

## A Message From Yamada Sensei

I am pleased to look back at 2016 and say that it was a very good year for me. With my health in good condition, I am happy that I was able to return to the mat and teach at my own dojo, New York Aikikai, as well as travel to seminars all around the world. It was especially meaningful for me to have Waka Sensei come to our summer camp. As I mentioned at camp, he is the 4th generation of the Ueshiba family to whom I have dedicated my service for most of my life. But it was equally important to me to have him come and meet so many of my students, and to show him all the wonderful people in the USAF.

I look forward to another year of good health and travel, and always know that on the mat is where we come together and enjoy each other. So I will see you on the mat in 2017! Thank you for all your dedication and support.



## Your 2017 New Years Gift

Each year, the USAF sends its instructors a small gift as an expression of gratitude and appreciation for your dedication and commitment to the USAF aikido community. This year's gift, a DVD from the 2016 Summer Camp, is a way to share the camp experience with those of you who could not make it, as well as provide a keepsake for those of you who were on the mat.

It is also our hope that this becomes a useful tool for your instruction and practice. Whether reviewing the variety of techniques or studying the ukemi, this DVD is meant as a teaching guide to help support you and your dojo.

With footage of Waka Sensei's first USAF event, we hope you enjoy the gift and share it with your

**united states aikido federation**  
**summer camp 2016**

**Yamada Sensei**  
**Osawa Sensei**  
USAF Technical Committee  
USAF Shihan and Shido-in

and special guest instructor  
**Waka Sensei**  
Mitsuteru Ueshiba  
(Aug 4-6)

Sunday, July 31-  
Saturday, August 6

Stockton Seaview Hotel  
Galloway, NJ



# 2016

the year  
at a  
glance

# GOVERNANCE

After spending the past several years planning for the USAF's future, 2016 was focused on finalizing the documentation to support these plans and ensure smooth transitions moving forward.

Under Yamada Sensei's guidance, the Board of Directors and the Technical Committee worked together to revise and amend the USAF By Laws, as well as create and implement the new Technical Committee Policy.

Improving communication with USAF instructors has been a primary focus, and this year new efforts were established of not only holding meetings at Summer Camp, and Winter Camp when possible, but also providing follow-up letters from the Board to instructors outlining key points and decisions after each of the Board/TC meetings.

All documents concerning USAF governance can now be found on the DDC page through the login portal at [www.usaikifed.com](http://www.usaikifed.com)

Members of the USAF Board of Directors commencing February 1, 2017 are as follows (alphabetical order):

Peter Bernath  
Claude Berthiaume  
Raymond Farinato  
Paul Forhan  
Julia Freedgood, Treasurer  
Joseph Nemeth, Chairman  
Blue Spruell  
Christine Wong, Secretary

# SNAPSHOT 2016 in numbers

- Dues Paying Members: 4,000
  - New Dojo Joined in 2016: 7
  - Active dojo: 213
  - Total kyu tests: 1,500
  - Total dan applications mailed to Aikikai: 275
  - Total Active Fukushima: 175
  - Total Active Shido: 160
  - Total Shihan (cumulative): 46
  - Total Number of Seminars Listed on USAF Calendar (either hosted by USAF dojo or taught by USAF instructor): 181
  - Month with most seminars: October 2016 with 26 posted seminars
  - Total "Likes" on USAF facebook page: 4,923
  - Total # Summer Camp Participants: 530
  - Oldest Camp Participant: 78
- all totals are approximate*

## 2017 ANNUAL RENEWALS

An email will be circulated regarding the renewal procedure. There are no changes to the fee schedule for 2017.

# SUMMER CAMP 2016

## USAF Welcomes Mitsuteru Ueshiba Waka Sensei



### Over 14 Countries Represented

With special thanks to Yamada Sensei, Waka Sensei, Osawa Sensei, the Technical Committee and USAF Instructors, this was one of our most successful camps ever. Over 500 aikidoka participated in 56 classes throughout the week. We welcomed Waka Sensei's first visit to the USAF by practicing hard, eating well, relaxing in the pool and hot tub, and reuniting with old friends while making new ones. We are very grateful that Waka Sensei and Osawa Sensei were able to join us at our camp. **Save the next camp date!**

**July 30th - August 5th 2017**