



Wado-Kai Canada

Volume 1 Issue 1

Spring 1997

New association to govern Wado

Welcome to the first edition of Wado-Kai Canada newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to introduce you to the Wado-Kai Karate Association of Canada, a federally- and provincially-incorporated non-profit association.

It was formed in February 1996 with the blessings of Master Masaru Shintani .

The mandate of Wado-Kai Canada is to continue to promote and teach the traditional values and techniques of Wado-Kai karate as was founded by Master Hironori Otsuka and passed forward through Master Shintani.

Shintani Sensei has authorized the association to hold gradings at all ranks and to issue certificates for these ranks.

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**Visit us on the Internet. Our address is:
<http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/2946/WADOHOME.HTM>**



Master Shintani and Sensei Greg Reid demonstrate finer points of technique during Victoria seminar

Bowers first president of Wado-Kai Canada

Sensei Les Bowers was elected the first president of the Wado-Kai Karate Association of Canada at the association's first annual general meeting Feb. 22.

Elected vice-president was Richard Mosdell. Directors are Margo Downey, Gerry Woloshyn, Erich Eichhorn and Peter Danniels.

Sensei Bowers (Yondan), who teaches at the Women's Karate Club, is a medical doctor and past-president of the BC Anaesthetist Society. He will serve for two years.

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CASK first to join Wado-Kai Canada

The Canadian Associated Schools of Karate-do is the first organization to join Wado-Kai Canada.

From its inception in a small church hall in Victoria, BC, in 1982, CASK has grown to more than 300 students in 10 locations around British Columbia.

Founder is Sensei Greg Reid, Shichidan (7th degree), who has worked in close co-operation with Sensei Robert Reid, Godan (5th degree).

SENIOR STUDENT

Sensei Greg is the most senior student of Master Masaru Shintani, who is head of Wado-Kai in North America.

CASK, which represented Canada in the 1994 All-Japan Wado-Kai National Championships and the World Wado-Kai Championships in the Budo-kan in Tokyo, Japan, offers training to students ranging from beginners to senior blackbelts as well as special self-defence programs for public schools, private businesses or anyone upon request.



The Wado-Kai Canada newsletter is published by the Wado-Kai Karate Association of Canada, and edited by Sensei Charles La Vertu.

Views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect that of the society.

Submissions of articles, photographs, cartoons etc. are welcome and encouraged.

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President's corner

By Les Bowers

It is my honor to be the first president of the Wado-Kai Karate Association of Canada. I thank you for this privilege.

The association, also known as Wado-Kai Canada, was federally and provincially incorporated as a non-profit association. This is not the same as a charity.

What this means is that the association can make a profit to use to complete its tasks but cannot distribute that money to the members of the association as dividends.

The aims of the

association are described in the bylaws. They are briefly to maintain the Wado style as closely as we can to that which Otsuka Sensei taught; and to promote Wado-Kai Karatedo in all its various aspects. Naturally this covers a wide range of topics.

Our association has been founded under the direct authority of Master Shintani. He has authorized us to conduct our own affairs and has given us powers to award Dan rankings.

Master Shintani has personally signed the Dan certificates of the most senior people in the

association. Subsequent certificates will be signed by the technical director of the association.

The first board of directors comprised the founders of the association -- myself, Erich Eichhorn, Gerry Woloshyn, Charles La Vertu and Peter Danniels.

Brendan Ralfs was also on the board by virtue of his position of technical director of the association, and has been re-appointed by the board.

Over the past year, we have developed a new

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Curriculum, grading

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We are not part of the Shintani Karate Federation, but expect to have cordial and respectful relations with its members.

"The Wado-Kai Karate Association of Canada is dedicated, with my guidance, to perpetuating the ideals, philosophies and karate techniques that Otsuka Sensei held to be so important," Master Shintani said.

Founding president Sensei Leslie Bowers says the association will help ensure that the Wado-Kai karatedo taught at all members clubs

is of the highest standard possible.

"We have a very high standard of karate with a good basic technique. Our style and our members receive high praise wherever we compete and our members always do well in the medal ratings."

To maintain these high standards, the association has developed a curriculum and standards for grading, and is currently developing an instructor's program.

"The association is keen to enhance the training of the instructors and of referees," said Bowers. "We also hope eventually to be able to take

advantage of courses offered provincial, national and international organizations such as the National Karate Association."

Work is under way on several books illustrating the curriculum. This will include the nine basic katas, the accessory katas and the accessory curriculum such as weapons, bunkai, kumite, kihon and jujitsu.

The books will then be made into training videos.

The books and video are being prepared under the direction of Sensei Greg Reid, Shichidan (7th Dan), Master Shintani's most senior student.

Emperor honors Wado founder for service to karate and sport

Wado-Kai -- the way of peace -- was created by the late grand master Hi-roronri Otsuka, the highest karate authority in Japan, April 1, 1934, by combining jujitsu, Kempo and Okinawan karate.

Wado-Kai is seen as one of the four official karate styles by the All-Japan Karate-do Federation.

Master Otsuka began martial arts training in Shindo Yoshin-ryu Jujitsu at age six and by 1921, at the age of 29, was chosen to become the master of this style. While at Waseda University he also studied Kempo.

KARATE UNKNOWN

In 1922 he became interested in karate when Gichin Funakoshi -- the father of modern karate -- introduced the then-unknown Okinawan martial art to Japan. Six years later he was assistant instructor to Funakoshi Sensei.

Little by little, Master Otsuka began to open karate clubs of his own at various universities and colleges, including Tokyo University and Tokyo Dental College.

He also set himself up as

a medical specialist in treatments of martial arts injuries.

As he was creating Wado, he began the study of jukumite for competitive purposes, laying the foundation for modern free-style karate tournaments.

Master Otsuka built Wado around nine katas, five of which were considered

basic. The take down and throwing techniques of jujitsu play a strong role as do

the kicking, striking, punching and blocking of Kempo, jujitsu and Funakoshi's karate.

During and after the Second World War, he continued to teach Wado even though the occupation forces had banned the teaching and practice of all martial arts. Like many others he continued to teach by offering boxing lessons --karate, incognito.

NAMED JUDAN

For his outstanding contributions to karate, the Emperor of Japan awarded Master Otsuka the Fifth Order of Merit of the Sacred Treasure in 1967. He was the first karate master to receive this distin-

guished award.

In 1972, he was awarded the title of Shodai Karate-do meijin Judan (first generation karate master of the 10th dan) by the Japanese Imperial family.

Master Otsuka also received the Shiju Hooshu medal from the Japanese government for his outstanding contributions to sport. He was the only person in the history of karate to be so honored.

First Wado tournament slated Nov. 7

The first Wado-Kai Canada invitational tournament will be held Nov. 7-9 in Victoria.

"This is our first and we will need everyone's help," said President Les Bowers.

"If we are organized, it will be easy. Please be prepared to help."

The tournament will take place in the Central Junior Secondary School gym.

Members wishing to take part should contact their head instructors or write to Sensei Peter Danniels, c/o 2038 Avondale Rd. Victoria, BC, V8P 1V4.

President's corner

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Dan certificate. All active members who graded to a Dan rank before they joined the association can have a new certificate from the association for a fee of \$10. However, you must still be training and have paid your dues.

Anyone who is grading to a new Dan rank from now on will have a certificate included in the grading fee.

New Mudansha (colored rank) certificates are also available. These will not be back issued. We are also preparing an instructor's certificate.

Also in progress we have an instructors' program and a referee program. With the help of Sensei Greg Reid, Master Shintani's most senior student, a book is planned to describe and illustrate the nine katas of Master Otsuka's curriculum.

We have just begun. The sky is the limit. We offer good karate and good training.

We expect to grow to a very large size over the next few years. The bigger we are the more we can offer.

This is your association. For it to work it will need your input and your help.

Remember, we are an *harmonious organization*. Let us stay in harmony with ourselves and other karate schools.

First board elected

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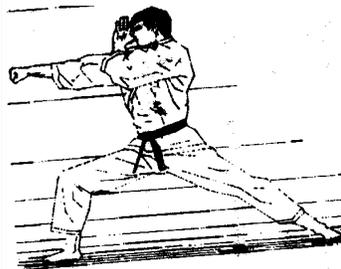
Sensei Mosdell (Yondan), a Vancouver business person, teaches at the Canadian Wado-Kai Karate School of Vancouver. He will serve a one-year term.

Margo-San is a free-lance legal assistant, and student at CASK Karate in Victoria.

Sensei Woloshyn (Yondan), a marine engineer, is involved with the CASK Karate children's program in Victoria. He was a director of the Veselka Ukrainian Dance Company for 11 years including three as president.

Sensei Eichhorn (Yondan), an accounting clerk, is senior instructor and director of operations with CASK Karate in Victoria; and Sensei Danniels (Yondan), a builder, is head instructor of the CASK Karate Kids Class, also in Victoria.

Two of the directors will serve one-year terms and two, two-years terms.



Association goals to promote karate

The purposes of the association are:

To teach Wado-Kai karate.

To teach physical well-being and fitness.

To promote the principles and teaching of karate and to work towards the advancement of karate together with other karate groups throughout the world.

To sustain the traditional karate of the Wado-Kai style as founded in Japan by Master Hironori Otsuka.

To promote the growth of Wado-Kai karatedoh.

To arrange karate tournaments and to award prizes.

To provide financial support to participants in karate competitions.

To form a national headquarters for Wado-Kai karatedoh.

Wado-Kai Canada

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stamp

To: