

# Growing Judo

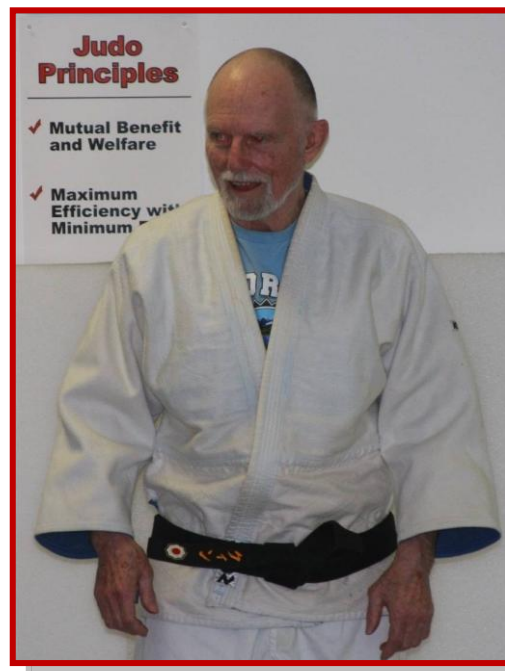
## October, 2010



Monthly publication of the  
Club Support Services Committee of the  
United States Judo Association  
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### In this month's issue:

- ★ Recognition of several of our USJA club leaders!
- ★ Jim Bregman's thoughts on *Judo Development*
- ★ New Co-Directors of the USJA Karate Division
- ★ Ideas for promoting judo at the dojo level
- ★ News and events
- ★ People and clubs that are GROWING JUDO
- ★ New Clubs, Promotions & other regular features



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### **Please contribute your news to Growing Judo! Make sure your submissions are:**

- \* CONCISE, well-written and proofread.
- \* Contain correct details (like dates and contact information) and include hyperlinks to event forms.
- \* In WORD format (not PDF!) or in the body of the email. Photos can also be sent as separate attachments.
- \* Your original work, or includes the expressed permission of the creator.
- \* If possible, includes a few quality, interesting photos; be sure that you have permission to submit photos of others, ESPECIALLY minors.
- \* Has "**Growing Judo**" or "**GJ**" in the subject line of your email.

Thanks for your support!

Joan Love, Editor, *Growing Judo*  
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Chair, Club Support Services/Regional Coordinators  
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**Editor's Note: Depending on the number of news submissions, we may have a combined issue for November/December. Please get your news items and events in by October 23rd!**



## Random Thoughts on Judo Development by Jim Bregman

We, the American Judo Community, and particularly the USJA, spend enormous amounts of time thinking about, developing and debating judo teaching methods, promotion systems, elite training programs, kids play/training programs, refereeing technique, rule changes, etc. While this discussion is familiar and in our comfort zone, it is myopic! It does not address the fundamental underlying problem with American Judo, which is **numbers**--*How do we recruit and retain students?* Currently, USJA membership is at ~8,000--down from a high of ~22,000.

I have read numerous emails on promotion system changes and individual promotions, but I haven't seen much thought on recruiting and retaining members. It is hard and not in our comfort zone, but *this is the 100,000 pound gorilla sitting in the way of National Judo Development!* We just don't know how to do it. We don't have a clue, but Karate, BJJ, Tae Kwon Do, Ultimate Fighting, and even ping pong

do! We argue amongst ourselves but don't teach our club leaders how to **get** and **keep** students.

First, we have to get 250,000 on the mat! The rest is the easy part. So, can we find a group of really smart, experienced people to find a real solution for this fundamental flaw in our world?

Peace,

Jim (Retired from Judo ... almost!)



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## IMPORTANT MEMO

September 24, 2010

TO: ALL ACTIVE COACHES, ALL BLACK BELTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Re: Background Screening

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to please make sure you have a current background check completed.

Please check your membership card under the certification part of the card, and you will find the expiration date for your background check.

If there is nothing listed, and you meet the criteria listed above, you must obtain one immediately.

The form can be found on our website at; <http://www.usja-judo.org/Docs2007/USJABackgroundScreeningConsentForm.pdf>.

Thank you for taking the time to take care of this very important matter and for all your support in judo and to the USJA.

Sincerely,

Katrina R. Davis

USJA Executive Director

## **Special Announcement from the USJA Board of Directors-- New Co-Directors of the USJA Karate Division**

*We are pleased to announce the appointment of Grant Campbell and Jose Juan Cruz as Co-Directors of the USJA Karate Division. They both come highly recommended, and with their abilities and expertise, I am sure they will put together a great Karate Division.*

*-- Lowell F. Slaven, USJA Jujitsu Director, USJA Board of Directors*

### **Jose Juan Cruz**

Jose Juan Cruz started his martial arts training as a child in 1968 in the island of Puerto Rico in the styles of Shorinryu & Gojuryu Karatedo. In 1970 he began training in Shotokan Ryu under Jorge L. Villodas Sensei. Training in those days was severe enough that only adult students were allowed in class, but Jose's determination to develop himself into a stronger young man made him earn the privilege of staying in the class. By the time he achieved the rank of 6<sup>th</sup> kyu, his sensei adopted him as an "uchideshi." That was his most important accomplishment at that time. He reached the rank of shodan at the age of 17 and started to run his sensei's dojo. He also expanded to other cities of the island by opening several dojo.

In the early 80's he, along with other Shotokan practitioners of the island, founded the Puerto Rico Shotokan Karatedo Association. He was appointed Technical Director of this organization and also was the co-founder of other martial arts organizations in the island such as the Metropolitan Karatedo Association and the Puerto Rico Traditional Karatedo Federation. His dynamic leadership, along with his competition career, gave him the opportunity to represent Puerto Rico in the 5<sup>th</sup> World ITKF Traditional Karate Championship in Lima, Peru, sponsored by the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee. There, acting as both an athlete and a delegate, he was granted a request to host the Pan American Traditional Karate Championship.



In 1992, Cruz Sensei moved and established himself in the city of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Realizing that there were not enough structured activities that involved the entire family in that area, he opened the Bethlehem Shotokan Karate Dojo. In addition, he continued providing support and advice to the karateka of his native island which he does to this day. In 1997, Mr. Cruz was recognized by the Hispanic Business Council and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the "Community Service Award" for his dedication on providing outstanding service to his community, mostly through Karatedo activities and programs such Karate for Inner City Kids (KICK) and Karate After School (KAS).

Mr. Cruz has taken the time to study other traditional Japanese martial arts such as Okinawa Kobudo, Nihon Jujutsu, Nihon Kobudo, Okinawa Kobayashiryu Shorinryu Karate and Goju Ryu Karatedo, and holds Dan ranking in some of them. He has trained under some of the most



remarkable teachers in the world. In order to reinforce his martial arts training he studies Japanese language and also traditional Chinese healing arts including Chi Qong.

Cruz Sensei is the founder and chief instructor of the United Alliance of Shoto Karatedo -Toitsu-Kai- (in 1994) and the Okinawa Budo Kenkyukai -OKIBUKAI. The responsibility of leading these organizations, and others that he belongs to, keep him busy by travelling the world teaching technical seminars, providing leadership and empowering others.

Regardless all these achievements, he has never stopped thinking of himself as an “eternal student” by embarking in the continuous study and training of the Arts. He embraces the concept of a “beginner’s mind” by emptying his cup whenever the opportunity arises.

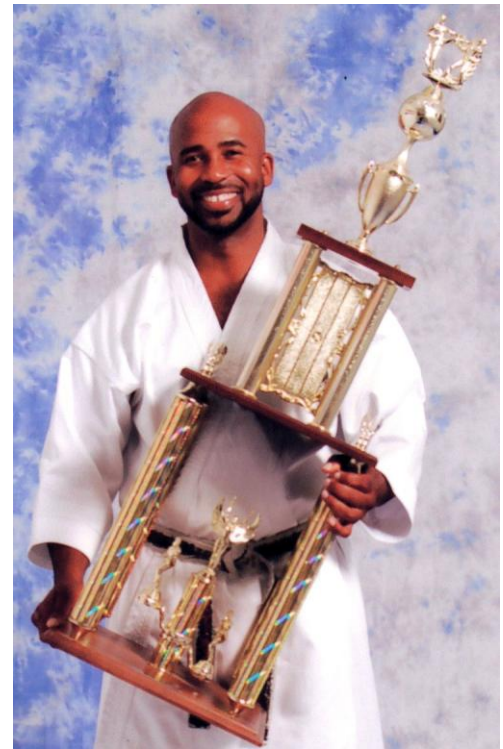
## **Grant Campbell**

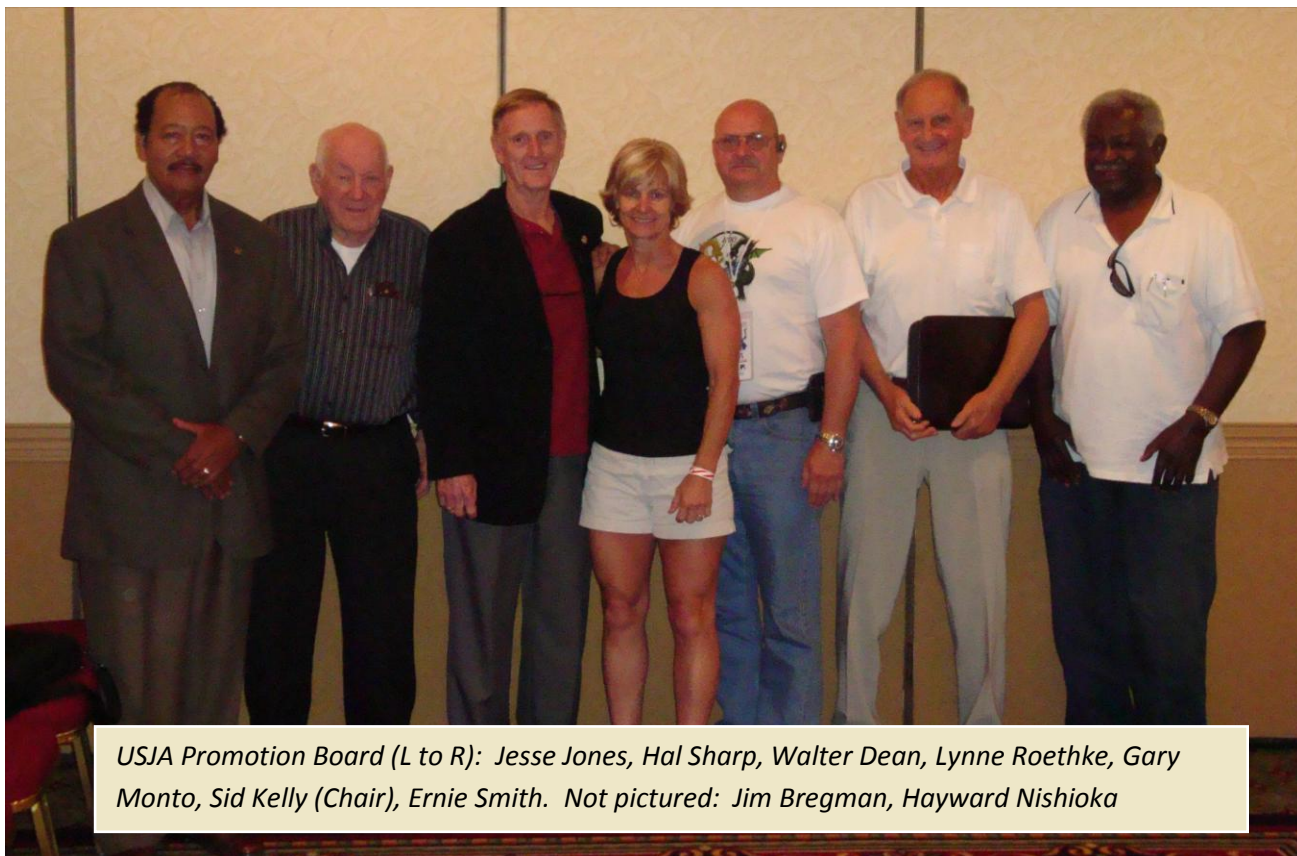
As a Senior Instructor and certified Master Teacher, Sensei Campbell's dedication to the martial arts is an inspiration to all. He began his study of the martial arts with encouragement from his father, who had served in the military in Japan and studied the basics of karate in Okinawa. His first love was and is Kodokan Judo, and Campbell currently holds a Kodokan Judo 3rd Dan. Living in Japan for a total of over 7 years, Campbell stopped the active practice of Judo in order to further his Karate training upon the advice of his teacher in Japan.

An international competitor on various USA teams for over 20 years, he's one of the few American's to actually live and learn martial arts in Japan for an extended period. Having achieved the distinction of World Karate Champion, Campbell is also one of the leading exponents of Ryueiryu, a small family karate system originating from China (via Okinawa), renowned for its powerful techniques and practical methods. Campbell's martial arts organization is a private, non-political group that attempts to maintain the correct focus and practice methods of real karate. Associated members of schools are in Canada, United Kingdom, Jamaica, Mexico, South Africa, Venezuela and Japan.

He has studied under the guidance of some of the finest martial arts masters in the world and has achieved distinctions that few Americans have ever received. He is the youngest American to ever be awarded the prestigious master grade of 7th Dan from the Okinawa Karate Association in Japan. He also holds instructor level rankings in several other martial arts as well. Campbell serves as advisor to several martial arts organizations, most notably the International Okinawa Karate Federation.

With hundreds of awards, including state, national, international and world championship titles, Sensei Campbell's exceptional abilities have brought him international acclaim as well as the respect of fellow competitors and instructors worldwide. He devotes his time currently to studying and teaching the martial arts in addition to continuing his post graduate studies.





## **How Can The Art Of Judo Be Expanded At The Dojo Level ? A Simple and Economical Approach!**

When we look at the art of Judo we may see it in different perspectives: an Olympic sport, a martial art/self-defense system, a study of Asian culture, a means of physical fitness or a family activity. The following suggestions may assist the dojo sensei in reaching out to future students.

Outside of the Judo community in your town or city, Judo may be unheard of. We can certainly try the following methods to reach out and expose and educate others to our art of Judo. Sell the fact that Judo was the FIRST martial art to become an Olympic Sport. That may perk up the ears of local sport enthusiasts who may be of help to you in getting things going.

My area of interest is teaching Judo as a martial art/effective self-defense system. Have you noticed the growing number of karate and tae kwon do schools in your community? It seems those looking for a self-defense system search out those arts. We at the local level need to give more publicity to the effectiveness of Judo as a means of self-defense for all ages!

Begin by explaining to existing students that Judo is both a martial art and sport. You may be surprised by those students who never thought of Judo as an effective martial art and focus on the next shiai without regards as to its effectiveness as a self-defense system. These students will spread the word among their friends. That's easy! Here are other ideas:

- Contact local school districts to offer afterschool Judo classes at all levels: elementary, middle and high school. Be sure to include what Judo is and emphasize both its status as Olympic sport and the positive benefits it will provide to each student, regardless of athletic ability. In years past, I established programs in two different school districts. I sent a letter to the Principal and Athletic Director, then appeared before the School Board to explain the positive benefits of the program; they approved it before I had a chance to return to my chair!
- It's critical how you explain what Judo is to officials in schools, churches, and YMCA's: *"The study of Judo provides the student the flexibility from mild to severe in their response to an attack, with the safety of the assailant being important whenever possible. In Judo we have a wide spectrum of response without having to cause injury based off of the principles and techniques of Judo."* At my local church board, one member thought the aim of Judo was killing and using weapons. When I explained what Judo really is, mindsets changed immediately and the program was approved.
- Arrange small, friendly shiai among the school district students in a fun atmosphere and stressing they are all part of the Judo community.
- Invite a local sport writer to a class and maybe he'll write an article.
- When approaching colleges, you may want to offer regular judo programs and either separate or integrated self-defense training.
- Adults in various careers such as teachers, health care workers, and police may have paid for someone put a program together for them. In these cases, emphasize that your program would augment any previous or existing program, not overshadow it. An introductory program may spark interest and some may want continue in a regular Judo program.
- Contact the Boy Scouts about merit badges for Judo as a sport activity.
- PAL programs, local summer sports activity organizations might want to add something new such as Judo.
- Add information on Judo as an effective means of self-defense to your website.
- When putting special programs together, consider using a non-violent title like "Physical Management Of Aggressive Behavior."
- Use the fitness benefits of Judo in your marketing, but gear the class to your students' age and level. One size doesn't fit all. Don't scare people away.
- Offer to do a Judo demonstration at Asian cultural events, clubs, or organizations in your area.

*ABOVE ALL, PROVIDE FOR ALL WHO PARTICIPATE REGARDLESS OF THEIR ABILITY!!!!!!*

We all must reach out to ALL in the community and spread Judo. The martial art/effective self-defense area is one that in my opinion is wide open for members if we just spread the word and its benefits. Of course, these ideas may already be known to most of you. We just have to start pushing those areas of Judo that have become dormant.

*Yours in Budo  
Barry E. Southam, Judo 6th dan, USJA*



## Sensei Heiko by Kerry Forster

When I was asked to write an article about my sensei, Heiko Rommelmann, Jr. for USJA's *Growing Judo* publication, my first thought was "what can I possibly say about my teacher that hasn't already be said and written?" That would be a difficult task, indeed! Certainly I could write that he has been the most accomplished and successful kata competitor in the United States for the past ten years, and with 153 Medals (most of them gold); that statement would be difficult to argue against. I could also write that he and his kata partner, Jeff Giunta, are two of only four Americans that have competed in all three of the World's most prestigious kata competitions (Kodokan International Kata Tournament, IJF World Kata Cup in Paris and IJF World Kata Championship in Malta, respectively), but I know this is common knowledge, especially for those judoka that are followers of Judo Kata. These are certainly very important accomplishments, but can easily be found with a Google search. What cannot be found on Google, however, is the Sensei that is known to his students.



zed by Kodokan Judo Institute and All Japan Judo

When I first visited Bushido Kai Judo Club in 2002, it was to gain a small amount of Judo experience before volunteering as a judo camp counselor. My karate club and Bushido Kai had ties that dated back to the 1970's, and there was therefore somewhat of an "open mat" policy between the two clubs. Even though there were only about 15 people on the mat, the atmosphere of the club was very exciting! Sensei Heiko came over, introduced himself to those of us who didn't know him, and very generously gave us much needed mat time and attention. My first impression of him was that he was warm, friendly and extremely accommodating. I am proud to say that after now knowing him as a teacher and friend for eight years, and traveling to many Judo tournaments together, my opinion of him has only changed for the better.

First of all, he is an amazing teacher. Not everyone who is proficient in an area can effectively impart their knowledge to others, but Sensei Heiko can. He and his kata partner have coached at least six kata teams to medal at a national level, two kata teams to medal at an international level, and three kata teams to compete at a world level. He has also coached several people to be competitive in Shiai at a national level and currently has one nationally ranked player. I have



never heard him say “no” to anyone when they have asked him to teach them something, unless it was for safety reasons. In fact, when I was a blue belt I asked him if he would compete with me at USA Judo’s Senior Nationals in Nage No Kata, and he actually said “yes!” To be great at something and lay it on the line for the good of your students, to me, shows tremendous humility. He’s always willing to sacrifice himself and his time for the good of our club and its members. He leads by example, and there have been many occasions when I have seen him take the “moral high road.” His leadership, attitude and dedication have grown our judo club from approximately six to ten members when he started as Chief Instructor to 50 adults and 70 kids today!

Sensei Heiko truly is an exemplary judoka, and is highly respected and admired both within his judo club as well as throughout the judo community in the United States. Beyond the fact that he is a great person, he is an undeniably brilliant instructor. Teaching his students to the absolute best of his ability is without question his number one priority. Put most eloquently by Sensei Jim Bregman, “In short, Mr. Heiko Rommelmann can dance!”



(Above) Heiko Rommelmann is presented with his USJA Godan certificate at the International Judo Camp in NY, August 2010



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*Editor's Note: In addition to his own accomplishments and running a great dojo, Heiko Rommelmann is the chair of the USJA Kata Certification Committee. At the International Judo Camp in New York, Heiko is the favorite uke of many of the featured instructors. He has also served as the camp's Recreation Director for the past several years, making sure that the children have a wonderful camp experience during their off-the-mat time!*

## MY FRIEND ROGER *by John Neeley*

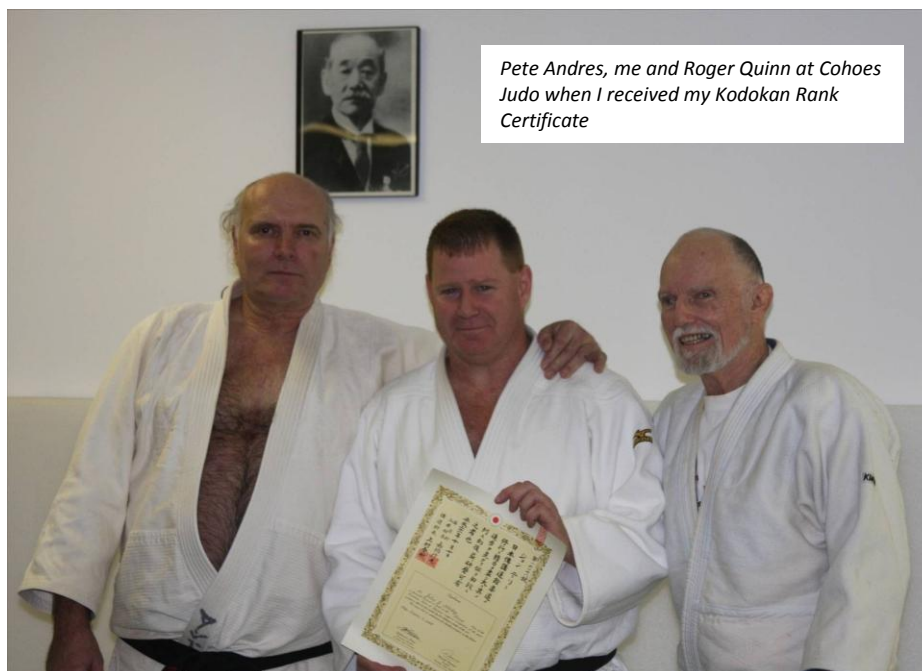
It was 1975. I was starting Judo at a local club and was nervous. The instructors, a husband and wife team of black belts, Roger and Jeanette Quinn, were the kindest and most gifted teachers I have ever known. When you first meet Roger you are drawn to his charm. He is a hard worker who spent a lifetime working as a brick mason and as the owner of a home heating oil business. Roger was blind in one eye and had one arm that had been broken so badly he couldn't straighten it anymore. I remember Roger having a six-pack before I knew what that was. He was about 40 then, about 5'7" and more Charles Bronson than Charles Bronson.

Roger nurtured us and shared his talent for teaching. The Judo Club was an offshoot of a larger, more established dojo run by a Japanese Sensei. Roger made sure we had some experience and good dojo manners before we visited the main school, Capital District Judo and Karate. I remember him telling me it would be bad manners to try to throw Sensei with "his" throw. I only wish Roger had told me this before I tried to throw Kidachi Sensei with Tai Otoshi. I think Sensei threw me 25 or 30 times in a row, with that very throw, before saying, "Good ukemi".

At the Bethlehem Judo club I earned my early promotions and learned early on that knowing good technique in Judo was important, but more important was the building of better people, and that tournaments were to test your technique; trophies and medals were nice, but not the goal.

Young players would come by our dojo for Roger's wisdom and counsel. They included Mary Lewis and a very young Jason Morris, and other talented judoka like Pete Andres and Tony Cunningham. Roger's children Luke, Peter and Eleanor were there too. Son, daughter, friend, student . . . over the years, they would all recognize the contribution Roger made to their success.

It was Roger who made sure that when I went to college, the college Judo Club had an outstanding instructor. It was Roger who would show up to support every event in the area. It was Roger who paid the club dues or the annual association fee when a judoka was short on cash, who had, an "extra gi" for the kid from a poor family, and who shared his old Judo magazines. It was Roger who, not long before my first tournament, handed me an autographed picture of Jim Bregman as inspiration.



*Pete Andres, me and Roger Quinn at Cohoes Judo when I received my Kodokan Rank Certificate*

Some years later, while competing for a spot on the Adirondack Regional Team for the Empire State Games, I lost a close match, finishing second. When I found out, later, that the first place finisher was injured and the third place finisher got the nod to replace him, I was angry. It was Roger who reminded me that Judo was bigger than that and so was I.

As the years passed, I drifted in and out of Judo. Eventually, I lived where there were no Judo clubs. Mary Lewis had already won the bronze medal at the World Championships and I remember cheering when Jason Morris won the silver at the Olympics. I watched as my cousin Patrick Hogan began fighting in tournaments as a student of Jimmy Pedro and I could not have been more proud. Finally, when our daughter, a high school rugby player, wanted to try Karate, I suggested that Judo might be a better fit for her. She agreed to give it a try.

Most of the clubs I remembered from “the old days” were long gone and I had lost contact with most of my friends from Judo. Jim Hrbek, now located in Texas, told me that Roger was still around and had some connection with a club in Troy called Judo of Japan, which was owned by another Judoka from the old days, Chuck Hartman. When Eva and I walked in, I saw a photo of Roger giving a student a certificate and a rank certificate for Roger Quinn, Godan. To my left, just inside the door sitting in a chair, was Pete Andres. Pete told me he had been ill and was just getting back to the dojo. It was clear that I was home.

Also clear was that Roger was still on the mat. At 75, and post-op from a hip replacement, we joked that we may finally have a physical advantage over Roger. That was until Roger lead the warm ups at the club one night. Roger outworked everyone in the place. He always did and always will. At 75, Roger was still ready to out Charles Bronson! I remembered something Roger once told me. “You can never beat the old man ... it’s a mental thing. You just can’t do it.” He wasn’t speaking about himself, nor was he talking disrespectfully of elderly folks. The lesson was about fathers but, just like so many things he taught over the years, the message fit. And, just like so many other things Roger had told us over the years, he was right.

The club moved and became Cohoes Judo and Chuck Hartman passed away, but we are still lucky enough to have my friend Roger ... Sensei Roger ... come to the club now and again and teach a class. Jim Hrbek has coached countless champions, Mary and Jason stood on a world stage and Pete has mentored many young black belts (and recalls the name of every one). Each of them can recount the impact that Roger has had on their Judo careers and their success. Even Noriyasu Kudo Sensei and the legendary Tomo Kidachi Sensei acknowledge Roger’s contributions. I suspect that all of these fine individuals value Roger’s friendship more each year, just as I do.

Even more impressive is the impact that Roger has made on the countless Judoka who never stood on a world stage representing their country in a Judo contest, who never stood on any podium or who never wore a black belt. Roger imparted life skills to all of us and used judo to convey that message. I recall a saying in Japanese that, when translated to English is, “There is only one path in life”. No matter which path we choose in life, there is only one correct and righteous one. My friend Roger has learned that path. From New York to Texas to Florida to California there are instructors teaching Judo with the lessons learned from Roger Quinn.

Winston Churchill once said, “We make a living by what we get ... but we make a life by what we give.” My friend Roger has made quite a life. Thank you, Roger.





## **A WARM WELCOME to Our NEW USJA Clubs!**

**September, 2010**

Club Name: **Sanchiro Judo and JuJitsu (Class C Club)**  
Head Instructor: **Frank Benzaquen**  
email: [frankbenz6412@yahoo.com](mailto:frankbenz6412@yahoo.com)

Location: **Raleigh, NC**  
phone: **919-868-8413**  
website: <http://www.forgednc.com>

Club Name: **Magnolia Braziln Jiu Jitsu**  
Head Instructor: **Patrick Caldwell**  
email: [magnoliabjj@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliabjj@gmail.com)

Location: **Magnolia, TX**  
phone: **832-934-1894**  
website: [www.magnoliabjj.com](http://www.magnoliabjj.com)

Club Name: **Quest Academy (Class C Club)**  
Head Instructor: **Lawrence Boydston**

Location: **Santa Monica, CA**

Club Name: **San Jose Judo Academy**  
Head Instructor: **Thuymy Nguyen**  
email: [thuymy1900@yahoo.com](mailto:thuymy1900@yahoo.com)

Location: **San Jose, CA**  
phone: **408-580-6444**

Club Name: **Western Mass. Martial Arts Academy**  
Head Instructor: **Mark Pearlman**  
mail: [senseipearlman@charter.net](mailto:senseipearlman@charter.net)

Location: **Hampden, MA**  
phone: **413-566-0056**  
website: <http://www.shobukan.net>

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## **Judo News From Around the Country**

**Connecticut, August 1**

There was a discernible energy in the dojo in the weeks leading up to the *Nutmeg State Games*. For me, new to judo and having not seen it outside of my home dojo, it was my first tournament experience. We worked hard in the weeks leading up to the tournament, learning aspects of judo competition while expanding our basic skills. I arrived early to the tournament at a local middle school, eager and excited, and feeling prepared by the rigorous classes leading up to the event.

What I hadn't been prepared for, however, was the environment of the judo community. Entire families of judoka were laughing and joking with each other. Old friends reunited to discuss tournaments or great plays from years or decades prior, and new



friendships were formed between members of different local clubs, comparing schedules and making plans to visit. The tournament itself was run smoothly, and I enjoyed being able to compete against judoka I'd never seen before meeting them on the mat. More than that, however, I saw my own sensei competing against men he'd known for years and with whom we chatted fondly on the sidelines. It was an experience which I am eager to repeat with a very embracing community.

*--James O'Neill*

### Texas, September 7

The School of Hard Knocks Judo Club was honored by a visit from USJA President Gary Goltz. He spoke to the kids and their parents about the many ways Judo develops and teaches character and the principles which help kids grow to be strong, confident and healthy. He reminded all of us that Judo is a way of life and one which



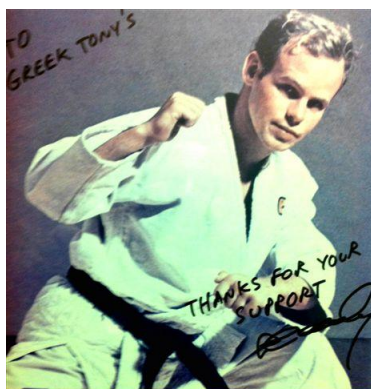
can help us become positive role models in our greater communities. During the Senior Class, President Goltz congratulated our newest Shodans, Steve Duncan, Ian Gerrard and Doug Moore. Everyone enjoyed his visit, including the Dojo mascot and USJA Bronze Life Member, Bingo the Pug!

The School of Hard Knocks Judo Club is the epitome of a grass roots dojo! Connelly Sensei opened a small Judo school in Montgomery County, Texas in 1985. The club was named the Kiai Judo Club, but after many comments by local residents who weren't sure how to pronounce the name, the Dojo became the All American Judo School. The School of Hard Knocks name came during a time when the dojo was located in a large, un-air conditioned, un-heated industrial warehouse and the name stuck



after a move to more comfortable quarters. Although the Dojo has changed locations and names, the welcoming atmosphere and commitment to the love of Judo stays the same.

Throughout the years our Dojo has developed many Black Belts, several of whom have medaled in National and International competition. Members of our Dojo contribute to the Judo community by volunteering their time as referees. Our Dojo currently has two international referees, one national and several regional and local referees.



Andrew Connelly, 7<sup>th</sup> Dan, is the chief instructor and inspiration for the School of Hard Knocks. Connelly Sensei began playing Judo in 1965 at a YMCA in Fairfield, CT. Judo has been an integral part of his life since that time. While in the Army, he was a member of the All Army Sports Team, traveling throughout the country holding Sports Clinics. Sensei graduated the United States Army Ranger Course and taught hand to hand combat in the elite Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Later, Sensei's Judo knowledge served him well when he was a police officer with the Houston Police Department. In addition to teaching Judo, Sensei contributes by officiating as an international "C" Referee and by encouraging all the members of his

Dojo to become involved with Judo to their fullest potential. Connelly Sensei (or Coach, as he prefers to be called) is an inspiration to every dojo member and to the many judoka from other states and foreign countries who visit the dojo. He is humorous, incredibly entertaining and extremely knowledgeable. His love of Judo and his loyalty to this great way of life are obvious.

### Nevada, September 14



On Tuesday night Ozeki Judo Dojo of Las Vegas, Nevada opened at its new location inside Gold's Gym. There was a small turnout, but the club is expected to grow to its prior Class "B" status. By locating the dojo inside Gold's Gym, the students are allowed access to all of the equipment and facilities that Gold's offers. Ozeki is also now associated with Fight Club of Las Vegas, a professional boxers training facility.

--John B Weiner, 6th Dan

### California, September 25

*Bernie Semel Referee Clinic at Goltz Judo in Claremont included both classroom time and practice on the mat. Participants were provided with an overview of the current IJF rules and a discussion of topics such as the importance of teamwork. The clinic helped several candidates prepare for Regional Referee Certification.*





## Connecticut, September 12

On September 12, 2010 Friends and Family from across New England and the Tri-State area gathered to show appreciation and recognition to Dr Chris Zusi, 5th Dan and Life Member of USJA since 1976, for his contributions to the art of Judo for the last 39 years. Chris started training in 1971 under Mel Ginter at the Judo-No-Kata Judo Club in Kenmore , NY. At that time, there were many Judo clubs in Western NY, northern PA and over the border in Ontario, Canada and there were opportunities to compete nearly every weekend. Chris has earned all his kyu ranks, his Shodan through Yodan promotions, and most of his points for Godan, through competition, a feat that is rare. He has taken first at the Am-Can International Judo Challenge many times, and has the distinction of competing in all but one of the 39 Am-Cans held, only because he wasn't in Judo long enough for the first one held. When he got his Shodan, he became an assistant coach and instructor for Judo No Kata and coached several competitors from that club. Being Mel Ginter's #1 uke, Chris often traveled with his coach when Mel would be invited to run a clinic. He served as Tournament Director of the Am-Can, Judo Challenge and later President of Am-Can Judo Inc. He served on the board for NYS Judo, Inc as a competitor representative from Western New York. He has won the bronze medal at the Empire State Games. He has placed third



several times in Master's competition at the Senior Nationals. He has competed in and won numerous tournaments in Canada and the US. He has played many top players, including several Olympians. He has placed second and fourth at the prestigious CNE tournament in Toronto.

In 1994, Chris's job at Bristol-Myers Squibb transferred him to Connecticut where he and his family joined Hwang's Judo Club, the month it opened its new facility in Hamden. He has been the head Judo instructor ever since. Chris continues to train and compete on the Master's level whenever there is competition available in Connecticut. He has had the pleasure of personally overseeing the promotion to black belt of several of his students including his son Joe. He has seen some of his students leave the area due to family or job situations, seek out Judo clubs in their new places and become valued instructors.

Through the years, Chris has been a huge supporter of the International YMCA Judo Camp run by his friends George Pasiuk and George Harris and attended by many other long-time friends. Here in his 60th year and 39th year of Judo, Chris

enjoys what Judo has brought to him, the sport, the community and his family and plans to continue his involvement and participation long into the future.

Over the last 10 years I have personally trained under Chris and have found it to be one of the best experiences I have ever had. He is an excellent teacher who adapts his explanation of techniques to the group of students he has and to the capacity of each individual. He is also remarkably dedicated to the art of Judo and remains a pillar for others to emulate and role model after. It is truly the case that if Chris were not teaching Judo at our school, than we wouldn't have a Judo program at all. For all of us that love to train and practice Judo, we realize how much of a golden gem we have in both Chris and his wife Dyann.

What gives me the most adoration for Chris is that he is also very proficient with his techniques and humbly admits his limitations. He is not about self-promotion or self-aggrandizement, but seeks to help those around him to become better individuals. A quote that best expresses the type of teacher Chris is comes from William A Ward, "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." Thanks Chris for your devotion and hard work, the support of a father, the encouragement of a friend, the inspiration of a great teacher, but most of all, a lifetime of great memories.

*--Scott O'Dell & Dyann Zusi*





## Iowa – September 18

The American Judo Club in Sioux City, Iowa, a USJA club, hosted a Sport Jujitsu seminar. Sensei Lowell Slaven, Shichidan in both judo and jujitsu, traveled to Sioux City to teach new techniques and orient local judoka and jujitsuka to the rules of sport jujitsu.

This is the first time that sport jujitsu was demonstrated in Iowa and it was well received by junior and senior representatives from several schools, different martial arts styles and states. Because Sioux City is located at the intersection of Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota it provided a nice centralized area for martial artists from the three states to gather and learn more about what just might be the most exciting new form of competition!

Representatives from tae kwon do, karate, Brazilian jujitsu, several traditional jujitsu ryu and judo came together for a seminar that started with the learning of several new techniques including some very effective hari waza. Slaven Sensei did a wonderful job introducing new techniques while effectively managing the diverse martial arts backgrounds of those present at the seminar. Karey Engle, 1<sup>st</sup> Dan judo, USJA, commented, "Those techniques are really effective! I have the blood blisters to prove it!"

The second half of the day included a detailed review of the rules, tournament set up/structure and some intense mock competition, which allowed the participants to compete according to the sport's rules, and practice refereeing and other tasks needed to begin hosting sport jujitsu tournaments in the area.

Several participants commented, "You can tell that everyone is enjoying the rules and the full range of technique that is able to be utilized." Instructors from the participating schools were excited about the potential for competition in sport jujitsu, and a couple of the local clubs offered to begin by having intra- and inter-dojo competitions.



The American Judo Club has been offering classes in judo to the Siouxland area for the past forty (40) years. It is led by Sensei Johnny Tureaud, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan judo and 1<sup>st</sup> Dan jujitsu, Sensei Chaye Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan judo and Sensei Greg Hansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan judo. Together they have over sixty (60) years of combined experience in the martial arts of judo, jujitsu, aikido and karate. The American Judo Club plans to expand its curriculum to include training and certification in sport jujitsu as well as a rank advancement program in traditional jujitsu and "junior-jitsu," a jujitsu program specifically geared toward children aged 4 – 10.



## **Upcoming Events**

*If you have any **Upcoming Events** that you would like listed in USJA's Growing Judo, please send the following information, in the format below, to Joan Love at: [judolady210@aol.com](mailto:judolady210@aol.com)*

**Day, month & date of event**

**Official Title of the Event**, location (building/institution, street address, city, STATE)

A couple of sentences of pertinent information, if applicable (description of the event, presenter's credentials if a camp/clinic, etc.). Please be concise.

Time/schedule; price;

Contact: Person: phone number; email; url for forms if available.

*Please note that this information needs to be in a WORD document or in the text of an email. Full event flyers and information in PDF form cannot be inserted in the magazine layout. You may also include a relevant photo if you have one (e.g. of the location of a camp or of a featured clinician).*

### **OCTOBER**

#### **October 9**

**Emerald Coast Military Judo Championships**, Naval Airstation Pensacola, FL , Portside Gymnasium Building 627. Begins at 8:00 a.m.

Contact Earl Wright, Tournament Director & Head Coach, Pensacola Judo (850)776-7873 or [wrightearl15@yahoo.com](mailto:wrightearl15@yahoo.com)

#### **October 9**

**Dr. Z Memorial Club Tournament**, sponsored by Goltz Judo at the Alexander Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Rd., Claremont, CA, \$10.00. Contact Gary Goltz, 909-702-3250, [gary@goltzjudo.com](mailto:gary@goltzjudo.com), [goltzjudo.com](http://goltzjudo.com) for more information.

#### **October 10**

**Princeton Judo Invitational**, Princeton YMCA, 59 Paul Robeson Place, Princeton, NJ.

Contact: Cory Cuomo [cuomoco@umdnj.edu](mailto:cuomoco@umdnj.edu) (732) 406-3646

#### **October 16**

**Tournament Technique Clinic with Israel Hernandez & Valerie Gotay**. Youngker High School, 3000 S. Apache Road, Buckeye, AZ. Juniors/Seniors 9 am-12 pm, Seniors only 1 pm to 4 pm. \$25 for Juniors; \$30 for Seniors for 1 session or \$50 for both sessions. Concessions will be available.

Contact Phil Brier 480-248-0766 or [PDBrier@yahoo.com](mailto:PDBrier@yahoo.com).

#### **OCTOBER 15-17**

**Junior & Senior Judo Training Camp**, Granite State Judo Institute, 411 Beech Street, Manchester, NH.

Friday 6:30–8:30 pm; Saturday 10:30 am–1:00 pm; 3:30–5:30 pm., Sunday 10 am–12 pm.

Fee: \$75.00 camp only; \$125.00 with home stay & meals if received by October 10th.

Contact Robert Proksa H: (603) 774-8251; C: (603) 568-0054 or [Robert@gsji.org](mailto:Robert@gsji.org).

#### **October 23**

**GRANITE STATE FALL JUDO CHALLENGE**, Granite State Judo Institute located at Manchester Police Athletic League, 411 Beech Street, Manchester, NH 03101. Information at <http://www.gsji.org/main.htm>

Contact Robert Proksa H: (603) 774-8251; C: (603) 568-0054 or [Robert@gsji.org](mailto:Robert@gsji.org).

## NOVEMBER

### November 5-6

#### **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Houston Open Judo Tournament**

The Lonestar Convention and Expo Center, 9055 FM 1484, Conroe, TX 77303. Friday night Rules/Referee Clinic with Mark Oermann, IJF-B referee, and Goshin Jutsu no Kata clinic with Claudia Smith and Carla Martin, National and International Kata champions. Saturday Kata and Shiai – Junior, Youth, Senior, Senior Novice, Masters, Masters Novice. The Houston Open is the largest judo tournament in the Houston area. This mid size state/regional level event gets over 200 competitors from 5 states and Central America. This year winners of all contested junior and senior divisions will receive an 8gb iPod nano! We also offer 3" Custom cast medals, computerized scorekeeping, and 40" LCD monitors. More information may be obtained at the tournament web site, [www.houstonopenjudo.com](http://www.houstonopenjudo.com) or Ray Williams at [rawilliams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rawilliams@sbcglobal.net)

### November 5-6

#### **6<sup>th</sup> All Women's Championship**, Woodland Mall Expo Center, 1234 N Main St., Bowling Green, OH.

Hosted by: International Women's Judo Alliance and Bushido Kai America.

Kata, Referee, and Coaches Certification Clinics; Kata and Shiai Competition

Contact: Deborah Fergus [defrgs6@att.net](mailto:defrgs6@att.net) (269) 208-1068

### Sunday, November 7

#### **Tech Judo Invitational Judo Tournament**, HCST Recreation Center, 2100 85<sup>th</sup> Street, North Bergen, NJ

Junior Boys and Girls 4-16 years old, Senior Men and Women

Tournament Director: Clyde Worthen: (201) 328-4055, [clydeapajudo@aol.com](mailto:clydeapajudo@aol.com)

### November 14

#### **2010 Chaves Memorial Tournament and Rokushu Yudanshakai Senior Promotional Tournament**

St. John's Prep School, Danvers, MA. Senior Promotional Tournament, Novice and Advanced Divisions, Newaza Division (New for 2010!), \$25 Entry Fee (\$10 for 2nd division). Contact: Harold Oshima, [oshima@post.harvard.edu](mailto:oshima@post.harvard.edu) or [Tohoku Judo Club](http://TohokuJudoClub.com).

### November 20

**University of Tennessee Martial Arts Club Annual Judo Tournament**; Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building, 1914 Andy Holt Ave., Knoxville, Tennessee; Registration/weigh-in: day of tournament 9:30-11:00 AM; Entry fee \$20.00 per division; Additional divisions \$10.00. Contact [dytyrell@comcast.net](mailto:dytyrell@comcast.net) for flyer/information.

### November 28

#### **Nakabayashi Judo Championships**, Salesian High School 148 East Main St. New Rochelle, NY.

Junior/ Senior Shiai and Kata divisions; USJA Referee, Kata Judge, and Technical Officials Certification

Entry Fee if post marked by 11/22: Shiai: \$ 25.00/\$15 additional divisions, Kata: \$25.00 per team.

Contact George Pasiuk, [mr1judo@optonline.net](mailto:mr1judo@optonline.net), cell (914) 413-9944; home (718)430-9385; business (866)491-9808. For information on Referee, Kata Judge, or Technical Officials Certification contact

Charles Schweizer at [esg939603@yahoo.com](mailto:esg939603@yahoo.com)

## DECEMBER

### December 4-5

**5<sup>th</sup> USJA/USJF Winter Nationals**, Damien High School, 2280 Damien Avenue, La Verne, CA; Coaching Clinic on Friday, December 3rd. [2010 Winter Nationals Registration Packet](#) ; [2010 Coaching Clinic Registration Packet](#)

**December 11**

**Coach Continuing Education Clinic**, Meyer Student Pavilion, 12701 Hinson Rd., Little Rock, AR. Hosted by Arkansas Goshinkan. 11 AM to 6 PM. Approved for initial certification, continuing education credit, and renewals. Anyone interested in improving/enhancing your teaching skills is encouraged to attend.

Clinic fee: \$30; certification fee: \$25 (valid for 4 years).

Contact Ed Thibedeau 501-425-5638; [Et@ArkansasGoshinkan.org](mailto:Et@ArkansasGoshinkan.org)

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***We would still like to share your news!***

*If your family wishes to share any information for the following features:*

**Milestones, In Memoriam or Well Wishes,**

*please email Matt Marcinek at [Polish Power152@yahoo.com](mailto:Polish Power152@yahoo.com)*

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**USJA Promotions: September, 2010**



*Congratulations to the following individuals on their achievements:*

*Shodan*

- |                   |                       |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
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| ★ Joel Barry      | ★ John Harwood        | ★ Grahm Kincaid Quinn |
| ★ Jeffrey Bradway | ★ Doug Heermann       | ★ Cavin Williams      |
| ★ Steve Ducan     | ★ Jeffrey Lockwood    | ★ Melissa Wolfe       |
| ★ Gary Evans      | ★ Michael Lubitz      |                       |
| ★ Max Garcia      | ★ Vladimir Mashchcnko |                       |

*Nidan*

- |                        |                 |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| ★ Gumersindo Hernandez | ★ Miguel Rapin  | ★ Ruth Thompson |
|                        | ★ Shandra Smith |                 |

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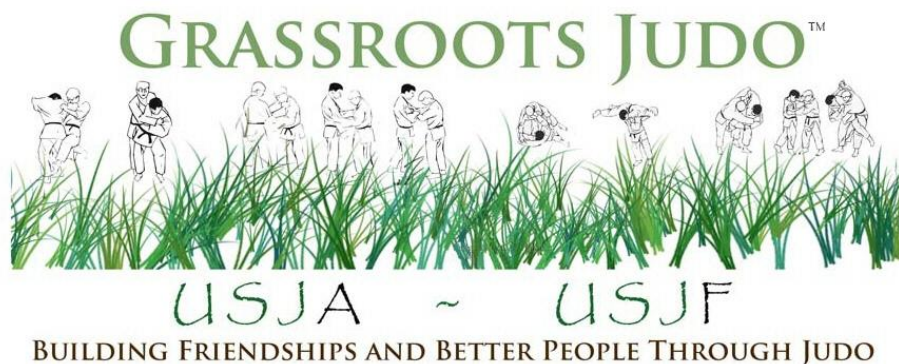
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5<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
**2010 USJA/USJF WINTER NATIONALS**

SENIORS MASTERS JUNIORS KATA



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY DECEMBER 4 & 5, LA VERNE, CA**



For more information go to [goltzjudo.com](http://goltzjudo.com)



**2011 USJA / USJF Junior National  
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and  
**2011 USJA / USJF Junior National  
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**July 2 & 3, 2011**

**Owens Community College, Toledo, OH**

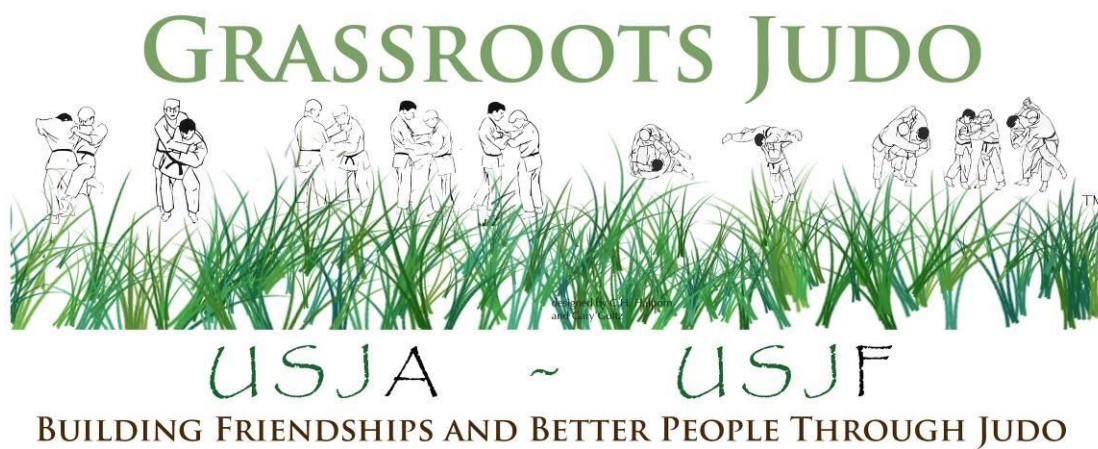
Hosted by: **Judan Judo of Toledo, Inc.**

For additional information such as Hotels, Local Attractions, Restaurants  
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| Up to \$6.00                  | Add \$3.00    |      |                  | S & H     |              |
| \$6.01 to \$15.00             | Add \$5.75    |      |                  | COD 9.50  |              |
| \$15.01 to \$30.00            | Add \$8.50    |      |                  | Sub-Total |              |
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