

Once again, as I take a moment to look back at the year, I feel so lucky to be in good health and have the support of so many people in the USAF and around the world. I have traveled to so many seminars and continue to receive such a warm welcome. This of course inspires me to give as much as I possibly can to everyone on the mat, to show my appreciation for everyone who makes an effort to come and practice at these seminars.

I also know there are many people who can not attend seminars that often, but who show their dedication to their home dojo and their instructor. I hope everyone will continue to focus on their practice in a sincere way, and that we all look to grow in our aikido techniques, our budo principals, and our kindness towards each other as human beings in the year ahead.

All my best wishes for a wonderful new year.



Your 2018 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 2017 Summer Camp, is a way to share the camp experience with those of you who could not make it, as well as provide a keep-sake for those of you who were on the mat.

It is also our hope that this is 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.

Happy Holidays.



July 30th - August 5th



www.usafsummercamp.com
Stockton Seaview Hotel, Galloway, NJ

Yamada Sensei
Osawa Sensei
USAF Technical Committee
USAF Instructors



2017

The Year at a Glance

GOVERNANCE

Over the past year, the USAF has worked hard at improving communication with its instructors. Continuing with the new protocol, follow-up letters from the Board have been forwarded 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

With the New Year, there are transitions on the Board worth mentioning. As their terms are coming to an end, we would like to thank the following Board members for their dedication and service over the past several years:

Joseph Nemeth, Chairman
Christine Wong, Secretary

As of February 1, 2018 we welcome 1 new member to the Board, who will be joining with the following Directors (alphabetical order):

Peter Bernath
Claude Berthiaume
Raymond Farinato, Secretary
Paul Forhan
Julia Freedgood, Treasurer
George Kennedy, Chairman - NEW
Blue Spruell

SNAPSHOT

2017 in numbers: (all #s are approximate)

- Dues Paying Members: 4,000
 - New Dojo Joined in 2017: 9
 - Active dojo: 211
 - Total kyu tests: 1,315
 - Total dan applications mailed to Aikikai: 281
 - Total Active Fukushima: 195
 - Total Active Shido: 180
 - Total Shihan (cumulative): 47
 - Total Number of Seminars Listed on USAF Calendar (either hosted by USAF dojo or taught by USAF instructor): 156
 - Month with most seminars: June, with 19 posted seminars, followed by Sept & Oct tied with 18 posted seminar
 - Total "Likes" on USAF facebook page: 5,110
 - # Summer Camp Participants: 450
 - # Classes at Summer Camp: 52
- all totals are approximate*

SUMMER CAMP 2017



Thank you to Yamada Sensei, Osawa Sensei, the Technical Committee and USAF Instructors for creating a week of exceptional training and camaraderie within the aikido community. While attending classes is a primary focus, the time spent with old friends and making new ones is also one of the most treasured memories of camp.

Thank you to all who attended for one class, one day, half a week or the full week. We hope the flexibility in attendance makes it possible for you to experience one of the best parts of the USAF!

Save the next camp date!
July 29th - August 4th 2018

2018 ANNUAL RENEWALS

An email will be circulated regarding the renewal procedure. There are several changes to be aware of so please read it