana 2014

June 20-22, 2014



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www.ohana2014.com

Any questions contact Bob McKean at cop2rn@aol.com or

Hans Ingebretsen at hansingebretsen@yahoo.com

American Jujitsu Institute

Honolulu, Hi

Since 1939

Multi-Purpose Registration Form

Date: _____

Information Type: New Renewal Changes Promotion (Circle One)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Birthdate: ____/____/____ Sex: _____ *email address:* _____

Your School/Dojo Name : _____

Your Current Instructor : _____ (Enter "NONE" if none)

Your Current Rank : _____ Belt Color: _____ Date Promoted: ____/____/____

Dues & Fees:

Yearly Dues

All Kyu Ranks \$ 25.00_____
Black Belts \$ 40.00_____
Chief Instructors \$ 50.00_____
Dojo Registration \$ 50.00_____

Diploma Fees

All Kyu Ranks \$ 5.00_____
Black Belts 1 thru 5 \$ 30.00_____
Black Belts 6 thru 10 \$ 50.00_____

Please place a check mark next to all items which apply to you. Total Amount \$ _____

Waiver of Liability

I certify that I am medically and physically able to participate in this activity. I have been made aware of the potential hazards involved in jujitsu, karate and other self defense training and competition. Knowing the potential hazards involved and in consideration of my application being accepted, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, waive, release and discharge the American Jujitsu Institute, it's instructors, the City and County of Honolulu, the State of Hawaii and anyone acting on their behalf, from any and all claims of liability for personal injury or death arising out of, or in the course of participating in this activity. This release and waiver extends to all claims of every kind or nature whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown.

Your Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parental Consent if Under 18 : _____

Print Parent's Name: _____

Mail to: AJI c/o Daniel W. Saragosa 1779 Koikoi St., Wahiawa, Hi 96786



American Jujitsu Institute
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