

# AJA Newsletter

*American Jujitsu Association*

## William D. Fromm 1935-2003

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I first met Bill when I was a new ju-jitsu student at the Burbank, California YMCA in 1967. He was a brown belt and I was a white belt. There really was no relationship at that time beyond that of him being the assistant sensei at the "Y". As I had the time and wanted more instruction I also started taking classes from my sensei's sensei, Jack Seki, an additional 3 nights per week. I got to know Bill more as I took more classes from Seki.

At some point the Burbank Y sensei had to leave. Seki turned to Bill and me one night and said to us, "You're going to take over the Burbank YMCA." Amidst our protests and concerns (we were both brown belts at the time) he then said, "Bill knows more techniques and you're a teacher, so act like black belts and be sensei."

Fortunately we did. The Y program soon got so big that we had a 6+ month waiting list. Bill and I also got to know each other very well. He was the planning director for the city of Burbank. Although he was a political conservative, to balance my liberalism, we both bounced off each other (pun?) quite well. He was a great person to work with. We didn't always agree, but we

trusted each other's judgment. I think all of this is what made the Burbank Y program work as it did and made our friendship more cohesive.

After a few years Bill moved to Towson, Maryland to become city planning director for that city. His leaving was a real loss to me. However, he quickly got a Ju-Jitsu program started at the Towson YMCA, which still exists today. Seki suggested that Bill and I found a federation. After quite a bit of communication, we established the American Ju-Jitsu Federation (AJA). The AJA would eventually grow to become a 501c3 amateur athletic association. I think, in retrospect, that was Seki's way of making sure we stayed in contact with each other.

The close relationship between us continued up through his sudden passing this past July. We went through family trials and joys together. We went through machinations as the AJA grew. Even after Bill retired from teaching the art and public service and moved to Burlington, Kentucky we continued to write and talk to each other on a regular basis. We even went through some of the "owies" of being "seniors" together. We were still

able to laugh at our problems and make fun of our new limitations. Life does go on. Earlier this year Bill informed me that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

On Monday, July 14, 2003, Adeen, Bill's wife, called me to let me know that Bill had suddenly passed away on Sunday, July 13. It was an absolute shock and I'm still dealing with it.

Bill's friendship and support was a very important part of my life. He was the one person I could bounce my thoughts off of without fear of criticism or mockery. He was always straight-up with me. I didn't always agree with what he said, but I knew he was being honest and sincere. I could trust his judgment. He was a true friend. He was my rock.

I shall truly miss him. However, I have a lot of fond memories of him and those will win out in the end. I know he's on the great tami up in the sky where he should be.

Kiotsuke!  
Reil  
Arigato!

Good luck Bill.

George Kirby  
Judan, Budoshin Jujitsu

The AJA Newsletter welcomes submissions of articles and proposals. We prefer plain text (.TXT) in electronic format. You may also send articles for consideration through the U.S. Postal Service or via fax.

Back issues are available.

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Submission deadline for the next issue is December 12, 2003

## You Bet Your Life

By JEFF WYNN

When I was a kid (this will definitely date me) there was a TV show that my parents never missed. It was run by Groucho Marx and was titled "You Bet Your Life". I do not remember it really well — contestants had to bet on something, for sure — but the name stuck with me. After many years of on-again, off-again martial arts, including colored belts in three of them, my oldest son came home one day full of fire and said "Dad, I've finally found it! I've found a real martial art, not a martial business, and Dad — it's pragmatic, and it works!"

Of course it was not long before I was drawn into Bruce Jones' tiny school in northern Virginia. At that time there were only about 15 students (today on a given Saturday it is typically 60 or 70). I noticed after awhile that Bruce and Judy Jones did not accept just any student — they were not interested in macho-types, and they certainly were not interested in teaching bullies. Bruce was also very insistent that any student of his must be interested in becoming a teacher. If you were not interested in serving your community in some way, you were really miscast there.

One of the earliest lessons I remember was being asked

"Would bet your life on that?" Wow. That brought me up short. Another comment I recall hearing every so often was "that's a low-percentage move," or "that's a high-percentage move." On any given day, we would work hard on just two or three different techniques, including variations. We practiced and practiced — long beyond what a beginner would think was really necessary. We were reminded, however, that understanding a technique was next to worthless unless you built it in — you will never fight effectively from your cerebral cortex, but only from muscle-memory. If you do not have the move down from using it literally hundreds of times, it probably would not be very useful to you.

All of us, in our life experience, can probably remember at least one street-fighter who was pretty good at fighting, but had no formal martial training — he had just learned a lot from the School of Hard Knocks. Typically this kind of fighter has learned two or three things that work really well for him ... and he uses them very effectively, even steering a fight to where he can use one of them to devastating effect.

Those reading this article understand that a wide-

ranging, multiple-art kind of training available in the AJA provides a much broader tool-kit to use when Your Worst Nightmare suddenly imposes itself. That said, I think all of you have also found that several techniques work especially well for you. For me, it is sutemi-waza, sacrifice moves, or closing hard with an attacker against his expectations, and perhaps using a knee against a thigh-pad or fingers in the face strategically. I personally know some people who can use a koshinage with devastating results — they know it well, they are good at it, and they like to use it often. For them, this has become a "high-percentage" move. It is something they can and would literally bet their life on.

The really great leverage we have as Jujitsukas comes from the enormous range of systems and techniques we are taught to use. We are not limited to just punching or kicking, or tripping someone up, or a spin-kick. Anyone being trained in an AJA-affiliated school is taught virtually all of the high-percentage techniques. I have been impressed that those with Hanshi rank seem to know how to do most all of these techniques effectively ... that is the huge difference

(See Bet on page 9)

*Understanding a technique is next to worthless unless you build it in — you will never fight effectively from your cerebral cortex ... only from muscle-memory.*

## AJA Board of Directors

Interested in getting involved with the AJA at the national level? The Board of Directors (BOD) has authorized several new staff positions in the AJA. Here is an opportunity for you to get involved. Please contact the AJA Secretary if you're interested and provide a resume by e-mail. All positions are under the supervision of the AJA president.

### National Media Coordinator

#### Responsibility

Inform the national martial arts media of upcoming, local, regional and national AJA events as well as results of AJA activities, including but not limited to:

- Tournaments
- Camps, seminars
- BOD meetings
- Awards

#### Specific Duties

- Develop and maintain an e-mail & snail-mail list of the national martial arts media
- Secure information from AJA sensei, dojo, regional or national officers
- Write and/or submit written articles (written by others) to the national martial arts media
- Provide same information to the AJA Newsletter Editor and AJA Webmaster

#### Minimum Requirements

- Good communication skills
- Good writing skills
- Internet access
- Patience, perseverance and understanding
- PR experience preferred

### AJA State Directors

The state directors shall be part of the staff of the regional director and, as such, would be the regional advisory board for their respective region. The regional director would retain final authority to make all decisions within his/her region, subject to

BOD review and approval.

#### Responsibility

Foster, develop and publicize the AJA in their specific state within the goals and purposes set forth in the AJA Constitution.

#### Specific Duties

- Encourage the growth of the AJA in their state by actively seeking out jujitsu dojo supporting their affiliation with the AJA
- Provide the appropriate AJA staff and board members with information pertaining to Jujitsu in their state

#### Minimum Requirements

- Rank of nidan
- Current member in good standing in the AJA
- Head instructor or assistant instructor of an AJA dojo holding current dojo membership
- Willingness and openness to deal with other jujitsu schools, even though they may be in commercial competition, in a professional and courteous manner

#### Method of Selection

If there is only one dojo in a state then that dojo's sensei shall become the AJA State Director. If there are more than one AJA dojo in a state:

- The regional director shall solicit applications from all interested
- Interested yudansha should contact their regional director
- Regional director will submit all candidates' applications to the AJA Secretary for a BOD vote.
- Regional director may make recommendation(s)

#### Term of Office

2 years and is renewable based upon reapplication & BOD vote

### AJA Allied Directors

The allied director(s) shall be part of the national staff. Allied director(s) may collectively provide an advisory vote or opinion to the national BOD.

*(See Volunteer on page 5)*

## Western Region Spring Tournament April 26, 2003

### Below 6<sup>th</sup> Kyu – 8 Years Old And Younger

1 <sup>st</sup>	Allen Head	YMCA Verdugo Hills
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chad Reza	Roc Jujitsu
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tyler Rivers	YMCA Verdugo Hills

### Below 6<sup>th</sup> Kyu – 9 Years To 13 Years Old

1 <sup>st</sup>	Melissa Delacuada	Roc Jujitsu
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brandon Suyemoto	YMCA Verdugo Hills
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Eric Blanco	Roc Jujitsu

### Below 6<sup>th</sup> Kyu – 14 Years Old And Up

1 <sup>st</sup>	Tania Amezcua	Roc Jujitsu
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Perry Factor	Harvard-Westlake

### 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Kyu – 12 Years Old And Under

1 <sup>st</sup>	Cesar Pena	Roc Jujitsu
2 <sup>nd</sup>	David Contreras	Universal Jujitsu
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Autumn Cochrane	YMCA Verdugo Hills

### 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Kyu – 13 Years Old And Up

1 <sup>st</sup>	Enrique Bernabe	Roc Jujitsu
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Michael Lange-wisch	Budoshin Santa Clarita
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Carlos Pena	Roc Jujitsu

### 4<sup>th</sup> Kyu – All Ages

1 <sup>st</sup>	Leo Orellana	Budoshin Santa Clarita
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kevin Hu	Rojen Temple City
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joseph Seal	YMCA Verdugo Hills

### 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Kyu – All Ages

1 <sup>st</sup>	Dave Eckardt	Harvard-Westlake
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Daniel Erickson	Harvard Westlake
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sean Gallimore	Budoshin Santa Clarita

### Yudanshia

1 <sup>st</sup>	Art Corona	Roc Jujitsu
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kimo Williams	Budoshin Burbank

### Overall Champion

Dave Eckardt	Harvard Westlake
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### Judging and Scoring

George Kirby, 10 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Linda Delapelle, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dan
Robert Wong, 7 <sup>th</sup> Dan	Jorge Corona, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dan
Mark Jordan, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Art Corona, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dan
Marc Tucker, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Steve Cole, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dan
Ron Sekulich, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	Kimo Williams, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dan

### Mat Referees

Sean Galimore	Ron Sekulich
Kory Wollons	



## Volunteer

*(Continued from page 3)*

### Responsibilities

- Same goal and purposes as the AJA in their own country
- Assume duties of the National Tournament Coordinator
- Countries limited to those in North, Central and South America
- May include international organizations within those geographic confines
- Several countries may combine together for a more efficient use of leadership and other resources

### Specific Duties

- Advance and unify the art of jujitsu in their own country or countries
- Provide the appropriate AJA staff and board members with information pertaining to Jujitsu in their country or countries
- Assume responsibilities and specific duties of the National Tournament Coordinator
- Refer to job descriptions for responsibilities and specific duties

### Minimum Requirements

- Rank of nidan
- Current member in good standing in the AJA
- Head instructor of an AJA dojo holding current dojo membership
- Willingness and openness to deal with other jujitsu schools inside & outside their country in a professional, courteous and inclusive manner

### Method of Selection

If there is only one dojo in a country then that dojo's sensei shall become the AJA Allied Director. If there are more than one AJA dojo in a country, the AJA chairman or his delegated representative shall:

- Solicit applications from all interested
- Contact the AJA chairman or his delegated representative.
- Submit all candidates' applications to the AJA Secretary for a BOD vote.
- Make recommendations to the BOD regarding applicants

### Term of Office

2 years and is renewable based upon reapplication & BOD vote

The following positions have been created and filled.

## National Awards Chairperson

*Linda Delapelle has been appointed as National Awards Chairperson.*

The National Awards Chairperson administers and coordinates AJA National Awards Program. This includes:

- National Membership Awards
- Regional Outstanding Sensei
- Regional Outstanding Blackbelt
- Regional Outstanding Student (below Blackbelt)
- Dojo Outstanding Blackbelt(s)
- Dojo Outstanding Student(s)
- AJA Hall of Fame Award

## Recruitment Coordinator

*Robert Connolly has been appointed as Recruitment Coordinator.*

Bob has already begun the task of identifying and contacting Jujitsu dojo in the US about the opportunity to join the AJA. The AJA offers a unique affiliation within the Jujitsu community and growth of the AJA is vital to sustain that this option. This is not a simple task and certainly not one he can do alone. While Bob has already enlisted the help of several AJA members, you too can help. Do you know of Jujitsu dojo in your area? Have you talked with them about joining the AJA? If not, get involved and contact the neighbor dojo. The AJA provides a cost effective community affiliation unmatched by any other organization. For additional information, contact Bob Connolly at:

**[rconnollyjr271029@comcast.net](mailto:rconnollyjr271029@comcast.net)**

## Contacting the AJA



To answer this question...



...contact this officer...



...who is this person.

### Jorge Corona

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### Radovan Sekulich

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### Updates

The following information has changed since the last issue:

AJA President  
 Northern Regional Director

Where do I send Membership forms and fees? (Dojo and Individual Student)

➡ Membership Chairperson

➡ Mark Jordan

Where do I send Mudansha Rank Promotions? (application and fees)

➡ Certification Chairperson

➡ Donna Mathews

Where do I get materials? (patches, constitution, etc.)

➡ Materials Chairperson

➡ Mark Jordan (acting)

Who do I contact about tournaments?

➡ Regional Tournament Coordinator

➡ Jorge Corona, Western Region  
 Tony Maynard, Southern Region  
 Terry Feelemyer, Northern Region

Where do I send Yudansha Rank Promotion? (application and fees)

➡ Regional Director

➡ Radovan Sekulich, Western Region  
 Tony Maynard, Southern Region  
 Terry Feelemyer, Northern Region

—or—

What if I have a problem with a Board member or Staff member?

—or—

What if I have a question

What if I have a problem with my Regional Director?

➡ AJA President

➡ Dennis McCurdy

What if I have a proposal for the Board of Directors?

➡ AJA Board of Directors Chairman

➡ George Kirby



## Illusion vs. Reality: Belt Testing

By GEORGE KIRBY

A concern was recently presented to me regarding the perceived simplicity of the Budoshin Ju-jitsu brown and black belt mat exams. If you look at the kata and waza sections of the test it appears that there are no more kata or waza to learn after sankyu. To the unaware and uninformed, from sankyu on the examiners randomly select only 10 of 24 required kata and 15 of 26 required waza from the examination list.

This problem is not unique to the Budoshin Ju-jitsu system. It is common to many other traditional systems.

Part of the rationale for this concern is that many systems specifically state different kata and waza requirements or may specify that "x" number of kata or waza must be demonstrated. Some systems even specify exactly what kata and waza must be learned and demonstrated on the mat exams.

There is nothing inherently wrong with such a detailed approach. It does enhance consistency in learning and standardization. Using this format also insures that every person who holds an identical rank has an identical level of knowledge and (we hope) competence. There are some Budoshin sensei who are looking into this possible modification.

I am not necessarily opposed to that approach. However, I do have a concern. This approach may require that all sensei teach a specific curriculum for specific higher kyu and dan grades, much as is currently done for lower ranked students. While

this is good, it can also result in sensei teaching *only* the required curriculum; nothing else will be taught.

This is my greatest concern. Part of the uniqueness of the Budoshin system is that beyond a basic common core, almost every higher ranked student has learned different techniques ... techniques they inevitably exchange with each other.

The same also holds true for lower ranked students as well. Although one white belt may have learned only one type of hip throw (ippon seoi nage is required) by the time he is tested for 6<sup>th</sup> kyu, another may have learned 2-3 different types of hip throw. The same can be said of almost any basic technique. This is one of the inherent strengths of the system; students are always taught much more than they need to know for their next belt exam. If we teach only to a specific curriculum will more adept students suffer? In public education we call this "enrichment". Is this to be cast aside for a specific and specifically directed course of instruction? I hope not.

By the time a good student gets to sankyu, they probably know at least 2-3 variations of each basic kata and several different defenses for each attack. I think that is pretty good. By the time a student reaches shodan that knowledge should have doubled.

The questions it ultimately comes down to are (1) what do we specifically test for, (2) how much should a candidate for a higher rank be expected to

demonstrate, and (3) what are the examiners looking for?

If we are testing for the ability to perform specific techniques, well, that is one option. If we are testing for certain core knowledge (understanding of specific categories of techniques) then that is another option. If we expect the candidate to explain how techniques work, using appropriate terminology that is yet another option.

The number of kata and waza (and variations thereof) a student is expected to demonstrate is another factor. Should they have to demonstrate all of them, plus variations, or should the examiner choose specific kata and waza at random, expecting immediate good quality execution? The former can be quite time-consuming and the quality of performance will diminish as the candidate becomes more physically exhausted. The latter may result in "unequal" testing of candidates as some kata and waza are easier to deal with than others.

I suppose there will be some "quantification" of the brown belt exams and more specific kata and waza will be taught at each level to assure greater consistency and a common base of knowledge. I am not necessarily adverse to this. Two of my sandan have discussed this issue with me and I am curious to see what they come up with. I do believe that, if they are successful, it may ultimately

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*Ultimately the goal must be to continue to produce competent black belts, not just black belts who know more kata and waza.*

(See **Testing** on page 10)

## Promotions

<b>Shichikyu</b>		七級
Sherry Klein	6/26/03	Arlington
A. Yavus Kavalcioglu	6/26/03	Arlington
Kristen Moran	6/26/03	Arlington
Becca Raub	6/26/03	Arlington
Kirsten deFur	8/14/03	Arlington
Phil Neel	8/14/03	Arlington

<b>Rokkyn</b>		六級
David Robert Fallon	4/23/03	Arlington
Mathew Lashof	4/23/03	Arlington
Marius Weilbach	4/30/03	Chambersburg
Jacque E. Weilbach,	4/30/03	Chambersburg
Marcia Weilbach	4/30/03	Chambersburg
Kevin McCleary	6/26/03	Arlington
Hoang-Minh Nguyen	6/26/03	Arlington
James Nichols	6/26/03	Arlington
George Salmoiraghi	6/26/03	Arlington
Jesse Lyon	8/14/03	Santa Clarita
Glenn Daigon	8/14/03	Arlington
Harry Rattliff	8/14/03	Arlington
David Contreras	9/11/03	Claremont
Lloyd Biggs	9/16/03	Claremont

<b>Gokyu</b>		五級
Kent Ballew	5/27/03	Claremont
Camille Biggs	6/5/03	Claremont
Brian W. Collins	6/26/03	Arlington
Robert J. Kennedy IV	6/26/03	Arlington
Angelico Tolentino	9/11/03	Claremont
Tim Kiug	9/16/03	Claremont
James Martinez	9/16/03	Claremont
Don Tolentino	9/16/03	Claremont

<b>Yonkyu</b>		四級
Nate Connor	5/15/03	Anne Arundel
Tina Strausbaugh	5/15/03	Anne Arundel
Dave Murphy	7/1/03	Anne Arundel
George Meredith	July 2003	Reston
David Schneider	July 2003	Reston
Masashi Mizukami	8/14/03	Santa Clarita
Caitlin Davies	8/14/03	Arlington
Katherine E. Soderman	8/14/03	Arlington

<b>Sankyu</b>		三級
Michelle Culmore	5/15/03	Anne Arundel
David Gauntlett	July 2003	Reston
Amber Dunham	July 2003	Reston
Arnold Smith	July 2003	Reston
Helen French	8/14/03	Arlington

<b>Nikyu</b>		二級
Dustin Contreras	3/4/03	Claremont
Stephen M. Tenney	4/23/03	Arlington
Cesar George	5/22/03	Claremont
Eric Lestick	6/5/03	Claremont
Chris Perry	6/10/03	Claremont
Eduard Krishrul	6/14/03	Aikijujitsu Metairie, La.
Denny De los Reyes	8/14/03	Santa Clarita
Michael J. Hobson	8/14/03	Arlington
Lawrence Tomek	8/14/03	Arlington

<b>Ikkyu</b>		一級
Aaron Kromer	6/26/03	Arlington
Ibrahim Majeed	July 2003	Reston
Shayne Wissman	7/1/03	Anne Arundel



## Promotions

Shodan		初段
Robert L. Connolly	4/23/03	Arlington
Frank Blaney	May 2003	BJJY
Marc Kolodziejczyk	May 2003	BJJY
John Portlock	6/12/03	Claremont
Henry Herzberg	7/1/03	Anne Arundel
Sean Gallimore	7/27/03	Santa Clarita
David Dunham	July 2003	Reston
Kevin Yousefi	July 2003	Reston

Nidan		二段
Steve Cole	7/12/03	Pasadena

Sandan		三段
Gordon P. Burgett, Jr.	4/30/93	Chambersburg
Todd J. Pryor	8/1/93	Chambersburg

Yodan		四段
Thomas Salander	7/27/03	BJJY
Marc Tucker	7/27/03	BJJY

Judan		四段
Gene Roos	6/16/03	Aikijujitsu Metairie, La.

## Bet

*(Continued from page 2)*  
between them and a Nidan like myself. By brown-belt level, we all know the techniques, but by Hanshi level we can use them all. This large package means that even at brown-belt level we have a much higher chance to develop the broadest tool-kit of techniques that work — right now — for us. Now, I am fairly short (but wound tight, my kids tell me), and something that works well for one of my sons with their long limbs and two meters of height does not generally serve me very well. There are other things that work better for me.

Over a period of a year, a

dedicated Jujitsuka may practice several hundred different techniques. From this large selection we will naturally gravitate towards a number of high-percentage moves — in the Reston Dojo we are encouraged to do this.

When Your Worst Nightmare finds you (and the nature of the Beast is that you generally will not find it), you will have a lot of things that you may — literally — have to bet your life on. And you will have just 3 - 5 seconds to do it.

So ... when your Sensei insists that you practice that ude-garuma maki-kome yet another thirty times, *listen*. Your life may literally hang in the balance. Just two years

ago, Your Worst Nightmare happened to one of my sons — a five-on-one attack. I am convinced he is alive today because of his AJA training. He very literally bet his life on his training ... and won.

Jeff Wynn recently moved from Reston, Virginia, to Vancouver, Washington to accept a position as chief scientist for Volcano Hazards with the US Geological Survey. He was suffering from serious Jujitsu Withdrawal and eventually opened his own dojo with his sons. See Northern Virginia Expanding on page 10 for more details.

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*“Each morning when I open my eyes I say to myself: I, not events, have the power to make me happy or unhappy today. I can choose which it shall be. Yesterday is dead, tomorrow hasn't arrived yet. I have just one day, today, and I'm going to be happy in it.”*

Groucho Marx

## A Day at Camp

By RON SEKULICH

Sunday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003 in Burbank, California was a great day to hold Camp Budoshin. The weather was great and the participants were enthusiastic. Camp Budoshin is the annual martial arts event held in the spirit of Kokura, 'coming together and sharing'. This year brought many familiar faces, both from the sixteen instructors and the fifty plus participants, as well as some new ones.

First-time instructors to the CB mat were Ron Carlson (Kempo Ju-jitsu) from Colorado, Bob Maschmeier (Kajukenbo) who joined us from Northern California and Jeven Moravick (Tai Chi Chuan/Aikido), an active Los Angeles-based instructor. In addition to these instructors, we had the pleasure and honor to play host to the talents of Ed Biefelt (Kung Fu), Tony Damigo (Jujitsu), David Dye (Aikido), Kris

Kademian (Hapkido), George Kirby (Jujitsu), Michael Langewisch (Chanbara), Michael MacDonald (Sambo), Ken Penland (Aikijujitsu), Ted Petit (Sugo Budo), Kevin Colton (Jujitsu), Darrell Sarjeant (Kamau Nija), Clifford Stewart (WAR/Penjat Silat) and Steve Uhrig (Taekwondo).

Personally, I was only able to attend two, of the four, sessions. First was Kevin Colton of Danzan-ryu Jujitsu and his presentation on Kappo; the branch of their Seifukujitsu/Restorative Massage that is used as first care for (non-emergency) dojo injuries, typically when one is struck in the groin or has had the air knocked/choked out of them. Kevin is an engaging and very knowledgeable instructor and it's always a joy to have him at our camp. The second was Ed Biefelt's presentation on basic martial arts concepts. The session was

direct and enlightening. Hesitant to use the word "technique", he demonstrated a few simple "movements" and then allowed us to play with them as openings for further "movements" from within our own respective systems.

What is always impressive about the day are the attitudes of those who attend. All come with a desire to learn and share, particularly the instructors who donate their time to this event. Additionally, the high level of knowledge and skill of the participants was noted by one instructor.

Already I am looking forward to next year's Camp Budoshin, which will hopefully occur consecutively with the AJA convention and Fall tournament. The martial arts are here for all to share...the more the merrier.

## Northern Virginia Expanding

Bruce and Judy Jones are pleased to announce the opening of an affiliated Vancouver, Washington, AJA dojo under the leadership of Sensei Jeff Wynn and his 3 sons. All are recent members of the Reston, VA dojo family. Jeff is a scientist with the USGS, and leader of West Coast

Operations. Congratulations to Sensei Wynn and his sons: Don, Cory, and Jared for exercising the leadership and initiative to start their own AJA program in Washington State.

As a part of their 2003 strategic plan, Bruce and Judy have committed to helping

three more of their Reston, VA AJA yudansha in "spreading their wings" and opening their own AJA dojos. Two of the dojo are in Virginia at YMCAs or Community Centers, and the 3rd is at a Federal Building Fitness Center on Constitution Ave. in Washington, DC.

## Testing

*(Continued from page 7)*

result in more rigorous criteria for black belts. It is at this point that we will have to look at "rigorous criteria" very carefully. Ultimately the goal must be to continue to produce competent black belts, not just black belts who know more kata and waza.

Is the Budoshin Ju-Jitsu brown/black belt mat exam deceptively simple? On the surface it appears to be so. In reality,

however, it is a much more complex evaluation device, especially for black belt candidates. I also think that the mat examination only scratches the surface of what a black belt candidate knows. Sometimes the limit of a candidate's knowledge of a technique will be pursued during a mat exam, not only to see how much he knows, but how well he can explain himself and demonstrate his level

of expertise. The depth of this expertise is what impresses examiners...

...and maybe this is the road we need to pursue.

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George Kirby  
Judan, Budoshin Jujitsu

## Upcoming Events

October 27 to November 3 2003

UK instructors Leslie McLean and  
Bryan Whipps

Where: Shinglehouse, Pennsylvania

When: e-mail for specific dates & times

Sponsor: Earth Dragon Ju Jutsu

Contact: Ed Naumowicz

✉ e-mail: [earthd@epix.net](mailto:earthd@epix.net)

☎ voice: 814-697-7759

November 7 and 8, 2003

Harold Brosious Seminar

Where: Metairie, Louisiana

Contact: Prof. Gene Roos

✉ e-mail: [generoos@cox.net](mailto:generoos@cox.net)

☎ voice: 504-835-3004

November 8, 2003

George Kirby Seminar

Where: Arlington YMCA

3422 N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Arlington, Virginia

When: Saturday, 9:00am to 1:00pm

Contact: Thomas Salander

✉ e-mail: [Salander@aol.com](mailto:Salander@aol.com)

☎ voice: 703-525-5420

📍 3422 N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street

Arlington, Virginia 22203

February 7 and 8, 2004

George Kirby Seminar

Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Jujitsu

Where: Longmont, Colorado

✉ e-mail: [l.crochiere@attbi.com](mailto:l.crochiere@attbi.com)

March 13 or 20, 2004

Fine-Tuning Techniques Seminar

Where: Santa Clarita, California

Contact: George Kirby

✉ e-mail: [senseigk@budoshin.com](mailto:senseigk@budoshin.com)

July 24, 25 and 26, 2004

BJJY Summer Camp

Where: Santa Clarita, California

Contact: George Kirby

✉ e-mail: [senseigk@budoshin.com](mailto:senseigk@budoshin.com)

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*"You have one  
body, respect it; one  
mind, feed it well,  
and one life, enjoy  
it! The great battle  
of meditation is  
with restless  
thoughts."*

Paramhansa  
Yogananda

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*"People of mediocre  
ability sometimes  
achieve outstanding  
success because they  
don't know when  
to quit. Most men  
succeed because they  
are determined to."*

George E. Allen