

TAA Memorial Day Gasshuku 2017

at Beautiful North Lake Tahoe

Train with these fabulous instructors:



Bill Witt Shihan

8th Dan, Shihan

Senior Instructor, [Takemusu Aikido Association](#)

Senior Instructor, [Aikido of Silicon Valley](#)

Witt Sensei began Aikido practice in 1967 at the Aikikai Hombu Dojo. His first Aikido teacher was the Founder, Morihei Ueshiba. Has lived in Japan on several occasions beginning 1967 and was one of the first foreigners to train at the Iwama Dojo, Japan. He has been described as "the man who built the bridge to Iwama".

He translated Volumes One and Two of Saito Morihiro Shihan's "Traditional Aikido" texts.

Hans Goto Sensei

7th Dan, Certified Instructor Trainer

Chief Instructor, Bay Marin Aikido, San Rafael, CA

Hans Goto Sensei has over 35 years of experience in the martial arts. His main focus has been Aikido with extended residential training in Iwama, Japan, under Saito Morihiro Shihan. He was the first non-Japanese to be a long-term uchideshi with Saito Shihan. He has also studied Judo, Tai Qi Quan, and Wushu. His articles have appeared in Aikido Journal and Black Belt magazine.

He serves as President of the Takemusu Aikido Association.



Hoa Newens Sensei

7th Dan, Certified Instructor Trainer

Chief Instructor, [Aikido Institute Davis](#), Davis, CA

Hoa Sensei began his training in 1967 under Dang Thong Phong Sensei. He studied with Seiichi Sugano Sensei, then came to the Aikido Institute in 1978. He was Dojo Cho at Aikido Institute of Oakland, where he trained in Iwama style Aikido, before establishing the Davis dojo. He has published six [DVDs](#) on Aikido technique.

Hoa Sensei's teaching has its foundation in the dojo code:

I always look, listen and learn.

I bow with humility to receive from O-Sensei, the Sensei, and fellow students.

I do my best, share and persevere in my practice.

Kim Peuser Sensei

7th Dan, Certified Instructor Trainer

Chief Instructor, [Aikido Institute](#), Oakland, CA

Kim Sensei has studied Aikido in the United States and in Japan beginning in 1974. He studied intensively for several years in Oakland and Iwama. He first traveled to Iwama in 1977 to train under Saito Shihan as uchideshi and later spent several additional months as sotodeshi. He is the Senior Instructor of the Aikido Institute in Oakland, California, and serves on the Board of the Takemusu Aikido Association.



Bernice Tom Sensei

7th Dan, Certified Instructor Trainer

Chief Instructor, [Sunset Cliffs Aikido](#), San Diego, CA

Bernice Tom Sensei began Aikido in 1974 at the Aikido Institute in Oakland. From 1975 to 2002 she made more than ten visits to Iwama, Japan, to study with Saito Morihiro Shihan, including living in Iwama for four years. She began teaching at Sunset Cliffs Aikido in 1985 and became Chief Instructor in 1990. From 1988 to 1995 she hosted Saito Shihan annually. She holds the fifth level scroll ("Menkyo Kaiden") as a teacher of Aiki-ken and Aiki-jo awarded by Saito Shihan.

Wolfgang Baumgartner Sensei

6th Dan, Certified Instructor Trainer

Chief Instructor, [Aikido Berlin Karow](#), Berlin, Germany

Wolfgang Sensei is a graduate of the Aikido Institute in Oakland, California. He holds the Menkyo Kaiden from Saito Sensei to teach Iwama-Style weapons. He founded Reno Aikido Co-Op, North Lake Tahoe Aikido, and Aikido Arts Center Santa Fe. He moved to Germany in 1992 to start the Aikido Berlin Karow dojo.

He was uchideshi under Saito Shihan at the Iwama Dojo and hosted Saito Shihan in the United States and Germany on numerous occasions. He is an accomplished artist and professional bodyworker.

He is on the Board of Directors of the TAA and is the founder of the Memorial Day Weekend Gasshuku.





Aviv Goldsmith Sensei

6th Dan, Shidoin

Chief Instructor, [Aikido in Fredericksburg](#), Spotsylvania, VA

Aviv Sensei began studying Aikido in the mid-1970's and has been training Iwama-style since 1986. He was Dojo Cho at Reno Aikido Co-Op in Reno, Nevada, before moving to Virginia in 2002 at the request of the Fredericksburg Aikido Club. He has trained in the Iwama Dojo with Saito Morihiro Shihan and hosted Saito Morihiro Shihan several times in Reno. As Dojo Cho of Aikido in Fredericksburg he has developed a 7,200 square foot "green" dojo which hosts outstanding seminars and programs.

He serves on the boards of the Takemusu Aikido Association and Aiki-Extensions, Inc.

Douglas Dale Sensei

5th Dan, Shidoin

Chief Instructor, [North Lake Tahoe Aikido](#), Tahoe City, CA

Douglas Sensei has been the Chief Instructor of North Lake Tahoe Aikido since 1992. He is responsible for bringing Aikido to the Reno-Tahoe region. He is a master chef, potter, and has extensive experience teaching beginners.

He is the owner and head chef at the fantastic [Wolfdale's](#) restaurant in Tahoe City and the author of the [Wolfdale's Cookbook](#).





Ginny Breeland Sensei

5th Dan, Shidoin

Chief Instructor, [Cotati Aikido](#), Cotati, CA

Ginny Breeland Sensei has been studying Aikido for over 30 years. She is Dojo Cho of Cotati Aikido and is on the teaching staff at Bay Marin Aikido in San Rafael, California.

She is the co-author of a popular blog on Aikido, called [Aikido Advice for Women...and a Few Men](#).

Jason Yim Sensei

5th Dan

Chief Instructor, [Mill Valley Aikido](#), Mill Valley, CA,
And Lead Instructor, [Aikido by the Bay](#), San Mateo, CA

Jason Yim Sensei was Chief Instructor and Founder of Golden Gate Aikido for more than a decade. He has trained for many years under Bill Witt Shihan and currently with Hans Goto Sensei, 7th dan. In addition to Aikido, Jason continues his studies in Iyengar Yoga and Argentine Tango. In the past he has studied Goju Ryu Karate-Do under Gosei Yamaguchi Sensei and Wing Chung. He also holds certificates in Thai Yoga Massage.





Bruce Mendenhall Sensei

4th Dan

Chief Instructor, [Aikido JACC](#), San Jose, CA

Bruce Mendenhall began training with Bill Witt Shihan at Aikido of San Francisco in 1977. He moved to Iwama in 1979 and spent 10 years there, first as uchideshi then as Sotodeshi. He received 4th dan from Saito Morihiro Shihan in 1988. Bruce Sensei has been teaching Aikido at the Japan Arts and Culture Center in San Jose since 2010.

Daniel Brasse Sensei

4th Dan

Founder, [Aikido by the Bay](#), San Mateo, CA

Daniel Brasse was first introduced to martial arts at age 12 and mostly focused on Shotokan Karate as a youth. Daniel Sensei started Aikido in Melbourne, Australia, with Michael Field Sensei, head of Iwama Ryu Aikido in Australia. He has had extended stays as a live-in student at the Aikido Founder's dojo in Iwama and he still travels regularly to the Iwama dojo. He began instructing in 1998 and was in charge of one of the Field Aikido branches in Melbourne, Australia.

He moved to San Francisco in 2002, and opened Aikido by the Bay. Daniel continues his commitment to teaching and disseminating Aikido in the same traditional way as taught at the Founder's Dojo and now also teaches in Basel, Switzerland. During his 25-year professional career, Daniel has held positions in Law Enforcement and in Corporate Security, during which time he has applied his martial arts skills and experience to resolve conflict in tense situations.

