**CAA MEETING MINUTES**

**February 23, 2020, Aikido of San Jose**

**Opening**

The meeting called to order by Craig Fife, President. The Members were welcomed, followed by Fife Shihan’s reading of a quote that appears on the CAA website:

Let me fall / Let me climb
There's a moment when fear / and dream must collide
Someone I am / Is waiting for courage
The one I want / The one I will become
Will catch me...

— from 'Quidam' Cirque du Soleil

**Announcement of the 2020 Kagami Baraki Promotions.**

Each of the three Division Heads announced the promotions for their divisions.

Pat Hendricks Shihan:

Louis Jumonville – Shihan

Yvonne Thelwell - 6th Dan

Oswald Hauler – 5th Dan

Michael Friedl Shihan:

Linda Holiday – 7th Dan, Shihan

Richard Strozzi-Heckler – Shihan

Danielle Smith – Shihan

Craig Fife – Shihan

Grayson James – 6th Dan

Andrew Kim – 6th Dan

Jane Nason – 6th Dan

Peter St Onge – 6th Dan

Alan Vann Gardner – 6th Dan

Rich Walsh – 6th Dan

Phil Wiener – 6th Dan

Aimen Al Refai – 5th Dan

Jeramy Hale – 5th Dan

Molly Hale – 5th Dan

Joseph Talley – 5th Dan

Adrianne Wonnacott – 5th Dan

Robert Nadeau Shihan: none

**CAA Webmaster Report**

Our Webmaster, Michael Smith Sensei reported that in the past six months our website had 4,811 unique visitors, 5,747 overall visits, and 18,300 page-views. Overall traffic was about 22% lower than during the same period last year (which included the Doshu Seminar), but about 59% higher than this period two years ago. Page visits included 505 visits to our Home page, 225 to our Calendar page,125 to the CAA Directory, 106 to the Promotion Lists page, and 100 visits to our Spotlight page. The top three regions from which Site visits originated were: USA (79%), India (3%), and New Zealand (2%). Also reported were visits from Mauritius and Kathmandu, Nepal.

Dojo Cho were encouraged to check the accuracy of their information in the Dojo Directory, to submit Dan essays, to post seminars, and to encourage their students to visit and utilize the website. The CAA website is not only a valuable center of resources, it enhances our sense of community, and serves as the face of our organization to the world.

There are two CAA Facebook pages. One is used by the CAA executive staff to communicate information to the membership. On the other, CAA members exchange information of interest to the membership

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**Bookkeeper Report**

Our Bookeeper, Carla Garrett, reported that:

1. Rank processing fees in the amount of $9,124.44 had been paid, the majority of which will be sent to Hombu Dojo for the March 15th batch;
2. CAA Member Dojo Dues in the amount of $5,237.75 had been paid. Most dojos have paid.
3. The Doshu Seminar was attended by 741 people; all expenses were covered.

**Rank Processing:**

Tanya Berardini presented the report from Adrianne Wonnacott, who was unable to be present.

123 Yudansha applications since last meeting (February 2019).

March 2019 28

June 2019 24

September 2019 33

December 2019 19

Kagamibiraki 2020 19

There will be some updates to the Kagamibiraki rank requirements on our website. The Aikikai has lengthened the minimum time for each rank by a year. For example, in order to apply for godan the applicant now needs more than five years and 1000 days before they may apply for godan.

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

**Wrap up of Doshu Visit 2019:**

Pat Hendricks Shihan expressed appreciation for all of the Doshu Seminar leaders and volunteers. The membership applauded as she connected the success of the event to their contributions. Hendricks Sensei noted that the Doshu had sent a letter in which he expressed his pleasure at the sense of community and family he experienced among the different organizations at the event. Doshu had also acknowledged how impressed he was with the organization of the event. Carla Garret and Adrianne Wonnacott, who were acknowledged as responsible for the overall organization, were applauded by the membership.

**IAF Congress in Japan, Fall 2020.**

CAA President Craig Fife Shihan announced that Pat Hendricks Shihan will be one of the teachers at this Fall’s IAF Congress in Japan. There will be a group from CAA attending. Registration is not yet open due to ongoing discussions on policy regarding COVID-19.

The IAF Congress has been renamed “The International Aikido Summit, and will take place September 26th through October 4th, 2020.” The General Assembly meetings—which are attended by delegates from member nations—are September 26th-28th. The Gender Session, open to everyone, is September 28th. Seminar training days ae September 29th through October 4th. Forums related to the concept of Ikegai will take place during the evenings of September 29th, 30th, and October 1st.

In response to a question about the relationship between IAF and CAA, it was clarified that the CAA does not belong to IAF, but is a friend.

**Words from the Division Heads**

The Division heads discussed the future and growth of Aikido in the USA, and the upcoming generation of young people. Hendricks Shihan noted that she has felt surprised and inspired by upsurge of a new generation of young people she observes coming in. Friedl Shihan shared his view that aikido is slowly coming back, and mentioned the “Aikido For Tomorrow” seminar in Boulder, CO this weekend as one exciting example. Nadeau Shihan described the overall numbers of aikido as being down all over the world currently.

**Announcement of New Members by Division Heads**

Hendricks Shihan (Division One) announced one new member: Anette Kompa 3rd Dan., Aikido Dojo Ingelheim, Germany

Both Friedl Shihan (Division One) and Nadeau Shihan (Division Three) reported they had no new members.

**General Membership Announcements**

Upcoming Seminars and events were announced by various members. See the CAA website Events page. Bob Leichner discussed First Aid classes and welcomed members to contact him with requests for trainings or for more information. A member announced the invention of a new aikido game. A three-page PDF will be made available.

**Next meeting:**

President Craig Fife announced the next meeting will take place August 23, 2020 at Aikido West.

**Meeting adjourned:**

President Craig Fife adjourned the meeting.

**Attendance CAA Meeting 2/23/2020**

Pat Hendricks Aikido of San Leandro

Michael Friedl Aikido of Ashland

Robert Nadeau City Aikido

Craig Fife Aikido Northwest

Carla Garrett Hikari Dojo

Renee Antinone Johnson City Aikido

Elaine Yoder City Aikido

Laurin Herr City Aikido

Kayla Feder Aikido of Berkeley

Lisi Baldwin Aikido of Berkeley

David Floeter Aikido of Berkeley

Bill Essig Aikido of Berkeley

Michael Brown Aikido of San Jose

Harry Concepcion Aikido of San Jose

Jack Wada Aikido of San Jose

Kevin Kemper Roseville Aikido

Owen Lawyer Ukiah Aikido

Carol Marrington Ukiah Aikido

Izmael Arkin Ukiah Aikido

Jordan Krammer Aikido of San Leandro

Akemi Maniwa Aikido of San Leandro

Noah Levine Aikido of San Leandro

Beth Nielsen Hikari Dojo

Louis Jumonville Hikari Dojo

Doug Reichert Aikido of Winnipeg

Leanne Reichert Aikido of Winnipeg

Edgar Johansson Denver Aikikai

Paul Thomas Aikido West

Tanya Berardini Aikido West

Bob Leichner Aikido West/Aikido of Mountain View

Timothy Sloves Aikido Mountain West

Shawn Ellingson Aikido Mountain West

Ben Tyler Aikido Mountain West

Danielle Smith Onepoint Center Aiki Arts

Michael Smith Onepoint Center Aiki Arts

Mitch Johnson Aikido of Monterey

Ray Gardiner Three Rivers Aikido

Mark Kruger Aikido of Eugene

Phil Wiener Aikido Mushin

Kevin Gay Aikido of Caerphilly

David Gay Aikido of Caerphilly

Charles Bland Kinjo Dojo

Tyffany Price Kinjo Dojo

Chris Langbecker Kinjo Dojo

Keith Fink North Texas Aikido

Mike Sealock North Texas Aikido

Linda Holiday Aikido of Santa Cruz

Mark Zwaggerman Aikido of Santa Cruz/Aikido’ka

Jeramy Hale Aikido’ka

Molly Hale Aikido’ka

Mary Celine Brigham Aikido’Ka

Michal Jasinski Iwama Aikido Dojo Poland

Norbert Wronski Iwama Aikido Dojo Poland

Andrzez Barbarewicz Iwama Aikido Dojo Poland

Oliver Keller Aiki Akademie Mainz Germany

Michele Simone Aikido Central Coast

Larry Bardach Aikido Central Coast

Joe Talley Aikido Northwest

Lance Giroux Aikido Konocti

John Wiley Traditional Aikido of CO Springs

Elizabeth Hartman Traditional Aikido of CO Springs

Mary Tesoro Aikido of San Luis Obispo