



Ki-Aikidoschool Torii
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Torii Newsletter

We hope everyone can start the new season healthy and energetic again.

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1. Normal summer.

While elsewhere in Europe people are suffering from extreme temperatures, in the Netherlands it is once again a real Dutch summer. The temperatures are pleasant for activities, with the occasional shower but we are used to that.

In the absence of sunshine there is always a bright spot and that is the lessons of Ki-Aikido school Torii. Stable and instructive, entertaining and enjoyable, social and patient. As we have always seen over the years.

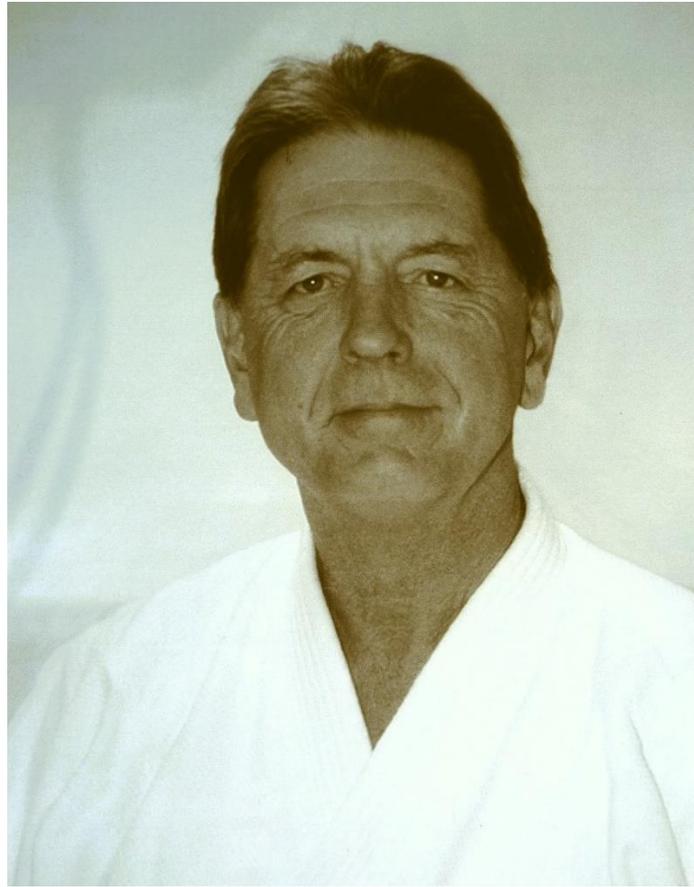
A good reason to attend again on Tuesday, August 22, as that is when regular classes begin again.

We can make a fresh start as the Dojo and the surrounding area look *pico bello* again thanks to the dedication and work ethic of the volunteers who participated in the annual cleaning day on Saturday, July 15 with the BBQ at the conclusion of the season.

Thank you again!!!!

2. In Memory of...

Christopher Curtis sensei



On June 9, 2023 at the age of 78, the teacher who was an inspiration to ki-aikido in the Netherlands for 20 years passed away. After ki-aikido in Europe broke away from Japan in 2003, Curtis sensei was appointed by Koichi Tohei as Ki Society advisor for Europe in 2004. He traveled tirelessly throughout Hawaii, the continental United States and Europe teaching aikido and ki principles. He ensured that relations with Japan were restored and initiated the creation of the Europe Ki Federation.

He taught that aikido technique was only one aspect to understanding the ki principles. He stressed the importance of seeing the big picture. Aikido is physical, mental and spiritual. Hence, in addition to aikido technique and weapons, he placed great emphasis on ki exercises, ki breathing, ki meditation, kiatsu and misogi.

In addition to the indelible impressions and memories he left behind, he wrote the books: Ki-Aikido on Maui, Letting go, and Otomo-a journey.

Sad that he is no more but happy that we were able to witness him all these years.

3. Seminars.

Also this period we are going to organize seminars that can broaden our horizons by training with others or spent on specific topics.

This period they are the following seminars:

- 3 Sep youth party morning
- 23/24 Sep European seminar in Helmond with different teachers.
- 21/22 Oct Seminar in Mataró (Spain) with Toby sensei.
- 29 Oct Sokushin no Gyo, bokken, jo and tanto.
- 19 Nov Sokushin no Gyo, bokken, jo and tanto.
- 25/26 Nov Seminar in Terranuova (Italy) led by Toby sensei.
- 10 Dec youth exams

For a preliminary schedule of seminars in 2024 see attachment to this email.

4. congratulations.

Last period we were able to admire several members as they passed a beautiful exam. From this place again our appreciation and congratulations to:

Carlo Verhappen Sandan
Michel Bijnen Shodan
Pierre Goossens 2nd kyu
Bram Corstiaans 4th kyu
Quincy Maseland 4th kyu
Gisela van Meijl 4th kyu
Nadeche van Meijl 4th kyu
Ernst Siegert 4th kyu

5. Announcements.

After six months of mandatory rest, Ad Voogels sensei will resume teaching from Tuesday, August 22.

Should you want to contribute to the newsletter, for example about your ideas about and experiences with Ki-Aikido and the Ki-principles. Please send your contribution to info@ki-aikidoschool-torii.nl

The latest publications of Shinichi Tohei sensei can be read on the English version of his Weblog: <http://www.shinichitohei.com/english/>

6. Our identity.

The passing of Curtis sensei leaves a void that must be refilled. He has shown us a path worth walking. We can only honor him and keep his memory alive by continuing and developing in his spirit. Curtis sensei has made us aware of who we are which is our identity. Our task is to expand on that and grow together.

Identity Ki-Aikido

Life Vision:

Let us pursue a universal mind that loves and protects all creation, help it grow and develop. The unification of mind and body and being one with the universe is the ultimate goal of our study.

Methods:

To grow as a human being, one needs to develop oneself on social, cultural, physical and spiritual levels.

To support this growth, ki-aikido offers the opportunity to take classes in and practice: ki-breathing, ki-meditation, ki-aikido, misogi and kiatsu.

Testing:

In ki-aikido, we measure the personal development of each individual. Thus, it should be clear that it is difficult, if not impossible, to establish general examination standards. Exam standards can only be a framework within which to test.

The degree to which students master the unification of body and mind is tested through the ki exams.

Practical application is tested through aikido exams.

At the higher grades, overall human development is also examined.

All this places high demands on the teachers who offer, as it were, a road map on which each can chart his or her own path....

Teachers are expected to:

- Have sufficient understanding of all facets of ki-aikido.
- Use ki-aikido as a means to and not an end.
- To have an eye for the development of human beings socially, culturally, physically and spiritually.
- To set an example oneself in the foregoing areas.



Ad Voogels.