

CAA MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 22, 2021

AIKIDO WEST & VIA ZOOM

1. Meeting called to order by Craig Fife, CAA President.

Started with a quote from Thich Nhat Hahn: Letting go gives us freedom, and freedom is the only condition for happiness. If, in our heart, we still cling to anything - anger, anxiety, or possessions - we cannot be free.

2. CAA Webmaster Report by Michael Smith Sensei:

An important element in the practice of Aikido is the strengthening of our ability to connect, deeply with another person, not just on the physical level, but on all levels by which humans interact. Communication. Communication is a key component of our ability to connect. Physical contact, kotegaeshi for example, with another person is a high speed conduit of communication. Are we really listening? What are we saying? Images and verbal expressions also play important roles in our lives as social beings. In that regard the CAA website exists.

1. To inform and promote the Art and the Path of Aikido to the world community.
2. To provide information on training opportunities via the Events Calendar and the Online Classes page.
3. To facilitate and strengthen the CAA community through the sharing of ideas and experiences.

The pandemic has certainly impacted the world, and the world of Aikido, over the past 20 months. And as the opportunities for in-person training have dropped, so to has overall site traffic, which is down 23% as compared to the same period last year. Daily page visits fluctuate, but are averaging around 40 page visits per day.

Among the most active pages are those in the Dojo Directory. These pages serve as an important resource both to CAA members as well as to newcomers interested in finding a nearby dojo. It is important that the information on these pages be accurate. If visitors to our site regularly encounter dead links, disconnected phone numbers, and incorrect addresses it can negatively impact the sense of reliability and usefulness of the site overall. So, this is an appeal to dojocho to verify that the listed information is correct and to submit any corrections to the webmaster. You can find the email addresses for the CAA webmaster, president, and administrative officers on the contact page of the website.

Also among the areas of the site receiving the most traffic is the "Online Classes" page. With the continued uncertainty in many locations regarding the ability to conduct in-person classes the "Online Classes" page can be a valuable resource for those looking to stay connected both to their own training and to the Aikido community. It is important that this page accurately reflect what is currently available. If you already have a listing on the "Online Classes" page, please verify that the information is up-to-date and send any changes to the CAA webmaster. If you have an on-going Online Class and wish to have it listed, there is a link on the page to a form for submitting the information to the webmaster.

The pandemic has led to the exploration of new means of training, which in turn have yielded new perspectives as we struggle to travel the path to Peace. Let's share what we've learned. True connection involves both putting forth, as well as openly receiving. We encourage dojo cho and your students to explore the website and to contribute to the ongoing dialog. Your articles, Dan papers, and Spotlights inspire others on the path.

3. Bookkeeper Report: Carla Garrett:
As of 7:06 am, 8/22/21:

The PayPal account had \$1,174.65. There were some last minute additions and subtractions as people cancelled and registered at the last minute, so this number will change.

The RP account had \$4,707.69. Most of which is for people who have paid for their ranks, but which have not yet been processed or billed by Hombu.

The business account has \$3,005.51. I will be paying for the annual insurance policy (which expired 9/3) this week.

4. Rank Processing: Adrienne Wonnacott Sensei:

There have been 17 Yudansha applications since our last meeting (2/21)

Kagamibiraki applications information will be sent by the Aikikai any time now, we will update the application process on the website as soon as the information arrives.

If you have problems with the application process or the website, please let me know and I will fix it as soon as possible.

5. IAF update: Pat Hendricks Shihan:

The IAF has changed its rules to now allow three representatives from each country. (It used to be one representative per country) So now the CAA is one of the representatives from the USA. Hendricks Sensei is now the CAA's IAF representative. The other two US organizations in the IAF are; The USAF represented by George Kennedy Sensei and World Alliance Aikido represented by Andrew Sato Sensei.

The main purpose of the IAF is to reach out to Aikido Organizations around the world and bring people together under the umbrella of the IAF and Hombu Dojo.

6. COVID 19 update: Friedl Shihan:

COVID 19 has forced the Aikido community to be creative and resourceful to keep training alive. We are starting to see limited in-person events and in-person training coming back to our dojo's. Hopefully this trend will continue, but the COVID situation continues to be a fluid situation and present an ongoing challenge.

7. Words from our Division Heads: What is the significance of the CAA in the world wide Aikido scene? What responsibilities do we have? What do we have to offer?

Hendricks Shihan: The CAA has for years been a role model to the world of how a diverse group of Aikidoka can work together and support each other. We have earned the respect of Hombu Dojo because of our ability to do this over the years.

Wada Shihan, representing Nadeau Shihan: The CAA is about connection, as is the practice of Aikido. It is about our effort to follow the words and example of O'Sensei on an individual and organizational level.

Friedl Shihan: It is noteworthy that the CAA is one of the longest standing Aikido organizations that has been recognized by Hombu Dojo.

8. Announcement of New Members: Division Heads:

Division I: Hikari Dojo, Dojocho Louis Jumonville Shihan has relocated to: 15 Bayberry Dr. Sunderland, MA 01375. 925-687-2580

Kawa Akari Dojo, Dojocho Eric Winters Sensei is being welcomed into the CAA. Detail information pending.

Contra Costa Aikido, Dojocho Carla Garrett Sensei will be joining and beginning classes in January 2022.

Division II: Aikido of Penn Valley, Dojocho's Molly and Jeramy Hale Sensei's. 11888 Elnore Ct. Penn Valley, CA 95946, has changed its name to Aikido of Penn Valley.

Division III: No new members to announce.

9. General Membership Announcements:

Mateel Aikido in Redway, CA is celebrating 36 years in operation this year.

Kinjo Aikido is hosting Pat Hendricks Shihan for a seminar, Sept. 25 & 26. This seminar will be held at The Denver Aikikai, 1592 S. Broadway Denver, CO

The O'Sensei Revisited Seminar lead by Nadeau Shihan, Heiny Sensei, and Wada Shihan, will be rescheduled soon, Details pending.

Daito Ryu teacher, Roy Goldberg Sensei will conduct a seminar at Aikido of Ashland, 695 Mistletoe Rd. Suite B Ashland, Oregon 97520

10. Announcement of the next CAA meeting: February 27, 2022. It will probably be held at Aikido of San Jose. Details of the location will be posted on our website prior to the meeting date.

12. Meeting Adjourned by Craig Fife, CAA President.

CAA MEETING IN PERSON ATTENDANCE:

1. Adrienne Wonnocott ----- Aikido West
2. Carla Garrett ----- Hikari Dojo
3. Craig Fife ----- Aikido Northwest
4. Paul Thomas ----- Aikido West
5. Jack Babbitt ----- Roseville Aikido
6. Forrest Kan ----- Mateel Aikido
7. David Eves ----- Aikido of San Jose
8. Noah Levine ----- Aikido of San Leandro
9. Larry Bardach ----- Aikido Central Coast
10. Robert Mady ----- Aikido of San Leandro
11. Louis Jumonville ----- Hikari Dojo
12. Jordan Kramer ----- Aikido of San Leandro
13. Charles Bland ----- Kinjo Dojo Colorado
14. Eric Winters ----- Kawa Akari Dojo
15. Michael Friedl ----- Aikido of Ashland
16. Jack Wada ----- Aikido of San Jose
17. Bill Essig ----- Aikido of Berkley
18. Tanya Berardini ----- Aikido West
19. Ricardo Jenez ----- Aikido West
20. Julie Nash ----- Aikido of San Jose
21. Patricia Hendricks ----- Aikido of San Leandro
22. Kayla Feder ----- Aikido of Berkley
23. Liz Baldwin ----- Aikido of Berkley
24. Mahika Rangnekar ----- Aikido of Berkley

ZOOM ATTENDANCE:

1. Ross Madden ----- City Aikido San Francisco
2. Fernando Sanchez ----- Michi Dojo Brazil
3. Ben Tyler ----- Aikido Mountain West
4. Mark Vestrich ----- Aikido West
5. Graham de Vail ----- Aikido of Caerphilly
6. Lauren Herr ----- Aikido of Mountain View
7. Shawn Ellingson ----- Aikido Mountain West
8. Linda Holiday ----- Aikido of Santa Cruz
9. Jeramy Hale ----- Aikido of Penn Valley
10. Roy Johnston ----- City Aikido San Francisco
11. David Gay ----- Aikido of Caerphilly
12. Kevin Gay ----- Aikido of Caerphilly
13. Jane Nason ----- Aikido West
14. Molly Hale ----- Aikido of Penn Valley
15. Bob Leichner ----- Aikido West / Aikido of Mountain View
16. Elaine Yoder ----- City Aikido / Two Rock Aikido
17. Mitch Johnson ----- Aikido of Monterey
18. Manuela Steinmann ----- Aikido Sursee, Switzerland
19. Markus Steinmann ----- Aikido Sursee, Switzerland
20. Mary Tesoro ----- Aikido of San Luis Obispo
21. Michele Simon ----- Aikido Central Coast, Los Osos
22. Keith Fink ----- North Texas Aikido
23. Danielle Smith ----- One Point Center Aiki-Arts
24. Michael Smith ----- One Point Center Aiki-Arts
25. CJ Langbecker ----- Kinjo Dojo
26. Michael McVey ----- Yellow Springs Aikido

