

羅府合氣道学院古屋道場



AIKIDO CENTER OF LOS ANGELES

NEWSLETTER

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Los Angeles, California
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Affiliation: The Aikido World Headquarters - Aikido So-hombu Dojo Aikikai, Tokyo, Japan
The United States Aikido Federation Eastern Region, New York, New York
The All Japan Swordsmanship Federation, Tokyo, Japan
The Los Angeles Sword and Swordsmanship Society - Kenshinkai, Los Angeles, CA.

June 1, 1994

Volume XII. Number 6.

ACLA Welcomes I. Ichizuka Sensei & the Omiya Dojo Members for Gasshuku



Isamu Ichizuka Sensei, 6th dan, during Special Gasshuku.

After five months of planning, our Dojo welcomed Isamu Ichizuka Sensei, 6th dan, and members of the Omiya Dojo from Saitama, Japan, on April 29, 1994. They arrived at the LAX in the morning and directly went on a brief tour of Los Angeles. Checking into the Hotel New Otani around 4:00pm, they arrived at the Dojo 6:00pm for the first practice. They practice was energetic and friendly. Afterwards, we had welcome party at the Empress Pavilion Restaurant in Chinatown.

Saturday, April 30th, practice began at 10:15am followed by a brief practice session before heading off to the Japanese Village Plaza to conduct a demonstration for Little Tokyo's Children's Day Festival celebration. The demo was well attended with a great response and



Everyone enjoyed a great practice with packed dojo.

SPECIAL EDITION

This Issue is a special edition in honor of the Members of the Omiya Dojo visiting us in Los Angeles and joining us in a very successful Special Joint Practice Gasshuku from April 29th through May 3rd. Over forty students attended. A great and wonderful experience that many will not soon forget. Many tears at our last day's parting. Thank you so much.



Ichizuka Sensei of the Omiya Dojo.

warm welcome from the audience. All members of the Omiya Dojo participated highlighting Ichizuka Sensei's finale. Mr. David Hyun and the staff of the Japanese Village plaza treated everyone to luncheon at the Oiwake Restaurant and presented our guests with gift certificates. Immediately after lunch, we all headed off to Venice Beach for the rest of the afternoon and had dinner at Hollywood's most famous hamburger joint, Hampton's. It was a very full and very fun day. Sezaki Sensei ate two giant burgers!

On May 1st, Sunday, we enjoyed an early 7:00am practice with an *o-ka-yu* (rice gruel) & *dimsum* breakfast at ABC Restaurant in Chinatown before taking off in a bus to Laguna Hills and Dana Point Beaches for the day.

Con't.

OMIYA DOJO GASSUKU con't.

On May 2nd, Monday's practice was cancelled because it was not certain whether they would arrive back in time for practice from an all day tour of the Grand Canyon and it was also thought that everyone would be too tired. The Omiya Dojo members arrived back at the hotel at 6:00pm and were at the dojo by 6:15pm just in time for training, nonstop from the Grand Canyon tour! In the evening everyone went their own way to tour Little Tokyo, but Sensei had dinner with Ichizuka Sensei and Fujita Junichi Sensei, 5th dan, and a few other members at the R-23 Restaurant directly across from the dojo. They enjoyed the sushi made with California rice and the hi-tech decor which was very "Los Angeles."



Mrs. Toshii Ichizuka during practice.

May 3rd, Tuesday, was Universal Studios day and everyone spent the day there and some did some shopping in Los Angeles and Beverly Hills. After evening practice, we all had our final dinner, a joint event celebrating a very successful Gasshuku and Furuya Sensei's 46th birthday party at Beckham's in Pasadena. Forty people attended and everyone had a good time. Everyone got to know each other well and there were many tearful good-byes exchanged. Some said that they did not want to continue their tour to San Francisco but stay in our dojo in Los Angeles and continue to practice!

Although we planned to get all our guests back early to the hotel because there was so much packing to be done, we didn't part until 11:30pm. At 7:00am, early the next day, Wednesday, May 3rd, Sensei and Assistant Instructor, Ken Watanabe, bid them our final farewell at the bus at the New Otani. A very successful visit with many, many new friends made.

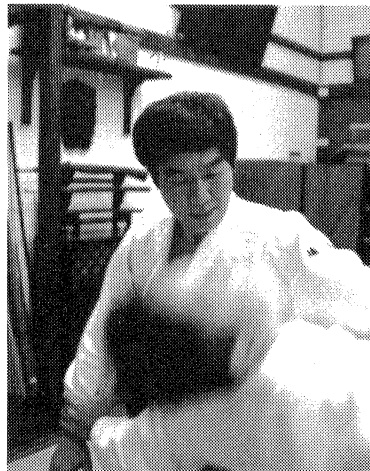
SOME IMPRESSIONS OF THE DOJO: Isamu Ichizuka Sensei

Ichizuka Sensei had a chance to discuss the Gasshuku and Aikido in general on several occasions:

I was a little worried about coming to Los Angeles to practice at first because I didn't know what kind of Aikido I would encounter here. I feel very fortunate to find your dojo and meet you. The execution of the techniques, the class structure and level of the practice is no different from Japan. The practice is just like Hombu Dojo and I feel so very comfortable and quite at home here. I am very relieved. Also, the dojo is so



Ichizuka Sensei practicing with ACLA's Kenny Furuya



Fujita Sensei During Practice
 Junichi Fujita Sensei, 5th dan, one of the instructors of the Omiya Dojo in Saitama Pref. Japan, who accompanied the group with his wife, Yoko, who also practices Aikido.

beautiful. Everyone treats us so warmly that I hope I can come again for another Gasshuku. I am happy to make so many new friends here on my first visit to Los Angeles. Thank you. - I. Ichizuka



Isamu Ichizuka Sensei, Chief Instructor of the Omiya Dojo

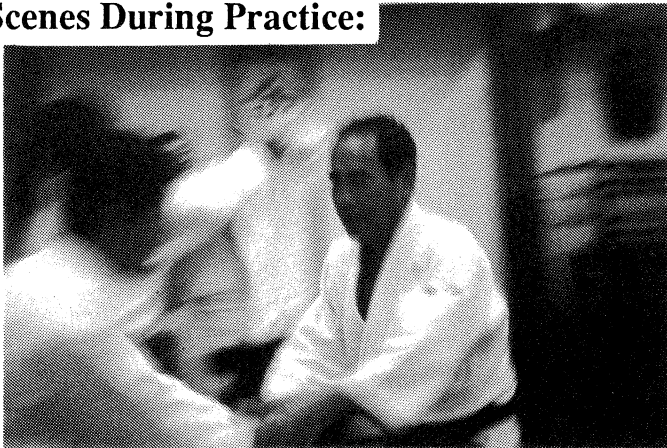
Many Thanks

Many thanks to Ichizuka Sensei and all the group members and we hope that they will come to visit us again soon.

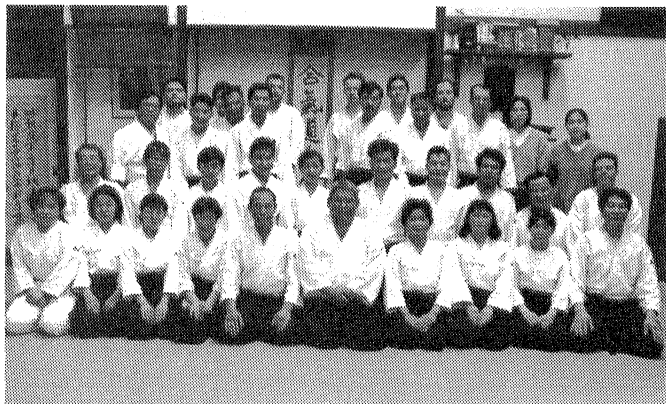


Members of the Omiya Dojo Special Gasshuku Practice

Scenes During Practice:



This special issue dedicated to our guests from Omiya City is the largest issue in the 12 year history of the Newsletter. Many thanks to all members and friends who participated in and sacrificed their time for the event.



Sensei's Message: **OVER THREE THOUSAND MILES**

By Kensho Furuya

First of all, I want to express my thanks to Ichizuka Sensei and all the members of his dojo and also to everyone of my students who participated in this very special event.. It is one of the biggest practices we have ever had and, in honor of this special occasion, we have this special twelve page issue this month.



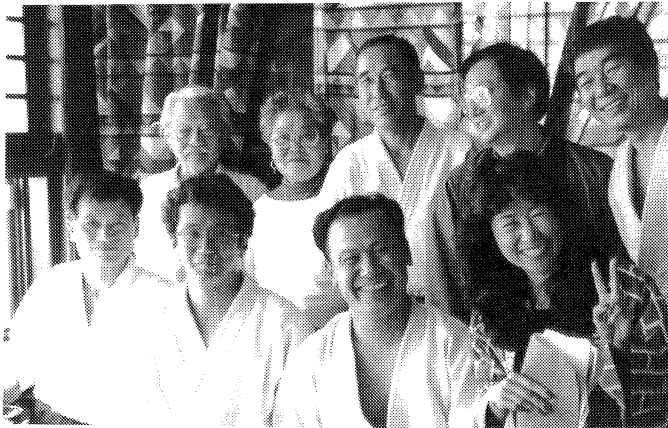
Beginning first session of the Omiya Gasshuku.

Without a doubt everyone enjoyed the Special Joint Practice with members of the Omiya Dojo from Japan. It was a big success; our friends from Japan had a great time and, more than once, I heard talk of coming again soon. Everyone I talked to, said they had a great time. However, quite frankly speaking, they came with many reservations and fears. Indeed, 3,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean in no small trip, especially for a maiden voyage. In the planning stages of this Practice, they worried if L. A. would be a safe place after hearing about the high crime rate, riots, earthquakes, fires, etc. And, they were greatly concerned with what kind of Aikido they would encounter here. I feel very good when they told me that within a few minutes of practice they felt perfectly at home with Aikido that, they complimented, is no different at all from Hombu Aikido in Japan. I should hope so! Hombu Aikido is what I am trying to teach here in Los Angeles. Nowadays, there are so many different kinds of Aikido. Everybody wants to do their "own thing." Maybe this is the meaning of "freedom" but in the end, we only isolate ourselves from everything else because of the fact that we are "doing our own thing." One guest commented: "I travelled 3,000 miles and, because of Aikido, I instantly have so many nice friends here!" We should all endeavor to continue our practice and understand that it is through the faithful path of Aikido that we can connect with everyone in the world. Today, we are so easily attracted by something different and strange. Whatever that might be, I will continue to practice and teach the Aikido that I learned from my teachers and teach it with respect and eternal gratitude. And I hope, this teaching continues to reach you and as far as "three thousand miles" away. Thank you for your continued commitment and loyalty to the dojo. Thank you so much. PS: I hope we see our friends again soon.

**AIKIDO CENTER OF LOS ANGELES
NEWSLETTER**



For "okayu" & "dim sum" breakfast at the ABC Restaurant in Chinatown. From center L: is Mr. David A. Smith, Group Leader along with Ms. Ichizuka and Ichizuka Sensei.



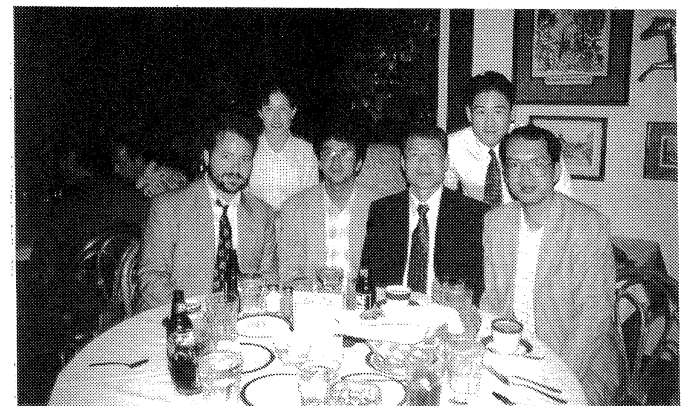
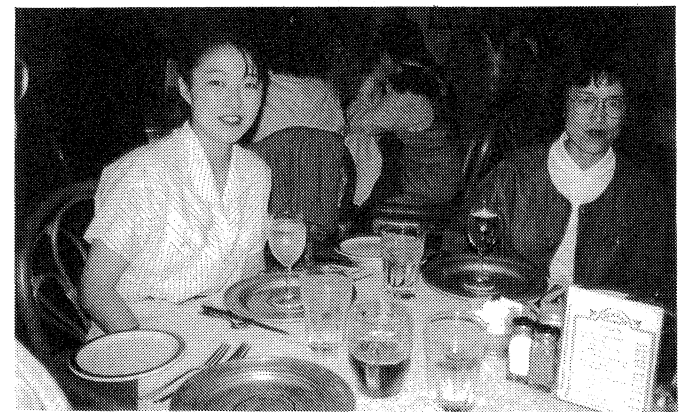
The Japanese Village Plaza honored our guests with luncheon at the Oiwake Restaurant. From top L: Mr. David Hyun, owner of JVP, Ms. Kathren Inouye, JVP Coordinator, Ichizuka Sensei, Rev. Tom Kurai, JVP, Ms. Shima, JVP, Fujita Sensei among others. Thanks to JVP.



Group at Venice Beach. Many thanks to Dr. Cheryl Lew, Mr. David Ito, Mr. Ken Watanabe and Mr. Kenny Furuya for helping with the car pool. Later, dinner was at Hampton's in Hollywood where everyone got a taste of their first "real" hamburger. Everyone had a great time. Se-zaki-san ate two hamburgers which has to be a world record!



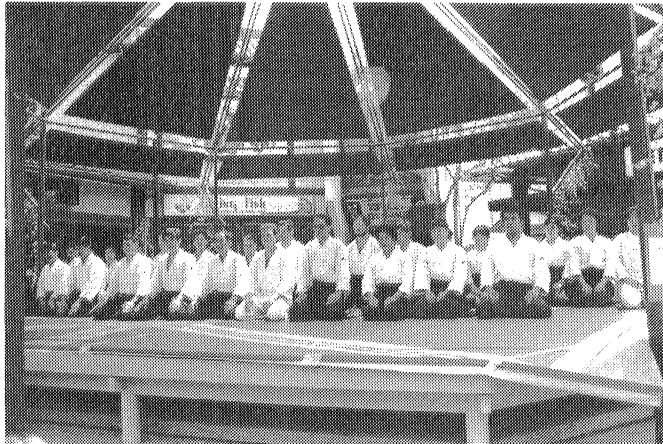
Outside Beckham's in Old Town Pasadena before our combination Farewell Dinner and Furuya Sensei's Birthday Party.



Farewell party and Sensei's Birthday Party at Beckham's.

JAPANESE VILLAGE PLAZA CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVAL - May 1st.

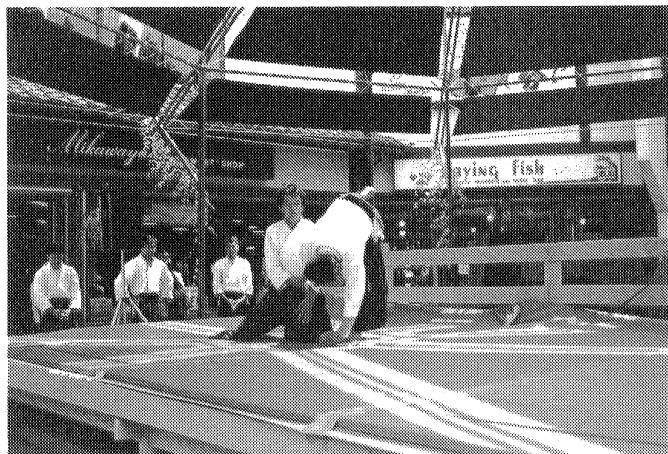
This year's Children's Day Festival was sponsored by the Japanese Village Plaza through the auspices of Mr. David Hyun and demonstration coordinators, Ms. Kathryn Inouye, Rev. Tom Kurai and Ms. Shima, emcee. Participants was treated to a welcome lunch at Oiwake Restaurant and presented with gifts courtesy of the JVP.



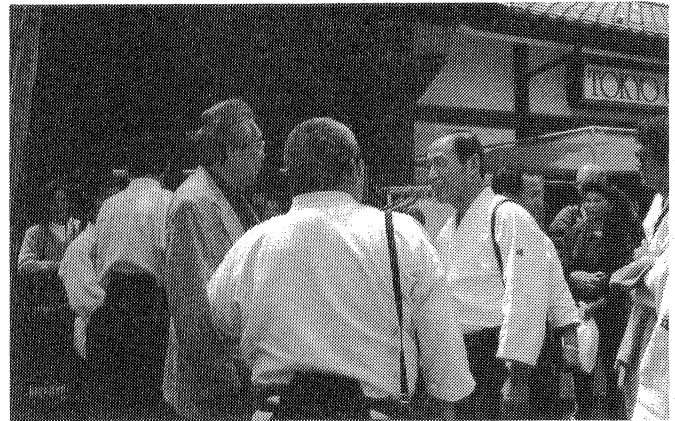
Omiya Dojo and Aikido Center members begin Children's Day Demo.



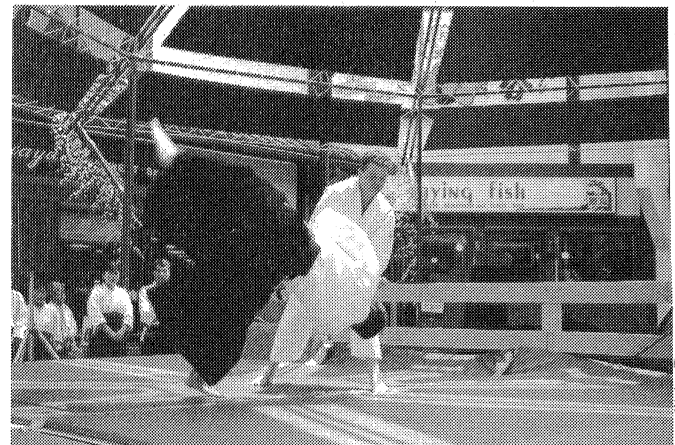
Ichizuka Sensei was the highlight of this year's demonstration. Sakurai Sensei is taking his ukemi.



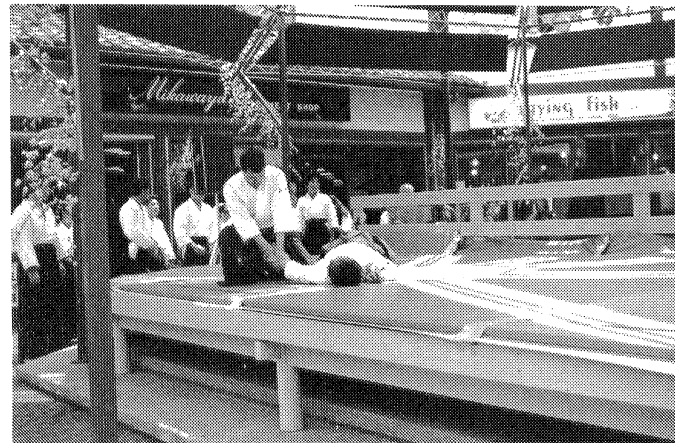
Sakurai Sensei demonstrated powerful, clean technique.



Ichizuka Sensei being introduced to Mr. Matao Uwate of Radio Little Tokyo, one of Little Tokyo's celebrities.



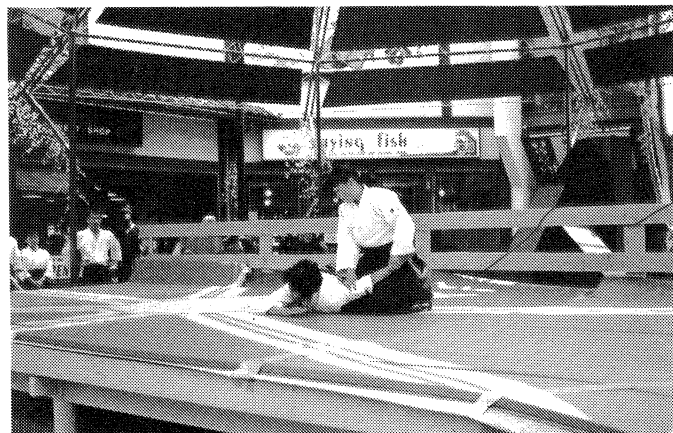
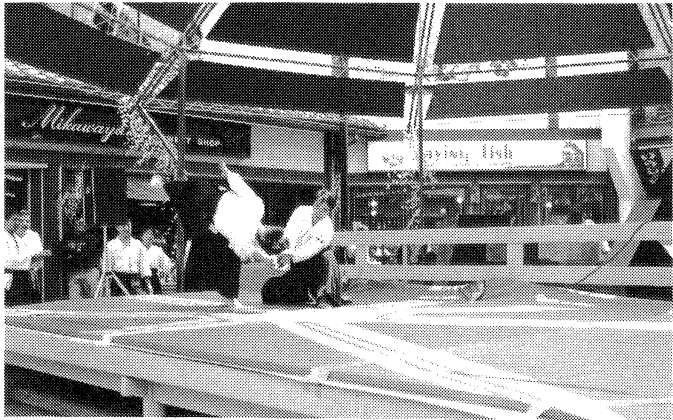
David Smith, 3rd kyu, coordinated the Special Practice with Furuya Sensei. David practices regularly at the Omiya Dojo and commutes to Hombu Dojo for training every week.



Many Thanks

Much appreciation goes to the Japanese Village Plaza for their efforts to entertain and make welcome our guests from Saitama, Japan. Special Thanks to Mr. David Hyun, Ms. Kathren Inouye and Rev. Tom Kurai for their support and help.

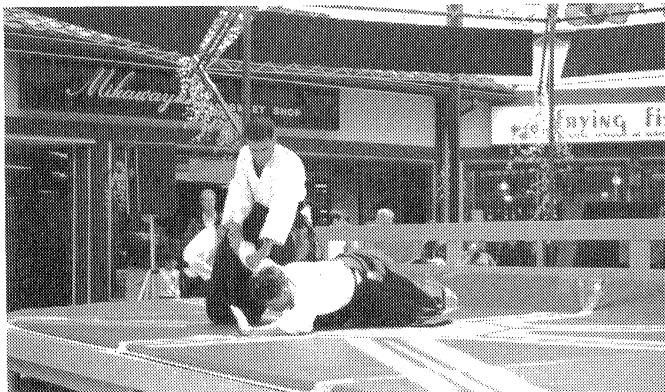
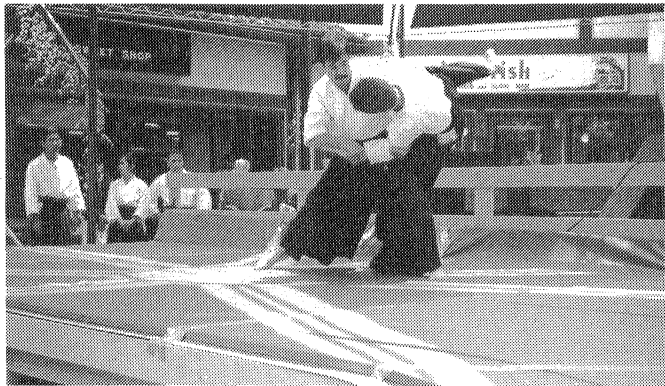
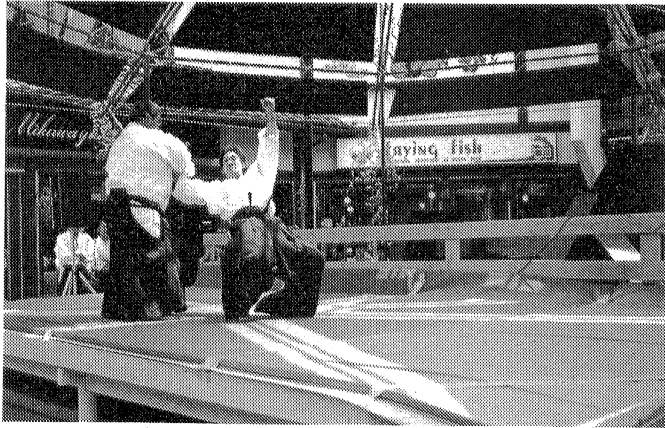
**JAPANESE VILLAGE PLAZA
CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVAL - May 1st.**



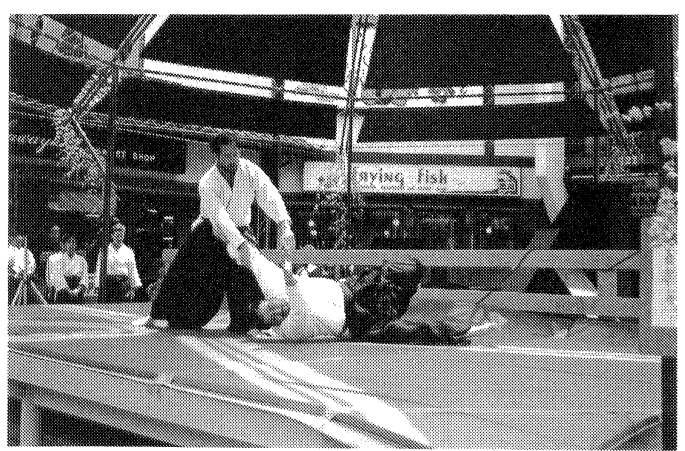
Omiya Dojo Members



JAPANESE VILLAGE PLAZA CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVAL - May 1st.



Aikido Center of L.A. Members



OMIYA DOJO GASSHUKU

Participants for the Omiya Gasshuku:

April 29, 1994

Yasushi Matsuki, 2nd dan
Mitsuko Yoshimoto, 2nd dan
Ken Watanabe, 2nd dan
Kenny Furuya, 1st dan
Andy Kissel, 1st dan
David Ito, 1st dan
Jose Araujo, 1st dan
John Vargas
Dr. Cheryl Lew
Meynard Ancheta
Bruce Ino
Mark Ty
Ricardo Villaverde
Rey Espino

April 30, 1994

Ken Watanabe, 2nd dan
Richard Eloriagga, 2nd dan
Yasushi Matsuki, 2nd dan
Bill Gillespie, 2nd dan
Steve Tarango, 1st dan
David Ito, 1st dan
Andy Kissel, 1st dan
Kenny Furuya, 1st dan
Jose Araujo, 1st dan
John Vargas
Dr. Cheryl Lew
Mark Ty

May 1, 1994

Yasushi Matsuki, 2nd dan
Mitsuko Yoshimoto, 2nd dan
Richard Eloriagga, 2nd dan
Kenny Furuya, 1st dan
David Ito, 1st dan
John Vargas
Bruce Ino

May 2, 1994

Ken Watanabe, 2nd dan
Ismael Araujo, 1st dan
Norman Lew, 1st dan
Rick Parents, 1st dan

David Ito, 1st dan
Mark Shprintz, 1st dan
Jose Araujo
Meynard Ancheta
Douglas Lew
Kristine Lew
John Vargas
Dr. Cheryl Lew

May 3, 1994

Dr. James Doi, 3rd dan
Ken Watanabe, 2nd dan
Bill Gillespie, 2nd dan
Yasushi Matsuki, 2nd dan
Kenny Furuya, 2nd dan
Rick Parents, 1st dan
Ismael Araujo, 1st dan
Andy Kissel, 1st dan
David Ito, 1st dan
John Vargas
Jose Araujo
Dr. Cheryl Lew
Bruce Ino
Rey Espino
Chris Prejean



Special Recognition
for perfect attendance in the
Omiya Dojo Gasshuku

Mr. David Ito, 1st dan
Mr. John Vargas, 3rd kyu

From Our Friends in the Aikido Shohei Juku Dojo in Kyushu:



Yoko Nozue from Fukuoka will be joining Aikido soon.

Dear Furuya Sensei:

Thank you very much for your heartfelt kindness. We had a great time in Los Angeles. I think I am going to start Aikido soon. . . . I'm hoping to return to Los Angeles and hope to see you again soon. . . .

Yoko Nozue

April 17, 1994

Dear Furuya Sensei:

Thank you very much for you & Ken Watanabe's great & heartfelt kindness in the USA. We appreciate you & Ken from our hearts. We had returned to Fukuoka safely yesterday. I think we are fighting against the jet lag right now. We are going to see Suganuma Sensei on April 19th, Tuesday, and hand over your present to him. And he will be glad to see it. . . . I cannot express our appreciation in the words in any way. That is our turn to take care of you in Japan. See you in Japan. Please remember us to your Aikidoists. Again, thank you very much.
Toshiro Nishida

April 20, 1994

Dear Furuya Sensei:

We met Suganuma Sensei yesterday. He was very glad to hear that you were doing very well. . . . Please go on your way. I do believe your life way is right and great. . . .

Toshiro Nishida

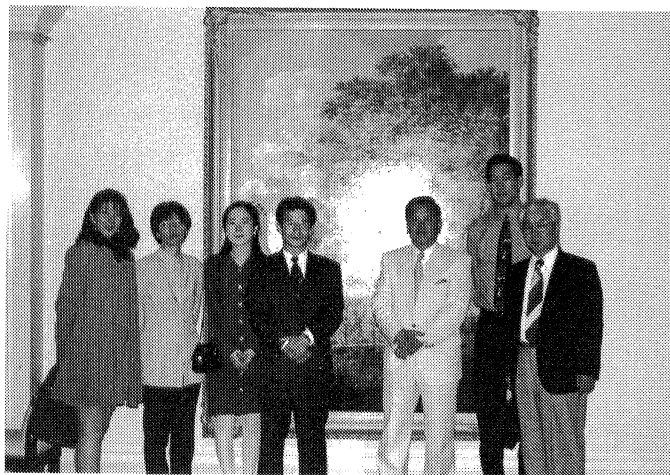
April 25, 1994

A HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wish you will have a successful life from now more & more and in good health!

Continued.

By the way, Suganuma Sensei watched a video of our trip, and you were in it. He asked me to tell you the following words: "I watch a very nice video. Furuya's techniques is very smooth and graceful. I learned a lot from this. In Japan, there are many people who rely only on strength. Watching your video, I realized that we have to try much harder. It is something that we have forgotten about. If you write to Furuya, please tell him this." Best regards,
Toshiro Nishida



Shohei Juku members at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in South Pasadena on their last day in Los Angeles. We celebrated Mr. Hara's (center R) 1st Birthday Party in America.

Many Thanks

*Our Sincerest Thanks to the Aikido Shohei
Juku Dojo, Suganuma Shihan and our*

Honored Guests:

Mr. Toshiro Nishida, 2nd dan,

Group Leader

Mr. Sumio Hirakawa, 1st dan

Mr. Kazuo Hara

Ms. Yoko Nozue

Ms. Masako Onishi

Ms. Makiko Nakamura

Gasshuku April 29th-May 3rd

Many Thanks

to

**Isamu Ichizuka Sensei
and All the Members
of the Omiya Dojo
Saitama, Japan**

Isamu Ichizuka Sensei, 6th dan

Junichi Fujita Sensei, 5th dan

**Toshii Ichizuka, 3rd dan
Tetsuo Sakurai, 3rd dan
Junichiro Tanaka, 3rd dan
Yoko Fujita, 2nd dan
Takayoshi Azumi, 2nd dan
Tadashi Sakurai, 2nd dan
Tsuyoshi Kamitsuji, 2nd dan
Makoto Watanabe, 1st dan
Satoko Komatsu, 1st dan
Keiko Nakayama, 1st dan
Yutaka Sezaki, 1st dan
Shinyu Suzuki, 1st dan
Eiko Mizutani, 1st dan
Eriko Yanagizawa, 5th kyu
Minako Komatsu
Yoko Tanaka**

Special thanks to:

**David A Smith,
Omiya Dojo Group Coordinator**

**IMPORTANT DATES
FOR JUNE**

June 1st. Monthly dues.

June 3rd. Sword Study Class 7:30pm.

June 10th. Budo Study Class 7:30pm.

June 18th. Iaido Intensive Seminar 6:30am-8:30am. Monthly meeting follows.

June 25th. Aikido Black Belt Intensive Seminar 6:30am-8:30am. All black belt holders and senior students are encouraged to attend.

**IMPORTANT DATES
FOR JULY**

July 2nd. West Covina Community Center Demonstration. From 1:30pm.

July 9-10th. Lotus Festival in Echo Park, Hollywood.

July 16th. JACCC Children's Day Seminar.

July 24th. Pasadena Buddhist Church Demonstration from 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Please note: Advanced Black Belt Practice, 2nd kyu & up, is now on Wednesdays from 7:30pm-8:30pm. Iaido practice is now on Tuesdays from 7:30pm-8:30pm.

Thank you:

*I greatly appreciate the thoughtful card
and present on the occasion of my 46th
Birthday. Thank you very much.*

Kensho Furuya

ACLA TRAINING SCHEDULE 1994

Aikido

BEGINNING & OPEN CLASSES

Monday thru Fridays
6:15pm-7:15pm

Mondays & Thursdays
7:30pm-8:30pm

Saturday Mornings
10:15am-11:15am

Sunday Mornings
9:45am-11:00am

ADVANCED & INSTRUCTOR'S CLASSES

2nd kyu & up. Please bring bokken, jo, tanto.

Wednesday
7:30pm-8:30pm

Saturday Mornings
11:30am-12:30pm

Every 4th Saturday
**MONTHLY BLACK BELT
INTENSIVE SEMINAR**
6:30am-7:30am

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

7 yrs. & up.

Sunday Mornings
8:30am-9:30am

SPECIAL MONTHLY STUDY CLASSES

JAPANESE SWORD STUDY CLASS

RAFU TOKEN KAI
1st Friday of the Month
7:30pm-9:00pm

BUDO STUDY CLASS

2nd Friday of the Month
7:30pm-9:00pm
New Topic: Sun Tz's "The Art of War."

KENSHINKAI

*The Los Angeles Sword &
Swordsmanship Society*

Muso Shinden Ryu Iaido

Tuesday Evenings
7:30pm-8:30pm

Saturday Mornings
9:00am-10:00am

Sunday Mornings
7:30am-8:30am

Every 3rd Saturday of the Month
IAIDO INTENSIVE SEMINAR
6:30am-8:30am
Monthly Meeting follows.

All practicing Aikidoists from all schools are welcome to join our training. ACLA Members should encourage their family and friends to join us in our practice. Thank you.