

JUKIDO-KAI NEWS

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"THE SWORDS INFLUENCE ON KARATE"

Summer training at Jukido kai is a great time of the year for students to get to explore some of the other martial arts practiced at our school. One of those arts is known as Kenjutsu or Way of the Sword. Why is this art so important to students learning the art of karate "Empty Hands"?

The art of Kenjutsu was a main subject of student for the Bushi or Samurai. It was a central part of their education not just for fighting in combat, but for learning how to behave in society. This highly structured system had a major influence on the development of Karate. It is true that the art of karate has its roots in the older art of Chuan Fa (Fist Way) from China, but Karate went through its own unique development in Okinawa. Okinawa, now a Japanese Province, was seized by the Japanese samurai and brought under the Japanese government. This close interaction between the warriors of Okinawa and the Samurai of Japan caused Kenjutsu to influence the development if Karate. This influence is recorded in The Bubushi that chronicles the historical development of Karate.

Throughout most of the history of Karate, the art was practiced in secret. This allowed the art to develop very sophisticated tactics and techniques, but it lacked the structure for teaching a large number of students. Secret arts were by necessity taught to only a handful of students at a time. This allowed the successful transmission of a powerful martial art, but one that did not easily transfer to the general population after the time of secrecy was no longer needed.

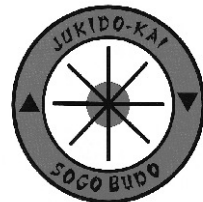
Karate drew from the highly structured martial arts and training methods of the Samurai from Japan. Samurai arts like Jujutsu and Kenjutsu provided improved training and teaching methods that allowed Karate to be introduced into Japanese society. It is from this Japanese method of teaching Karate that Americans learned and made it famous all over the world. Now, Karate schools can be found in nearly every country.

The question is, how many of these schools have lost the secret of the Samurai Sword? This summer students at Jukido Kai will get to explore some of these old sword methods and see how it improves their

Karate



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SENSEI SAYS

Summer training is in full swing. There have been several questions lately about training , testing and promotions around family vacations and other activities that I will address here.

Additional training for rank requirements such as Kata Workshop will resume in September. Training seminars through the summer are all scheduled out for private groups or special training. Private lessons are still available for the month of August, but we are starting to fill up. Students may switch training days and then switch back to work around family vacations. Just come talk to me about it. Promotion lists through June, July, and August will be posted as partial lists that will get updated midmonth based on students progress and attendance.

I hope this is helpful. Enjoy summer training!

SENSEI TOPP



Have a safe
& happy...



:: REMINDERS ::

July 4th NO CLASSES

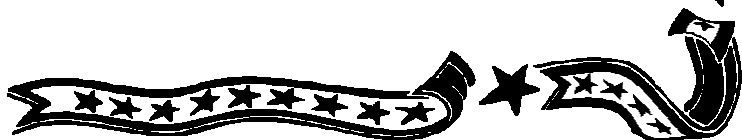
July 20 Blade Masters Camp

NO CLASS 7/29 - 8/5

Who Knew?

There really is a message written on the back of the Declaration of Independence

In the movie National Treasure, a secret message written on the back of the Declaration is a key plot device. In reality, there is a visible message on the back that reads, "'Original Declaration of Independence dated 4th July 1776.'" It's not as dramatic as the movie and experts believe it was a label added at some point when the Declaration was in storage.



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