

**CAA MEETING - AUGUST 23, 2020
VIA ZOOM**

Thanks to Kenny Kron and Laurin Herr for handling Zoom technology.

(11:51am)

Opening: Craig Fife, President

CAA President Craig Fife Shihan welcomed the Membership to its “first and hopefully last virtual meeting.” Likening our current situation to a recent church billboard, “*The church is open, but the building is closed,*” he highlighted the fact that although dojos have been closed, Aikido training has remained open.

(11:53am)

CAA Webmaster report: Michael Smith Sensei

Traffic for www.ai-ki-do.org the CAA website is 60% down, apparently affected by the pandemic. The current visits-per-month average is 600. Top page visits, after the Home page, were: Online Classes Directory (790), Events Calendar (634), Dojo Directory (539), and Spotlight (496). New Content included six Spotlight articles (Molly Hale, Alan Vann Gardner, Jane Nason, Grayson James, Rick Walsh, Joe Talley); two Surveys (*Getting back on mat,* and *Aikido?*); and two articles (*Recommendations for Dealing with COVID-19* and *Aikido?* Survey responses). Two new pages were added: (Online Classes Directory and Dojo Relief Fund).

Dojo Cho were encouraged to check the accuracy of their information in the Dojo Directory, to submit student Dan essays, to post seminars, and to encourage their students to visit and utilize the website. The CAA website is not only a valuable center of resources, it enhances our sense of community, and serves as the face of our organization to the world.

There are two CAA Facebook pages. One is used by the CAA executive staff to communicate information to the membership. On the other, CAA members exchange information of interest to the membership.

(11:59)

Bookkeeper Report: Carla Garrett

CAA Bookkeeper Carla Garrett reported that 123 people had registered/paid to come to our meeting today. She gave an accounting of CAA funds, noting that the majority are on hold for Aikikai pending rank fees.

(12:00pm).

Rank Processing: Adrienne Wonnacott Sensei

22 applications sent to Aikikai in march – they’ve not been able to return yet - - no applications sent for june. We will send batch for september Aikikai has changed requirements for kagami biraki requirements. If you are having any problems with rank processing, contact Adrienne by email. Request that everyone put name and dojo/location in chat for the meeting attendance.

12:02pm

Discussion of the status of the CAA Dojo Relief Fund: Michael Friedl Sensei

3 generous donations made. We gave out 3 donations of \$350 (to dojos outside of US). Remaining balance \$800. Contributions can still be made (not tax-deductible). Requests (simple process to apply) can still be made. Donations not tax-deductible.

(12:08pm)

COVID 19 update: How are dojo’s/people doing? Dojo closings, inspirational stories, creative ideas. Short discussion lead by Pat Hendricks Sensei.

PHS has heard very inspiring stories, a lot of kindness and love, and thought inspiring things happening. It’s important for us to stick together, esp since we are doing a martial art for dealing with conflict.

Craig: interesting and ongoing struggle – our dojo has been closed like everyone else – recently started training outside in park – in masks and distance no touch - found self rethinking how teach exp w/ kids - distilled some of our practice down to practice that might look a little. More like karate drills. Created an aikido movement routine we do every single class. Challenge: how to you teach kata dori ikkyo to kids when can’t touch

Michael: Cool things – Zoom – we can travel all over and take classes w/out having to fly. Chair, shirt w/sleeves as uke, noodles between sleeves, swivel chairs. Was thinking, how do we get new students.... Someone came by and joined weapons class outside.

Demonstration of New Zoom lens that clips onto your camera. \$20 on Amazon.

Noah (Pat Sensei's Uchi Deshi). Chance to work on internal stuff like Nadeau was talking about. I help Sensei w/Kids classes on Zoom – sometimes they're messaging their friends.

(12:18pm)

Words from the **Division Heads: What is Aikido and the function of the CAA in the midst of a pandemic, dojo closures, and the inability to train together as we are used to?**

PHendricks. It seems to help is to stay positive about the fact that we're gonna keep on going – some people have to move out of studio, others ask landlord for rent break, just the form changing, and we're a close community and we'll keep going. There are lots of options in the future. On those days when you're having a tough day, try to remember the good things that are happening and will happen.

MF – I know we'll be back training again – for now outdoors

Reminder of US occupying Japan and no aikido allowed, somehow it survived

Some countries are back to touching each other again

There's definitely hope, especially when there are better treatments

Keep digging deeper. I have hard days too, but I make it back. We're oall in the same boat.

Nadeau reminds folks that osensei during war moved to a nothing hut in iwama – at best he had a couple of lazy kids in the morning.... During that time, he made some great discoveries on his own.

Because he himself had continued to developed self – big discoveries within that translated out there.

His development was apparently "WOW".... Has seen students have to move away, go out of dojo for a couple yrs, come back not having trained, they were like equal and often better than before....their presence & ability to do their moveshe wishes he'd asked "what have you been doing?" the heart of o'sensei's message – a lot more inner work can be done. OSensei Prewar vs Postwar

Gratitude to division heads and leadership of CAA at this time

Announcement of **New Members**: Division Heads

Div 2- Fernando Gomez Michi Dojo San Paulo Brazil (applause from CAA membership). Comments from FG: gratitude & appreciation Introduced to community & Friedl by Linda Holiday

Div 1:PH loving sendoff to Louis Jumonville & wife Beth heading out for 6 mos or so on adventure and perhaps new dojo. LJ: Came to CA in 1985 and started Aikido w/Pat & Nadeau.

(12:30pm)

General **Membership Announcements**

none

(12:31pm)

Announcement of the **next meeting**: February 28, 2021 @ Aikido of San Jose: Craig Fife

(12:33pm)

Meeting adjourned: Craig Fife

Meeting Attendance

Adrienne Wonnacott, Aikido West

Robert Nadeau, City Aikido, Aikido of Mountain View

Frank Bloksberg, Aikido'Ka

Paul Thomas, Aikido West

Michael Smith, One Point Center

Owen Lawyer Ukiah Aikido

Cal Koshiyama, Aikido North

Sally Jones - Truckee Aikido

Frank Roberto, Denver Aikikai

Joe Talley Aikido Northwest
Jerome Buenviaje, Takemusu Aikido New Mexico
Jordan Kramer, Aikido of San Leandro
Bianca Nunes, Michi Dojo Brazil
Penny Sablove, Heart of San Francisco Aikido
Ross Madden, City Aikido SF
Akemi Maniwa, Aikido of San Leandro
Tanya Berardini - Aikido West
Keith Fink, North Texas Aikido
John Wiley - Traditional Aikido of Colo Springs
Michael McVey, Yellow Springs Aikido
Mary Celine Brigham, Aikido Ka
Chip Forman, City Aikido
Ben Blazke, Aikido West
Suzanne J Nicks Aikido Northwest
Mark Kruger, Aikido of Eugene
Mark Zwagerman, Aikido of Santa Cruz
Patricia Hendricks - Aikido of San Leandro
Preston Fink, North Texas Aikido
Jeremy and Molly Hale Aikido ka
Michele Simone, Aikido Central Coast
Jem Sebastian-Wortman, Hikari Dojo
Linda Reed --Aikido Mountain West
Melanie Buenviaje, Takemusu Aikido New Mexico
Yvonne Thelwell,, Aikido of Arlington
William Gray Aikido Academy Redmond WA
Paden Fink, North Texas Aikido
Elizabeth Hartman - Traditional Aikido of Colo Spgs
Mitch Johnson - Aikido of Monterey
Noah Levine - Aikido of San Leandro
Yoshika Ramanujam, Aikido of Mountain View
Fernando Sanchez, Michi Dojo Brazil
Ligia Sanchez, Michi Dojo Brazil
Artur Sanchez, Michi Dojo Brazil
Two Rivers Aikido
Lance Giroux -Aikido of Konocti
mark Vestrich, A West
Danielle Smith, One Point Center
Dusty Niles- Aikido Petaluma
Jerry Castillo, City Aikido
Michael Friedl Aikido of Ashland
Shawn Ellingson, Aikido Mountain West.
Rene Picolo Michi Dojo Brazil
Frank King Aikido Mountain West
Erin Neuner-North Texas Aikido
Linda Holiday, Aikido of Santa Cruz
Phil Wiener, Aikido Mushin
Vanessa e Gustavo Médici Michi Dojo Brazil
Bob Leichner - Aikido West / Aikido of Mountain View
Robert Cook, Aikido Club of Ogden
Penny Sablove, Heart of San Francisco Aikido
Michael Hoch, City Aikido

Laurin Herr @ City Aikido of SF
Tony Clinton, Aikido Northwest
jack Wada aikido of San Jose
Silvia Munhoz Michi Dojo Brazil
Roy Johnston - City Aikido
Craig Fife : Aikido Northwest
Jay Snortland, Aikido West
Louis Jumonville Hikari Dojo
david gay & kevin gay, aikido of caerphilly
Floriano Nunes Costa - Brazil - Michi Dojo
Frank Doran , Aikido West
Ursula Doran , Aikido West
Paul Filbert, Aikido West
Nina Atkins North Texas Aikido
Fábio - Michi Dojô - Brazil
Jarek Adamuszewski - Canada - Royal City Aikido
Mary Tesoro. Aikido of San Luis Obispo
Alex Gologorsky aikido west
Elaine Yoder, City Aikido, Two Rock Aikido
Andrew Sloley, Kulshan Aikikai (Bellingham, WA) - just visiting.
Kayla Feder Aikido of Berkeley