

September 2012

Hello ISKF Alaska Sempai,

We had a great camp with Sensei Cathy Cline and Sensei Hiroyoshi Okazaki! We had lots of outstanding classes and had an opportunity to gather with our ISKF Alaska group from around Alaska. Also, Lynette and I very much appreciated the warm "roast" that we received from you. Lots of great memories!

Congratulations to those taking the Kyu and Dan test at camp, and to Joe Foltz who is our region's most well deserving ISKF Alaska 2012 National Meritorious Service Awardee. He will be recognized in October at the Phoenix ISKF National's. This year's Cheryl Phillips Spirit Awardee was Bob Allen who along with his family has been so very supportive of this year's camp as well as involved in so many Alaska Shotokan events over the past years. TEST RESULTS: JOHN TOMS, SANDAN; RICH CANNON, SANDAN; TINA RACY, NIDAN; MARTIE KROHN, RETEST; GWEN PULLMAN, SHODAN; ANDREW STEMP, SHODAN; EMMA ALLEN, SHODAN; RACHAEL ALLEN, SHODAN.

We had our Kyu test on Saturday, August 25, at the Eagle River Dojo/Alaska Moving Arts Center. This year in an effort to maximize training time at Camp we moved the Kyu testing to a later day. To commemorate this, in addition to my signature and Sensei Charles Holness' signature you will see that each Kyu certificate was individually handwritten in calligraphy by Sensei Holness. For those of you who tested, please keep this Kyu certificate in a special place.

We are very excited to announce that Shihan Okazaki will visit Alaska in the Spring for testing and clinics. We will forward his schedule to each dojo's Chief Instructor so you can plan to join us in Anchorage. Working with ISKF Headquarters, Sensei Jones will be making the travel arrangements and will get that information to you soon.

Now on to some items of a more serious note....at our Summer camp a couple of weeks ago we discussed the future of the region and the need to have others take on more of the regional administrative and instructional activities that I have been my responsibility and/or Sensei Susan's. These administrative and instructional activities include completing and distributing the kyu testing certificates; coordination of the instructors for future testing clinics; registering and taking on the coordination of the instructor training records; helping to identify potential major sponsors for ISKF Alaska events; and other activities. Also, there are some of you that have started to form an Organizing Committee for the 2014 Nationals. This is very welcome .... and initially I was anticipating that we would have to take on a full review, but it seems that many of you understood the discussion that we had at camp and have already begun the process of taking on various roles and responsibilities. **Thank you on this!** And in this vein, as identifiable (volunteer) tasks come up during the course of the year for the ISKF Alaska regional

office, I will ask if there is anyone willing to take on these volunteer tasks. Of course, your time, your abilities, and your own family needs will enter into this decision and we will work with you individually on this process. The end result will be so we can continue the administration functions of ISKF Alaska on a primarily volunteer basis as we have for the last 30+ years. The alternative is, should we look at other options — reduce activities and/or seek a paid part-time administrator or something else? Rather than doing a survey that is discussed in the minutes, I have formed an executive committee of myself, Sensei Diana, Sensei Susan and Sensei Lynette to look at the Regional Administrative and Instructional Activities and come up with a proposal to move us to a more balanced approach, given our limited time and ISKF Alaska's resources.

At our August 10 Board meeting we voted to have each Sempai that teaches in their dojo take the Boy Scouts of America training.....please see below. The purpose of this training is to assure parents and youth at our respective dojos that we are striving to offer the best training, best efforts and a high level of concern towards our youth and families. It is true, by and large; our ISKF Alaska is a family of family dojos.

**Karateka, see below for the web link for the Boys Scouts of America web site. On this web site you will find the Youth Protection Training.**

<http://www.scouting.org/>

**Look for the Icon on the Top Right Hand corner of the web page named Youth Protection**

**You will see message below:**

***You do not have to be a registered member or have a member ID to take Youth Protection training. To take Youth Protection training go to MyScouting.org and create an account.***

**(Note from Diana, there are only a few basic questions)**

**This training only takes about 15-20 minutes, and it will keep helping you through the process until you get the right answers.**

**At the end of the training there will be an opportunity to print a Certificate of Completion. Please print the Certificate and give it to your dojo's Chief Instructor. If you have any problems please contact Sensei Diana Stevens at [Diana@juneashotokan.org](mailto:Diana@juneashotokan.org).**

Again, please read the minutes of our leadership group at camp and if you have any questions, please contact me or Sensei Susan Jones.

**Keep Training!**

**Sensei Nakazawa**