

The Bamboo Warrior

Official Newsletter of Chikubu-Kai

Summer 2007

From Soke's Desk

Free Kumite

2007 Chikubu Kai Clinics

January 27	Salem Dojo Salem, Va
February 24	Kokoro Dojo Buena Vista, Va
March 24	Salem Dojo Salem, Va
April 12-15	Texas Clinics Harlingen, TX
May 18-19	Hebiashi Dojo Harrisonburg, Va
June 15-16	Hissatsu-No-Ken Newport News, Va
July 19-21	Summer Camp Buena Vista, Va
August 17-18	Waynesboro Dojo Waynesboro, Va
September 8	Camp Joy Clinic
September 21-22	Kokoro Dojo Buena Vista, Va
October 11-13	Fall Camp Myrtle Beach, SC
December 8	Hombu Dojo Bristol, Va

Over the years I have often heard and engaged in discussions concerning the commercial exploitation of karate (and other traditional martial arts), as it was conceived in the beginning.

Ignorance and greed have fueled these ideals without regard for the culture from which karate evolved. This is evident, especially after the introduction of Do.

Time has changed the application of some techniques but not the principles on which it was founded. This is why the competitive karate of today (Sport) is shallow and ignores the principles of application concerning mind, body and, yes, technique.

It has always been my opinion that Kata is the origin of karate, therefore kata principles should be reflected in all the applications of karate.

As the old masters said, including Shogo Kuniba Soke...
IF THERE IS NO KATA, THEN THERE IS NO
KARATE...JUST PUNCHING, KICKING AND MOSTLY
FRAILING.

WHPrice, Soke

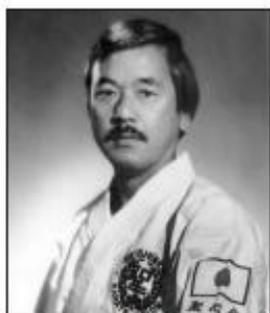
CHIKUBUKAI KARATE DO



竹武会空手道

Presents:

FALL CAMP 2007



SHOGO KUNIBA, SOKE was the founder of Kuniba-Ha Shito-Ryu and Kuniba-Ryu Goshin-Do. He began his martial arts training in 1940 at age 5, and continued his training for more than 50 years until his passing in 1992. Due to his unique upbringing, Kuniba, Soke was able to study many different styles of Karate as well as Judo, Jiu-jitsu, Aikido, Kobudo (Weapons Arts) and Iai-Do (Sword Arts) with many of the greatest teachers of his time, including Kenwa Mabuni (founder of Shito-Ryu) and his father, Kosei Kokuba (a direct student of Choki Motobu). Upon his death, he passed the leadership of both Kuniba-Ha Shito-Ryu and Kuniba-Ryu Goshin-Do to William H. Price, Sensei.



WILLIAM H. "BILL" PRICE began his martial arts training in 1962 as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. After service in Vietnam, he met and began studying with Shogo Kuniba in 1971—eventually becoming his senior student in the United States and earning the rank of 8th Dan. A life-long law enforcement officer, Price, Sensei pioneered defensive tactics instruction throughout Virginia, and was the head instructor for defensive tactics with the Virginia State Police and the Virginia Dept. of Criminal Justice Services. Currently he is the Chief of Police of Bristol, Virginia. Price, Sensei is able to bring a unique yet totally realistic perspective to traditional Martial Artists based on Real-World experience.



Subjects to be covered:

- KIHON:** (Basic Techniques and their application) **KATA:** (Bunkai—The bridge between Kata and Kumite)
KUMITE: (Application of techniques for fighting) **GOSHIN-DO:** (Kuniba, Soke's self-defense art—
 aspects of ground fighting will be covered)

*****SPECIAL CLASS:** This year, PRICE, SOKE has set aside time for training in HANJO—
 WAZA and KATA will be covered.***

WHEN:	October 11th, Thursday	6:30pm-until
	October 12th, Friday	9:00am-3:30pm
	October 13th, Saturday	9:00am-3:30pm
WHERE:	Myrtle Beach Kuniba-Ryu Dojo 313-A Highway 15 • Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577 Jimmy Revell, Shihan-Chief Instructor • (843) 626-2795	
	For More Information Call: Nelson Bartlett, Sensei at (843) 267-9078 or Kevin Watson, Sensei at (843) 267-5648	
COST:	\$100 for Members (All three days) \$150 for Non-Members (Please call for 1 or 2 day rates)	

***Please join us for an opportunity to train with one of the finest traditional instructors in the world—
 Hope to see you there!!***

國場流

Up Next.....

**Myrtle Beach Fall Camp
October 11-13, 2007
Myrtle Beach Dojo**

Hello to All,

Price, Soke has asked me to remind everyone that the dates for the Fall Clinic here in Myrtle Beach are : October 11th-13th (Thursday through Saturday). The original date was Oct. 4th-6th, but we have had to make a permanent change to the date for this camp due to the Harley-Davidson rally held every year. Please pass the word on to everyone...

Camp this year should be special, since this will mark Price, Soke's 45th year of training!

Please get everyone you can to come down and show your support. With everyone's involvement it will be a great learning experience for everyone!!!

There are very inexpensive rooms at the Beachcomber Inn and Suites, located at 1705 South Ocean Blvd. in Myrtle Beach. (Oceanfront rooms with 2 queen beds and full kitchenette for only \$49.00 per night!) Their number is (843)-448-4345. Price, Soke is staying right next door at the Hampton Inn and Suites, located at 1803 South Ocean Blvd. Their number is (843)-946-6400.

Please call me if anyone needs help and assistance, or has any questions. My number is (843)-267-5648. Thanks again to all...

OSU!!! Kevin Watson, Sensei

What were you doing 45 years ago?

Special Kobudo Clinic

**November 17, 2007
Salem Dojo**

There will be a special Kobudo clinic held at the Salem Dojo on Saturday, November 17, 2007 from 9am—3pm.

At time of writing instruction is planned in the use of the sword (Iaido/Kenjutsu), Hanjo, Jo, and Bo. Other weapons may be added as Shihan/Sensei desire. Updated information regarding this clinic will be sent out via the Kai email list as the date draws near.

Kobudo has been an integral part of the Kuniba arts since their creation. Please help to keep these arts alive and plan to attend this special clinic!

Iaido Information

Shihan McCoy would like to invite all interested Chikubu-Kai members to begin training in Iaido. Instruction will be offered in the All-Japan Seitei-Gata (standard set) as well as in Kuniba-Ha Mugai-Ryu Iaido.

The minimum equipment needed to train in Iaido are a bokken (wooden sword) and a katana (sword).

Shihan requires that all Kyu rank students train with an Iaito (a sword without a sharp edge) for safety purposes. He recommends beginning Dan rank students train with an Iaito as well, but does not require it.

The official uniform for Iaido practice is a Keikogi (top), Iaido obi (wider than a Karate Obi and designed to securely hold a sword), and a Hakama (pleated pants). For those students without this attire, however, a Karate gi is acceptable attire.

If you have any questions regarding Iaido training or equipment, please do not hesitate to contact Shihan McCoy at nchiku7@aol.com.

Chikubu Kai Summer Camp 2007

The 2007 Chikubu-Kai summer camp was held on July 19-21, 2007 in Buena Vista, Virginia.

As before, the camp was held in the double-decker pavilion at the top of the mountain in beautiful Glen Maury Park. Many thanks to Sensei Gary Cash and Mrs. Rhonda Cash for putting this together again this year.

Price Soke introduced several new wazas that he would like to be practiced in Chikubu-Kai dojos, including Roppo-no-Kata wazas, line drills, kumite wazas, and more.



An emphasis was placed also on Kata review and correction for each rank level, both for Karate and Goshin-Do. And, of course, there was time for Kobudo and lots of takedowns and tapping!



As a special treat this year, we also celebrated the first visit of Lawrence and Sachi Logan's beautiful twins, Lucian and Julian. If I have my information correct, they were born on December 18, 2006. They were a special treat to have around, and both Jacob B and "Little D" found them extremely fascinating!

Welcome back, Sachi!

All-in-all it was a great summer camp experience for all who attended. If you missed it, start making plans now to make it to the next one. You won't regret it!



Chikubu Kai Summer Camp 2007



Much Pain Soon Coming!

The Trouble With No Trouble

Shogo Kuniba's attitude of conflict avoidance
Shihan James Herndon, PhD

Anyone who ever spent time with Shogo Kuniba certainly heard him say, probably on more than one occasion, "no trouble." This simple phrase reflected a lot about who he was, his personality, and his feelings about conflict. In some ways, good came out of the "no trouble" attitude; in many ways, this easy-going approach opened the door to abuse and misrepresentation of Shogo Kuniba's position and authority.

Shogo Kuniba (1935-1992) was the President (Kaicho) of the Seishin-Kai Karate-Do Renmei of Osaka, Japan (from 1968 until his death) and the Progenitor (Soke) of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate-Do, his creative synthesis of Motobu-Ha Karate-Do (which he learned from his father, Kosei Kuniba) and Shito-Ryu Karate-Do (which he learned from Kenwa Mabuni). He was a superbly skilled martial arts master worthy of the title Meijin, if ever there were such a person. His life was Budo; and his gift was his ability to connect with students through gentleness, charisma, and charm. He was very approachable and people-oriented. He was fun to be around. Everyone who knew him felt a special affection for him. Many sought to make him their private Soke, putting barriers and obstacles between him and other seekers of Soke's attention. Many misread his agreeableness and some made claims based on his lack of opposition to their proposals. Perhaps, in the typical Japanese fashion, Shogo Kuniba rarely said "no" to requests from students and instructors; he simply said "no trouble." The ramifications of his non-answers can be found in claims of rank and title throughout the martial arts world. A few examples will be offered.

Despite what many people may believe (especially those who never met him), Shogo Kuniba was not very fluent in English. His style of communicating was akin to baby talk: e.g., "much pain soon coming," and he called certificates (Menjo) "surf tickets." This is not to criticize him, because he tried to communicate. It is simply to point out that he was not an eloquent speaker of English. Therefore, he did not write material for publication in English (viz., the Seishin-Kai Handbook). Typically, information was gained from him via translated interviews, or from the personal knowledge and experiences of those who trained with him in Japan. Others wrote the documents that appear in various places. There are examples on the Internet giving Shogo Kuniba credit for written works, to include the handbook and works of poetry in English. These are erroneous claims. While he may have been the inspiration, he was not the author. To be fair and balanced, he did write the Karate-Do Bin-Ran in 1957, a basic text on his style of karate that was published in Japan.

But beyond the erroneous attribution of written works in English, there is an even bigger and more sinister problem that flowed from Soke's poor English and non-confrontational style. Over the years (1971-1992), during his visits to and residence in the United States, he came into continual contact with needy/greedy rank/title seekers who saw an easy way to advance their status in the martial arts (at least in their own eyes). There abound rank certificates signed by Shogo Kuniba that beg the question "did he know what he was signing?" If he did, then why did he agree? Well, it was not like him to say "no" when presented with a request for rank, especially when he was the recipient of hospitality

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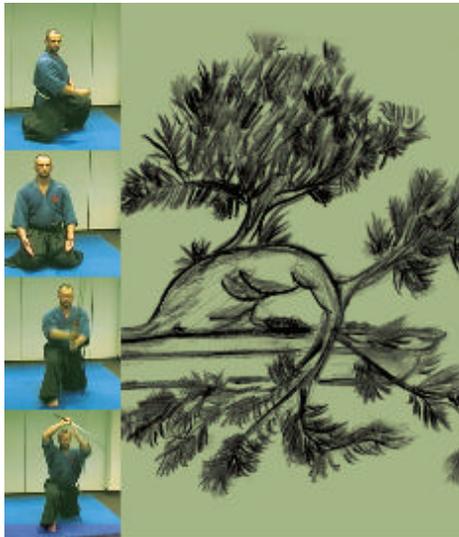
from the asker. He believed that rank was in the doing and not on the paper; sooner or later, ability would speak louder than paper. So, he signed Menjo and presented them to martial artists as a way of showing gratitude. All the while, he hoped that the bestowing of rank would bind a relationship and steer the recipient toward the path of continued practice and growth in Budo. Sadly, this was not always the case. There were many fleeting relationships; takers took what they could get and used Shogo Kuniba's good name for their own self-aggrandizement.

On the 15th anniversary of the death of Shogo Kuniba, it appears as though some of the boisterous claims made by others in his name are coming under intense scrutiny. The message traffic on E-Budo.com evidences numerous dialogues that focus on the veracity of rank claims made by martial artists such as Albert Church (1930-1980) and Richard Baillargeon (1930-1989). Both of these gentlemen had close contact with Shogo Kuniba in the early 1960s and 1970s. Both were graded 5th Dan in Seishin-Kai. Yet, at the time of their deaths, each claimed high Dan rankings and the title "Soke." Questions are now emerging about the circumstances surrounding their rank/title claims. And, they are not the only ones; some living "Soke" and 8th Dan claimants (to remain unnamed herein) are being carefully scrutinized. The one common denominator, crossing paths with Shogo Kuniba at some point in their martial arts career.

This is not to say that all who trained with and/or achieved high rank from Shogo Kuniba are fraudulently representing themselves. Certainly, this is not the case. There are many fine martial artists who owe their skill development to him, and who earned bona fide rank from him. Typically, however, these are low-Dan ranks (2/3/4) and many of the higher-Dan ranks (5/6) have been validated by visits to and training at the Hombu Dojo in Osaka, Japan. So, no offense to the valid certificate holders. It's the ones who pop up from time to time out of nowhere to announce that Shogo Kuniba awarded them a high rank (7th or 8th Dan) and a title like Kyoshi or Hanshi; yet, they are not affiliated with Seishin-Kai or its two recognized successor organizations - Chikubu-Kai and Kuniba-Kai. In time, the truth will become clear.

Were he alive today, Shogo Kuniba would be uncomfortable talking about the subject of using his name to make false claims of rank or title. He would most likely sigh and say "no trouble." The worst thing he might say about someone whose rank was in question would be "this man, I don't know." He would rather train and teach, spreading good will and good technique. Rank is illusory, but genuine self-development comes from an inner drive rather than outward trappings. Those of pure heart (Seishin) know the difference.

JSH



BUDO AND BONSAI

Martial Strategies in Everyday Life

Richard "Bulldog" Kelley
Shihan

Budo and Bonsai

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Martial Strategies in Everyday Life will not only teach you how to live a high-quality and well-shaped life, but will also show you how to get what you want in life through the application of a carefully chosen strategy.

Author Richard Clinton Kelley, Jr., has studied martial arts for more than three decades and has earned several Black Belts of various degrees. Now in his guidebook on life strategy, he shares the knowledge he gained in 1960 in Tokyo, Japan, from his first instructor, Ando Sensei. As he leads you through the martial philosophies he has practiced to live a quality life, you will learn to understand that the time, place, and circumstances dictate what strategies should be selected and applied to your own life. Whether your battle takes place in the boardroom or a back alley, blending the physical defenses with the perceiving senses will determine your fate.

Studying any martial art is an act of faith between student and instructor. Whether you're a martial arts novice or an accomplished veteran, Kelley can show you how to use these strategies in your life to make a real difference in business, self-improvement, and intellectual accomplishment.



Camp Joy Clinic!



The September clinic was held at Camp Joy in Bluefield, Virginia on Saturday, September 8, 2007. This is the first time we have trained at Camp Joy in many years.

Kuniba Soke loved training here, and now that it is open to the public once again, Price Soke looks forward to continuing that tradition. Camp Joy has undergone extensive renovations, and by next summer they should have the cabins re-opened and available for rental!

Price Soke showed us the house where Kuniba Soke always stayed during his visits to Camp Joy. Just seeing the house brought back memories to all of those who were here with Kuniba Soke.

The topic of the clinic was the wheel. Price Soke defined the wheel as “energy in motion— if the motion stops, the energy stops as well.” There was much training on the application of the wheel block, standing and on the ground. Soke wishes to build on that principle even more as time goes on.



If you missed the clinic, make plans to attend the next one and support the Kai!



All of the photographs on this page provided by Sarah Billips

Photos!

Unless otherwise specified, all of the photographs in this issue of the newsletter were taken by Mark Warren. Mark is a professional photographer and has been a student of Shihan McCoy since 2000. Mark has made all of his Chikubu-Kai photos available online at:

<http://photos.markwphoto.com>



Quotables....

"Good judgement often comes from experience.
Unfortunately, experience often comes
from bad judgement"

Author Unknown

Movin' Up!!!

Chikubu-Kai would like to congratulate the following persons on their recent promotions!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Dojo</u>	<u>Sensei</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Raul Cantu	Texas	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Tony Cooper	Waynesboro	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Michael Fletcher	Hebiashi	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Sam Gamez	Texas	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Chris Haynie	Orlando	Shihan Kelly	6 Dan
Terry Kirk	Bluefield	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Henry McCoy	Hissatsu No Ken	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Tony Noger	Orlando	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Jimmy Revell	Myrtle Beach	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Joseph Saldana	Texas	Soke W.H. Price	6 Dan
Kevin Watson	Myrtle Beach	Shihan Revell	6 Dan
Greg Blankenship	Richmond	Soke W.H. Price	5 Dan
Gary Cash	Kokoro	Soke W.H. Price	5 Dan
Jerry Henkins	Orlando	Shihan Kelly	5 Dan
Brian Kelly	Orlando	Shihan Kelly	5 Dan
Eric Louria	Orlando	Shihan Kelly	5 Dan
Nelson Bartlett	Myrtle Beach	Shihan Revell	4 Dan
Dale Hamann	Salem	Sensei Hartman	4 Dan
Raul Cantu, Jr.	Texas	Shihan Cantu	3 Dan
Michelle Vasquez	Myrtle Beach	Shihan Revell	3 Dan
Chad Dorie	Kokoro	Sensei Cash	3 Dan
Chris Wirt	Hissatsu No Ken	Shihan McCoy	3 Dan
Mark Campbell	Hombu	Soke W.H. Price	2 Dan
Mabel Navarro	Texas	Shihan Cantu	2 Dan
Mark Warren	Hissatsu No Ken	Shihan McCoy	1 Dan
Morgan Knick	Kokoro	Sensei Cash	2 Kyu
Bruce Campbell	Hissatsu No Ken	Shihan McCoy	6 Kyu
Jacob Sherff	Kokoro	Sensei Cash	8 Kyu

2007 Camp Awards!!!

If you received an award at Summer Camp 2007, please contact me at nnranger@verizon.net and let me know so that I can recognize you in the next issue of the newsletter!

A Visit from Across the Pond

Late in July Shihan McCoy received an email out of the blue from a man in Great Britain wanting to train in Iaido at his dojo! The man's name is Chris Clark, and it seems that his father-in-law lives here in Newport News, and once per year he and his wife travel to the states for a two-week visit.



Mr Clark hails from the island of Jersey, one of the Channel Islands in the English Channel between Great Britain and France. Mr. Clark previously trained in Shotokan Karate, and currently trains in Aikido and Iaido (Muso-Jikiden Eishin-Ryu),



Shihan agreed, of course, and for two weeks in August Mr. Clark trained at Shihan's dojo. He was concerned that he was not allowed to bring his Katana with him, but Shihan loaned him a Katana to use during his visit. Mr. Clark also came to a couple of Jiu-Jitsu classes, and seemed to enjoy them.

We really enjoyed his visit, and sincerely hope that he will consider training with us each time he visits the U.S.!

(Standing L-R: Shihan McCoy, Chris Clark, Chris Wirt, Kevin. Kneeling L-R: Tony, Ray, Donny)

If I've forgotten anyone, I apologize in advance. Please let me know and I'll correct it ASAP! OSU!

Chikubu-Kai is dedicated to preserving the arts of Soke Shogo Kuniba

