

Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai Newsletter

September/October 2010

Vol. 18; Issue 5

- **Ohana 2010 Edition**
All you want to know about Danzan's Biennial Event
- **On The Road Again. Myron Dickson Writes About Long Beach.**



On the Cover: Sensei Ramon Gallegos at Ohana 2010.

Ohana 2010

By
Bryan Stanley

Every Ohana is a martial arts Woodstock, with a main stage, side stages, informal drum circles, and spontaneous jam sessions. People meet, become friends, dig the music, and roll around in the mud. At the end of it all, everyone spills into VW vans and heads back down congested highways and freeways for their nine to five lives, changed, at least momentarily, by an infusion of new experiences.

Ohana 2010 had all of that, it probably had more, but to turn a hackneyed phrase, “What happens at Ohana...,” nevermind.

For those who weren’t there – don’t get mad if you didn’t show up, numbers of people wrote editorials and stories for this newsletter saying you shouldn’t miss this – it was the normal Ohana set up: Friday, clinics, party, hospitality suite; Saturday, clinics, karate kata contest, party, hospitality suite; Sunday, jujitsu kata, and banquet, after party; Monday pile into vans and head for home.

That line up reads like every other Ohana, what’s the big deal?

The big deal was not in the format, the big deal is the details. To steal an idea from psychology, it was the Gestalt of it all, the sum of the parts is greater than the whole.

Any veteran of the Ohana experience can tell stories of clinic hits and misses. From the first clinic on Friday morning, so much instructing went on that it was hard to find a bad clinic. Shihan Fumio Demura had the big mat absolutely filled with bodies. One participant in Professor Jim Lambert’s Bo No Kata class said, “I’m not worried, Shihan Demura has two more clinics to teach, I’ll get one of those,” that was the kind of weekend it was, the opportunities for learning were nearly limitless.

It would be impossible to single out any one class as better than another. For two days instructors stepped onto mats and presented fascinating new techniques as well as fresh approaches to those mundane wrist escapes everyone has done a thousand times or more. Along with Shihan Demura, other first time Ohana instructors included: Olohe Solomon Kaihewalu, Daniel Puder, “Judo” Gene Lebell, Sensei Barbara Gessner, Sensei Ramon Gallegos, and Sensei Steve Davis.

Olohe Solomon Kaihewalu brought out the Hawaiian weapons, and anyone who went to his class had a great time. The instruction was so clear, and the weapons were so cool, that missing this class would be a shame.

Daniel Puder ran a class in ground techniques. He is an MMA fighter with a professional record of 8-0. The techniques he displayed on the mat have been tested in fights. Once his techniques got coupled with his seemingly unending energy, it became a super fun class.

At 82 years of age, “Judo” Gene Lebell has a lot to offer. He got on the mat and did a few techniques, he told stories about using one pain inducing constriction after another, and his series of quips and jokes kept everyone smiling. His clinic was one for the archives.

It would take the entire newsletter to go through every clinic and say what was good about them, so let this be the last words about the two days of clinics: every instructor had good things (see **Ohana** on page **Four**)

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Yudansha Notes

The Names Have Been Changed to Protect the Innocent

On Sunday Morning at Ohana so much was going on that it was really hard to keep any semblance of order. So it was that no one noticed the crazy guy who walked into the area and started telling people about the secret techniques he learned from Dan Inosanto. The crazy dude decided to teach of few of these techniques to a young man.

Like a hunter who goes out into the field with a terminally ill dog, knowing that only one will come back, the young man left to learn. Well the young man returned and said that the secret techniques were not too effective and that the crazy dude wanted to fight him. The young man left telling this reporter, "Going outside with that guy was really stupid."

Near Miss

Shoshin Ryu Professor Captain Dave Williams got shot while on duty in Afghanistan. Seems a bullet creased his helmet and bounced off the mylar lining that protected his skull.

He now has a dent in his head, it is kind of like a dimple on a golf ball. Good thing the bullet hit him in the head, and not a vital organ. Even the doctors said that he would be fine, the CT scan revealed that nothing was going on.

Reports from the Taliban said that after the shooting they were visibly upset. The bullet never had a chance versus Captain Williams' head.

What Makes Ohana Special?

Justin Kocher from the Westside YMCA said, "I've been to a few conventions like these for other styles, and cooperation between organizations is the big deal about Ohana. It doesn't occur among other styles of martial arts."

We could not agree more.

Ohana Awards

Danzan Ryu Hall of Fame (Shoshin Ryu) 2009:

Professor Joe Souza
Professor Daniel Saragosa

2010:

Professor Rory Rebmann
Sensei Ester Izumi Takamoto

Danzan Heritage Award (Kilohana) Professor Liebert O'Sullivan

Danzan Heritage Award (Danzan.com) Sensei Kevin Colton

Certificate of Achievement (American Shotokan Karate) Professor Carlos Gallegos

Lamplighter Award (Shoshin Ryu) Professor John Chow-Hoon

Instructor of the Year (Shoshin Ryu) Professor Maureen Browne

Professor Francisco Limbago Spirit of Kokua Award (Shoshin Ryu) O-Sensei Glenn Medici Professor Mel Cansibog

Commendations on Behalf of the People of Hawaii (Shoshin Ryu) Professor Sam C. Luke Professor Charles Lee Professor Daniel Saragosa

Luciani Service Award (Shoshin Ryu) Professor Jon Jacques

Instructor of the Year (AJI) O-Sensei Glenn Medici

Sam S. Luke Service Award (AJI) Terry Nagawa

Lifetime Achievement Award (AJI) Professor Mike Chubb

Hall of Fame (AJI) Professor Sam C. Luke

On The Road Again: Part 2

By
Myron Dickson

One can only imagine the story Professor Chubb concocted to entice both his brother, Dave, and his son, Chris, to once again accompany him on another SRY excursion, this time to Long Beach, California and the dojo of Shihan Jim Kelton. For those that know Chubb intimately, and the condition of his three relics (an '83 Dodge Ramcharger, '87 Chevrolet Cavalier, and '99 Chevrolet Suburban) can appreciate his reticence to cross the Mojave Desert sans air-conditioning and the urge to find another mode of transportation. Brother Dave's 2009 Camry fit the bill perfectly.

Brother Dave, his car notwithstanding, is an accomplished martial artist in his own right (earning the rank of ninth degree black belt under Professor and 10th degree black belt Bud "The Anvil" Collyer's American Shotokan Karate) and a welcome companion for anyone traversing dangerous territory or stopping to eat at the Bun Boy in Baker, California. As a side note, the temperature in Baker, as they eased their way through the plethora of speed traps, was 115 degrees at 4:30pm that Friday evening.

The trip came about because Shihan Kelton had graciously extended an invitation to Chubb to visit the Lakewood Budokai. Although the invitation had been extended on numerous occasions circumstances never presented an opportunity to do so. Mindful of the wonderful time enjoyed as a result of Shihan's visits to Boulder City, Professor Chubb refused to let anything stand in his way this time and he agreed to conduct a clinic there on July 17th. As the date approached Professor Jacques asked if he might also attend.

As the reader may recall, the threesome was joined previously by the tapeworm-driven appetite of Professor Jon Jacques on a quick trip to Phoenix, Arizona just the month before. During the trip Professor Jacques acquired the moniker "Skiploader," in recognition of his remarkable appetite. Although he lived up to the name before the trip had ended, Professor Jacques proved a valuable asset to the visitors this trip in the form of a splendid uke, willing massage client, and tireless bartender throughout. His knowledge of local eateries was both inspiring and welcome. One, the Heritage Family Pantry, served such big portions that a tear was observed to form in the Professor's eye.

Professor Mike LaMarche provided sleeping accommodations and chauffeuring services for the weary travelers. His hospitality and generosity provided both a much-needed "port in the storm" and a source for local information. This reporter had the opportunity to train with Professor LaMarche for a period of several years and values highly his insight and skill into the arts of Danzan-ryu. Although semi-retired, the good professor is always approachable and willing to share his vast knowledge with any eager student. Also lending support from the sidelines were Professors Bill Fischer, Bud Collyer, and Dan Lopez.

To watch Professor Chubb working on the mat is amazing. He seems to draw both strength and energy from the mat itself. Even though we were to have his expertise for only two short hours, those that stayed were treated to two additional hours of hands-on massage techniques geared for those suffering from specific ailments. One individual had a leg shorter than the other, another had severe neck restriction, still another suffered from lower back pain and yet another, from a shoulder joint impingement. All came away the better for his ministrations.

The focus of the clinic, however, was on strategies for winning. Professor Chubb emphasized the need to "fight to win" as professed by legendary swordsman Musashi Minamoto. Mushasi, considered Japan's greatest swordsman, was self-taught and attributed his many victories to a philosophy of "strike first; strike hard." Professor demonstrated this principle in a number of his (See **On the Road**, Page Three)

(On The Road, from page Three)

techniques. Unfortunately, the session was all too short and seemed to end as quickly as it began. Shihan Kelton announced that a backyard barbeque for lunch was being prepared for those that were interested.

We gathered at the home of Russell Kelley, a student of Kelton's and a former marine. The meal, consisting of hotdogs, hamburgers, cheese enchiladas, beans, corn-on-the-cob, fruit, cookies, and numerous refreshments gave the participants and spectators alike a welcome and very tasty break.

This reporter was moved by the generosity and warmth of the students and teachers of the Lakewood Budokai. The trip will be long-remembered as a very special event shared with some very special friends.

Danzan Ryu Hall of Fame

2003 Inductee

Professor Ramon "Lono" Ancho, Jr.

Ramon Ancho, Jr. was born September 28, 1928. He was nine years old when he joined Professor Okazaki's class. He studied jujitsu with Professor Okazaki until he left for the service.

Professor Ancho got his first pair of shoes, compliments of the US Army in basic training. Now he got three meals a day, his own bed, shelter, and money. When he was young, Professor Ancho never had a bed, he had to sleep where he could.

Professor Ancho did one tour in WWII, two tours in Korea with Special Forces, and six tours in Vietnam with SOG (special operations group). Most SOG missions were 3-7 days, but Professor was in the field for up to four months at a time.

Professor Ancho took over as coach of the West Point Judo Team; they had not won a match in three years. Three years later, team was undefeated.

Professor Ancho was awarded thirty-seven different military medals. On Monday, January 27, 2003, Professor Ancho died peacefully in his sleep. He was seventy-four. (Edited from SRY Newsletter May/June 2003)

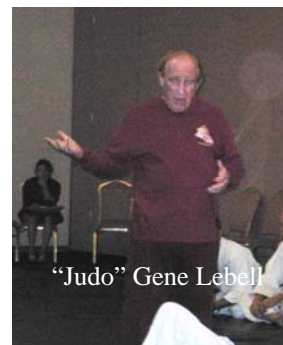
(Ohana, from page One)

to offer, and every instructor did a great job presenting their ideas. Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai would like to thank all of the instructors for the time they spent preparing and presenting their clinic curricula.

Friday night saw the Ohana Kids Welcome Party on the Tiffany Terrace pool deck, and the first night of the hospitality suite for the adults. The kids had fun; the adults had fun. It was a win-win situation.

One would be remiss not to mention the people who traveled from all over to get to Ohana 2010. Barbara Gessner traveled from New Jersey to represent the Rutgers University Judo Club, Shoshin Ryu's own Professor Rich Charlebois came from Maine, Jaime Zapata came from Alabama with his sensei Joe Medlen, Matt Steiman rolled in from Pennsylvania along with others from Professor Doug Keil's class, then there was Andy Manwaring who showed up from Lancaster, England. Shoshin Ryu professor Captain Dave Williams had the longest trip to Ohana, three days, he came in from Afghanistan for the event. Those were just a few of the people who came from great distances. Not to be forgotten are the people from the AJI who came in from Hawaii and Kodenkan Yudanshakai who came in from Arizona, the list could go on an on.

After the Saturday clinics, Professor Carlos Gallegos organized and ran the karate kata contest. It was cool. From the first junior competitor to the final black belt, the entire contest was a stellar display of karate forms. Ultimately it would be two of Shihan Fumio Demura's students who would take first and second place in the Advanced Black Belt division, and they deserved it. Their strikes were so quick and focused, it was hard to see an error. Another competitor in that division, Professor George Arrington, did a kata that (See **Ohana**, continued on page **Five**)



(Ohana, Continued from page **Four**)

had been created by Professor David Nuuhiwa that had rolls into back kicks, slow power moves, and flurries of strikes.

Being a judge for the Advanced Black Belt division must have been fun and nerve-racking at the same time. How they were ever able to see the difference between the katas and discern a winner had to have been difficult.



The second night in the hospitality suite on Saturday night was a social event. Everyone who was there had the opportunity to hobnob with senior professors from different organizations, talk to black belts from all over the place, and eat and drink until stupidity set in (Not that anyone did. Well...).

The kata contest on Sunday morning proved to be a little intense in a few ways: it took longer than expected, which drove the hotel staff crazy; for the first time in a long time a competitor got hurt, a broken collar bone; and due to time constraints the senior awards had to be handed out at the banquet that night.

Before the contest got started, Kate DeMoss, the Director of Enabling Safety, a self defense class for the visually impaired, came out and gave a short demonstration and asked if anyone would be willing to be an instructor. Anyone interested should call 408-247-2660.

The jujitsu kata contest was not the only contest being run in the hotel that morning. In the next room over, the US Sumo Championships were in full force. Professor Okazaki would have loved it. Rumor has it that US Sumo may start running their national championships in concordance with Ohana. Stay tuned.

Once the kata contest got rolling, it was one solid technique after another. It was easy to see how much time teams had put in to prepare for the event. With only the space for two mats, it took longer to run the contest than usual, which put some pressure on the judges and competitors in the afternoon.

After the contest, only one more event was scheduled for the weekend, the Ohana banquet. All right, let's get the big pink elephant out of the room right now, it took over four hours. Okay, so it took a while. Big deal. The purpose of Ohana is to celebrate Danzan Ryu and recognize those people who have been spreading the art. If it takes four hours to do that every two or three years, is that so bad?



As for the banquet, so many special guests were there and so many awards were handed out that it would take four hours to list them all and read them all. Here are some of the high points: Professor George Arrington gave the Danzan Heritage Award to Sensei Kevin Colton. Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai recognized the 2009 Danzan Ryu Hall of Fame members Professor Joe Souza and Professor Dan Saragosa, then put Professor Rory Rebmann and Sensei Ester Izumi Takamoto in the 2010 hall of fame class.

Sensei Jonathon Largent presented the Kilohana Martial Arts Association's Danzan Heritage Award to Liebert O'Sullivan. Shoshin Ryu's Francisco Limbago Spirit of Kokua Award went to O-sensei Glenn Medici and Professor Mel Cansibog. The title of Hanshi was awarded to Shihan Fumio Demura and Professor Bud Collyer on behalf of Kodo Butoku Renmei. Shoshin Ryu's Lamplighter award went to Professor Jon Jacques. Professor Jacques also received the Luciani Service Award from Shoshin Ryu.

(See **Ohana**, continued on page **Eight**)



Visit to Jujitsu America - San Jose

By

Professor Jon Jacques

Back in December 2009, Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai was contacted by Eric Renner; the President of Jujitsu America. He wanted to open up the lines of communication and re-establish relationships between the two organizations. At the time, I was not sure where this simple e-mail would take me. We exchanged some more correspondence and made some telephone calls to each other. Eric invited me to attend Jujitsu America's Sport Jujitsu Clinic in January. This turned out to be a busy month for me and I was unable to attend.

I checked the JA website and noticed they had an event in March called Okugi 2010. I knew I would have to travel and meet with Eric and members of Jujitsu America if Shoshin Ryu and Jujitsu America were to put into action the words - inter-organizational cooperation. I talked one of my black belts, Vince into driving me up to San Jose. We could have flown, but I decided a "road trip" was in order. It would be a good chance to get to know Vince better and we could talk about upcoming events such as Ohana 2010.

Vince drove a Ford Expedition, a rather large SUV. We drove up Pacific Coast Highway from Long Beach. I told Vince that PCH would meet up with the 101 freeway around Ventura. As we drove past Malibu, he chooses to listen to his GPS instead and turned right onto Mulholland Highway. It was a twisty dark road that would have been fun to drive in a Porsche. We were not driving a Porsche; we were in the "land yacht", also known as the Ford Expedition. I grabbed on to the handle on the dash and held on for dear life. Vince was sweating bullets as I laughed out loud. I'm not sure if it was out of fear or genuine enjoyment of the experience. This side trip added about another hour to our drive. It took us nine hours to reach San Jose. We arrived in town about 1 o'clock am.

On Saturday morning, we drove to the Nikko Jujitsu School on Martha Street. The host for the event was Professor Richard Bunch. There was an organizational meeting in progress when we arrived. After it broke up, I was able to meet with Eric face to face once again. I had met Eric about 25 years earlier at one of our Shoshin Ryu conventions in Orange County. He was very congenial and made us feel welcome in the dojo. The clinic was well attended and I recognized many faces from past events that I had attended. The subject matter was interesting and I learned a few things. At the beginning of the session, Prof Joe Souza passed out a notebook that he created that detailed all the arts to be taught during the two day session. This alone was worth the drive up to San Jose. I asked Prof. Souza if he would sign my notebook. He was surprised that I asked him and was glad to do so.

Later after the workout, I invited Eric to have a beer and talk for a while. He said it was his wife's birthday, but he would make time to talk with me. We found out after about a half hour that both organizations had a lot in common. We both honor the traditions of the past, but with an eye to the future of martial arts in general and Danzan Ryu in particular. We laughed as our time progressed and generally just had fun talking about our experiences and our journey through life and the martial arts. I came away from the weekend with a good feeling about the people I had met and the experience that we shared. I hope that members of Jujitsu America and Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai will have similar experiences in the future.

Check out the Danzan Ryu Bookstore

Check out Professor George Arrington's bookstore and pick up some Danzan Ryu books.

<http://www.danzan.com/HTML/bookstore.html>

2010 Ohana Nationals Jujitsu Kata Junior Divisions

3-4 Novice:

1st Kailey Poretz Kenshokan

5-6 Novice:

1st Brandon Maldomado Orange YMCA

2nd Jada Banks Orange YMCA

3rd Alexa Firestone
 Deliah Vadersluck Amador

5-6 Intermediate:

1st Dominic Peri
 Sina Sieminska Amador

7-8 Novice:

1st Diego Morones
 Noah Segura Orange YMCA

1st Garrett Liao
 Mikey Griffith Orange YMCA

2nd Katrina Liao
 Ryan Wang Orange YMCA
3rd Samuel Jarman Downey YMCA

7-8 Intermediate:

1st Moises Segura
 Elijah Paschal Orange YMCA

2nd Isabella Andrus
 Abby Marciel Amador
3rd Ashley Martinez Downey YMCA

7-8 Advanced:

1st MacKenzie Davis Orange YMCA

9-10 Novice:

1st Armisael Ramirez Downey YMCA

2nd Heaven Neilson
 Adam Hasim Orange YMCA

9-10 Intermediate Division A:

1st Joaquin Stawsky
 Samson Eherenberg Kenshokan

1st Annika Lauer Kodenkan Tucson

2nd Cailee Taylor Orange YMCA

3rd Donovan Banks Orange YMCA

9-10 Intermediate Division B:

1st Abigail DeWeber
 Isaac Robinson-Johnson KDK of Sierra Vista

2nd Mark Velasquez
 Timothy Townsend Orange YMCA

3rd Mark Weider
 Alex Lorey Kenshokan

9-10 Advanced:

1st Ari Bormanis
 Kian Jalali Kodenkan of Tucson
2nd Kaylene Davis Orange YMCA

11-12 Novice:

1st Justo Garcia
 Damien Garcia Kenshokan
2nd Hannah Koiman Kenshokan
3rd Adele Townsend Orange YMCA

11-12 Intermediate:

1st Anette Stawsky Kenshokan

2nd Josh Rodriguez
 Aidan Fredrickson Amador

3rd Mark Guberman
 Allen Sokolov Kenshokan

11-12 Advanced:

1st Dillon Lee
 Sandra Muller Kodenkan Martial Arts Academy
2nd Erica Martinez
 Lidia Rios Downey YMCA

13-15 Novice:

1st Chris Lorey
 Alexys Odama Kenshokan

2nd Amar Patel
 Brandon Singson Kenshokan

13-15 Intermediate:

1st Alex Nguyen
 Jordan Vu Orange YMCA

2nd Benito Piruierta
 Caius Ratliff Ott YMCA Tucson

3rd Paige Hawkey
 Tyler Clark Amador

13-15 Advanced:

1st Janelle Julio
 Julissa Julio Orange YMCA

2nd Jessica Kveen Orange YMCA
3rd Guillermo Martinez
 Stacy Rios Downey YMCA

16-17 Intermediate:

1st Vince Nguyen Orange YMCA

16-17 Advanced:

1st Victoria Burke
 Bradley Maratea Amador
2nd Alexander Mendez KDK of Sierra Vista

3rd Ivan Pedreza
 Cullen Griffin Downey YMCA

Ohana 2010 Kata Results

Adult Divisions

8th-6th Kyu:

1 st Vivian Belmonte	
Edward Chamourian	Kenshokan
2 nd Tamara Sagrenighne	
Mimi Garcia	Kenshokan

5th Kyu:

1 st Sevana Avanesian	
Julianna Colwell	Santa Clarita Valley Jujitsu
2 nd Juno Wilson	
John Devitt	Santa Clarita Valley Jujitsu
3 rd Melisa Spence	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club

4th Kyu:

1 st Eunice De La Cruz	
Sebastian Santiago	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club

3rd Kyu:

1 st Connor Paush	
Ed Howffiger	Santa Clarita Valley Jujitsu
2 nd Vicente Cordero	Santa Clarita Valley Jujitsu
3 rd Johathan Johnson	
Polly Johnson	Downey YMCA

1st Kyu:

1 st Zachary Kauffman	
Alejandro Stawski	Kenshokan
2 nd Matthew McClane	
Jason Minahan	Amador

Shodan:

1 st Tanya Yonekura	Wahiawa Kodengan
2 nd Lan Luu	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club

Nidan / Sandan:

1 st Joshua Parker	
Matthew DiPrima	Ott YMCA Budokai
2 nd Christopher Woo	
Jason Woo	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club
3 rd Greg Poretz	
Robert Rainey	Kenshokan

Yodan / Godan:

1 st Dennis Dias	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club
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Team Standings

1st	Orange YMCA
2nd	Kenshokan
3rd	Amador Judo & Jujitsu Studio
4th	Alameda Judo / Jujitsu Club

(Ohana, continued from page five)

On behalf of Kodo Butoku Renmei, Professor Bill Fischer promoted Professor Mike Chubb to Judan. Later the AJI and Shoshin Ryu Yudanshakai also promoted Professor Chubb to Judan. Shoshin Ryu also promoted Professor Rory Rebmann to the rank of Judan..

Every organization came forward and presented Dan promotions. Once again, it is a long list. Some of them are in this newsletter on page --.

After the banquet, the party was on the pool deck. It went well into the evening, offering another opportunity for anyone and everyone to talk with some of the highest-ranking professors in Danzan Ryu.

Some final notes about Ohana 2010. Professor Kevin Dalrymple and Sensei Steve Davis did everything they could think of to ensure the success of Ohana 2010, and they deserve a standing ovation for the thought effort they put into the weekend. Professors Carlos Gallegos and Jon Jacques worked diligently on the karate and jujitsu contests respectively, both of those events take hours to put together.

Thank you to everyone who had a part in making Ohana 2010 a success.

Start saving your nickels, Ohana 2012 is going to be in Hawaii. Let us all get behind the AJI and be sure to get over to Honolulu and make Ohana 2012 the next fantastic event in the history of Danzan Ryu.

Ohana 2012 Update

The members of the American Jujitsu Institute have started working to get Ohana 2012 off the ground. They are working on contract with the Queen Kapiolani Hotel where they hosted the 2001 Ohana. The overflow crowd will go to the Ocean Resort Hotel next door.