

Pan America

WADO INTERNATIONAL KARATE-DO FEDERATION

DOJO CONNECTION

Like minded people with a common goal

July 2010

HIROJI FUKAZAWA



The news of the death of our sensei and friend Hiroji FUKAZAWA in France has already spread, and it is with a great sadness that we confirm this unfortunate event.

Sensei FUKAZAWA left us Friday, June 11th at 3:30 am after a long illness.

His burial took place on Friday, June 18th at 3 pm in the cemetery of Le PLESSIS ROBINSON, France, the city where he lived.

Mr. Fukazawa started his pursuit of the martial arts at a young age, starting with Kendo and then later moving to Judo. It was at the age of 14 when he began the practice of Karate-Do. During his first 18 months of Karate training Sensei Fukazawa trained at a Dojo in Inoue before moving on to Sensei Minoru Mochizuki's Dojo where he trained there for several years. Sensei Fukazawa was also privileged to study Aiki Jutsu, Aikido and Katory Chinto Ryu.

In 1974 he travelled to France to help Sensei Mochizuki son, Hiroo to spread Karate-do. He soon moved to the north of Italy where he lived for two years and established Wado karate Dojos there. Sensei Fukazawa lived in France where he was the Chief Instructor of the WIKF federation in France. He was an active member of the French Karate Federation, holding several positions such as Federal Expert and he was a member of the French grading panel.

He was well known for his expertise of Wado Kata and his explanation of the moves within these Katas (BUNKAI). The world of Wado is in mourning,

Martial "Art"

We usually tend to think of art in terms of drawing, painting, sculpture, architecture, poetry, music, and dancing. History, literature, and philosophy are also included among the arts. But have you ever wondered why karate, judo, aikido and similar Budo are referred to as "Martial Arts" when there does not appear to be any discernable creation

of something new that one can view? After all don't we mostly imitate rather than create?

Art can also be defined in terms of "a branch of learning that depends more on special practice or a set of principles or methods gained by experience." It can further be defined as "some kind of skill or practical application of skill." The Budo certainly are that. Using the concept of art as an accomplishment then you don't need to have a paint brush, a chisel or a musical instrument to be an artist. The creation of your skill in karate is a work of art in itself. Developing your talent is an art. Art transforms what is. William Faulkner said, "*By artist I mean of course everyone who has tried to create something which was not here before him, with no other tools and materials than uncommerciable ones of the human spirit.*" Karate training transforms you over time. Your success then as a Martial "Artist" depends on what you know, what you do, and what you become as a result of your practice.

"Art is not a thing: it is a way."

-Elbert Hubbard (1856-1915)

Muscle Memory

You might think that with the advent of videotape and DVD's you could learn karate that way. Yes, you can learn the, "how to do it," but you can't gain the "ability to do it" and an experienced person can easily pick out the person who has studied from the videotape without the benefit of a live teacher.

Videotape learning is problematic at best. For one thing, the person doing the technique is seen in miniature and the subtleties of movement cannot be recorded by the speed of the camera. The student who uses the tape is also often at a loss when the person on the tape turns away from the camera if other angles are not seen. One final problem is that the tape is exactly the same and any depths the living teacher may have are flattened out. Movements and their origin are easily misinterpreted or missed altogether. Therefore, people who think they can master a set of karate movements in part because they "have it on tape" are making a mistake on a number of levels.

I have heard Sensei say many times that sometimes his mind forgets but his body remembers karate technique. He says this is because Otsuka

Sensei made him repeat movements over and over and over. This repetition of moves is what we call muscle memory. It is a physical phenomenon that enables your body to perform an action repeatedly in exactly the same way every time without consciously thinking about it. All professional athletes have this ability. Frequently they can't even tell you how they do certain things because they just do it they don't think about it.

To learn any new physical skill your body and brain need to develop this type of memory. Think you can't do it? You already have. As a baby you had to learn many new physical skills and you did it through repeated practice. Karate techniques are complicated series of muscle actions that have to be performed over and over before they become automatic. While it can frequently become boring to repeat any move over and over endless times there simply isn't any other way to do it.

KARATE AMERICA DOJO

New Johnsonville, TN, Scott Meek, Sensei

Eric Harris and Shane Mendez

both took and passed a WIKF 3rd kyu exam and were awarded their Brown belts at **Karate America Dojo** in New Johnsonville, Tennessee. on May 27th.

EAST COAST WADO KARATE CLUB,

Nova Scotia, Kevin Jones, Sensei

The East Coast Wado Karate Club now has 4 members on the Nova Scotia Karate Association board of directors;

JF Charette - President

Laurel Hache - Treasurer

Darren Pittman - Director Metro Halifax

Patrick Furlong - Tournament Coordinator

Kevin Jones was recently elected as the President of WIKF Canada

Gradings:

Darren Pittman - 4th kyu

Honorable mention goes to **Shawn Murley**, who received his 5th kyu, as well as attended every tournament in Atlantic Canada this year

and represented our club and style well,
GREAT JOB Shawn!

The NSKA banquet happened this weekend and East Coast Wado came away with **Club of the year**. This award is given annually to the club showing the most support, spirit and attendance. Further, the contributor of the year is **JC Cormier**, a 3rd kyu who is currently in London soon to be training with Sensei Wicks.

NEWNAN KARATE CENTER

Newnan, GA, Tom Kosslow, Sensei

Recent promotions:

Chaz Brown.....5th Kyu

Khaylob Hill....7th Kyu

Destiny Brown..7th Kyu

AJ Traver.....8th Kyu

Todd Traver.....8th Kyu

NEW WIKF USA DOJO

BUDOKAN OF WINTER HAVEN FLORIDA

Brody Burns, WIKFUSA President

I am pleased to tell you Sensei Richard Ganey of Winter Haven, Florida has been accepted into the WIKF USA. Tom Kosslow has been asked to mentor Richard in the first year of his membership in WIKF. Richard holds a second dan from Suzuki Sensei earned in 1993. Over the past 30 years he has run several clubs and 2 schools. He is a former Police Officer and Law Enforcement Trainer. I have spoken with him and believe he will fit in well with our organization here in the United States and he is looking forward to meeting our international WIKF members and instructors. Currently he is working on the **wikfusa webpage** and has already made great improvements. I can't wait until it is ready to go online for everyone to see. Please join me in welcoming Richard back to the WIKF. His contact information is:

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USA KARATE Technical Committee Appointment

We would like to mention and recognize Sensei Doug Jepperson on his recent appointment to the USA Karate (USA NKF) Technical Committee, representing Wado. Doug is replacing Bob Nash on the committee and has been task with forming a Wado sub-committee comprised of various Wado organizations across the United States. Doug was appointed by John DiPasquale the President of USA Karate and approved by the 10 member Board of Directors in May. The USA Karate Technical Committee is comprised of one member from the 4 major styles and 1 Okinawa representative. They are task with bringing schools and athletes from the various styles into the organization and representing the style to other members of the Technical Committee. A strong boost of support for Doug came from William Millerson, WIKF Chairman and 1st Vice President of the WKF, directly to Mr. Di Pasquale during a meeting at the North American Championships. This is a distinguished position and I congratulate Doug on his appointment.

“I must say my recent appointment is a tribute to Suzuki Sensei. Suzuki Sensei has been teaching some of us for more than thirty years, it is his passion and commitment to Wado that gives each of us our passion and devotion to Wado. This commitment is evidenced by Sensei’ students in the World of Karate today.

William Millerson, 1st Vice President of the World Karate Federation

Dan Wallace President of BC Karate.

Ken Corrigan, Technical Committee for BC Karate

Brody Burns is the USA Karate Tournament director, and hopefully another position soon

Doug Jepperson the Technical Director for Wado in the USA.

Each of these people has risen to positions of respect in the world of Wado, and each would tell you the profound influence Suzuki Sensei has had on their karate.” –Doug Jepperson