

NEWSLETTER



No.125 January 2006

AIKIDO YOSHINKAN BRISBANE DOJO

Report of December

New members 1

Total number of adults training 66

Total number of children training 61

Results of Sogo Shinsa on 17th December

<u>Shodan</u>	Murray Davis	<u>6th Kyu</u>	William Chan	<u>4Y2 step</u>	Lee Stemm
	Myles Frost		Liam Thompson	<u>3Y6 step</u>	Evan Chapman
<u>1st Kyu</u>	Mark Frost		Jim Stanley		Matthew Watson
<u>2nd Kyu</u>	Christopher Swinton		Mark Coleman	<u>3Y2 step</u>	Albert Lu
<u>3rd Kyu</u>	Ryan Slavin		Paul Stuart	<u>2Y5step</u>	Paul te Braak
	Aaron Stewart	<u>7th Kyu</u>	Jeremy Hagop	<u>S5 step</u>	Matt Carpenter
	Adrian Stuart	<u>9th Kyu</u>	Carlo Mills	<u>S4 step</u>	Kanako Yamaguchi
	Jack Goener		Robert Austin		Greg Beerling
<u>Jun-3rd Kyu</u>	Matthew Pethig		Mal Aziz	<u>S3 step</u>	Lloyd Gainey
<u>4th Kyu</u>	Manfred Beyrer	<u>4Y10 step</u>	Richard Diehm	<u>S1 step</u>	Marc Linsdell
	Mark Davies	<u>4Y9 step</u>	Emmanuel Economidis		
<u>5th Kyui</u>	Niko Duncan	<u>4Y7 step</u>	Jason Economidis		

Events in January

1. Getsurei Shinsa

- ♦Saturday, 28th 1:00pm~
- ♦Shinsa training starts from 21st Saturday.

2. This Month's Holiday

- ♦Dojo Holiday 30th Monday

2006 YEARLY PLAN

JANUARY	28th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
FEBRUARY	25th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
MARCH	25th	Saturday	Sogo Shinsa
APRIL	15th ~ 22nd	9 days	Easter Holiday Plus
	29th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
MAY	27th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
JUNE	24th	Saturday	Sogo Shinsa
JULY	29th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
AUGUST	20th	Sunday	11th Annual Demonstration
	27th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
SEPTEMBER	23rd	Saturday	Sogo Shinsa
OCTOBER	21st	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
	28th	Saturday	Senshusei (Hajime) Class
NOVEMBER	18th	Saturday	Getsurei Shinsa
	25th	Saturday	Special Class & Demonstration
DECEMBER	16th	Saturday	Sogo Shinsa



A Happy New Year to all of my dear students

Well, it's a New Year again. Every year at this time, I set a goal for the year and I train certain parts of my body intensively that are necessary to achieve my goal through the year.

I will mark forty in May this year. Gee, me forty... I just cannot believe the fact. When did I gain so many years? I don't feel any difference mentally compared with myself eleven years ago when I moved to Australia back in 1995. Probably it is because of this weather pattern in Australia that I cannot feel the year ending or welcoming a new year in this hot summer weather, as this hot weather complexes my sensor as if it is still in August for me who was brought up in the northern hemisphere. Thus, my inner clock never senses a whole year without four proper seasons but only two seasons of summer and autumn, ever since I moved to Australia in the southern hemisphere. So, my inner clock shows I am still thirty as if I am still in 1995... Writing this kind of silly thing I can easily guess what Shuko would do, just pick up a mirror and put it in front of my face and point at my wrinkles at the corners of my eyes.

I can accept the fact I'm aging and another side of myself even thinks that it is only forty. Since my goal of Aikido life is over seventy, until the age of seventy-four when Kancho Sensei (Master Gozo Shioda) could not demonstrate Aikido any longer due to his lung cancer, I still have another thirty-four years to go on the mats. However, talking honestly, it is a quite serious issue of how to maintain or strengthen my aging body. I was feeling a bit anxious about the issue, but then an impressing vision caught my eyes that blew my concerns away.

One morning, I was watching music video clips and saw Madonna. As for Madonna, her huge posters of her sexy young body was everywhere in Tokyo with the mega hit of "Like a virgin" when I moved up to Tokyo from my country town to become Uchi-deshi twenty-two years ago. I was taken aback at the extremely crowded city with a maze of subways and massive buildings and the picture of her sex appeal was stuck clearly in my mind as one scene of Tokyo back then.

Twenty-two years has passed since then, and it is just ordinary if a twenty year old girl was dancing sexily but the fact that a woman at the age of forty-seven was still dancing and singing so sexily was astonishing and amazing for me. I stared at the video clip to see Madonna's body better (not with dirty eyes but with the eyes of a martial artist, you know) and was impressed with her beautiful body and movements. Her movements were not only beautiful but strong and brisk, and her body shape was like in her twenties and that showed how much effort she has been putting into her daily life; every day training and having a strict diet behind her beautiful body.

I was almost moved with her pictures sensing or feeling the severe, strict discipline that lay behind. You know, there are so many overweight martial artists in their forties or fifties and it simply shows their laziness and lack in training. This year is going to mark the first step in my forties and I'll challenge myself to be an amazing middle-aged martial artist with power and beauty in my techniques more than now and that the level that can impress not only other Aikido-ka but all other martial artists as well, like Madonna. I've been training my body doing extra exercises that were a hardship for me, but now her impressive video clip gave me enjoyment in training my body. The pink leotard of Madonna was an event for me.

Well, I have written only about me and Madonna (feeling her as if she was my acquaintance) up to this point, even though this article is something for the New Year. I shall now talk about our aim and goal for the Brisbane Dojo for this year. What I request of every dojo student is that each student whatever their rank to be the best at your level compared with all other dojo students in the world, including the Headquarters. If you hold a 9th Kyu currently, then I wish you to be the highest level of 9th Kyu in the world. Our dojo will have some 4th Dans this year and I would like them to be the best 4th Dan's in the world. For this goal, the daily, ordinary training is most important and maintaining a humble mind to listen to anyone, no matter if they are juniors or seniors, is the key. Kancho Sensei always reasoned with us Uchi-deshis a theory, "A master is a disciple, a disciple is a master." Please comprehend these words deeply and we shall all aim for the world's best dojo by everyone helping each other and by building upon daily sincere training through 2006.

Osu!

Michiharu Mori