



57TH YEAR!

KOKORO

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Questions are an integral part of learning. They help me realize areas of study that require clarification. Here are more questions from BJJY members. Be aware that sometimes the questions and/or answers are edited to depersonalize them.

None of the question responses, opinions, or editorial content provide any legal or medical advice in any form or manner regardless of how qualified or experienced the author may be. Always consult a qualified attorney in your state if you need any type of legal advice or your physician for medical advice.

Also, the opinions expressed in any editorials are solely those of the editorial's author[s] and do not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the BJJY or its members individually or as a group.

Q: If Seki was a judoka, how is it now Budoshin Jujitsu? 110223

A: I never said or would allude to Seki's knowledge of judo somehow becoming Budoshin Jujitsu. If you read the first paragraph about Seki at budoshin.com/about-bjj/budoshin-lineage/jack-seki/ you'll get his and Kano's martial arts background. You can also go to budoshin.com/about-bjj/budoshin-lineage/historical-lineage/ for Seki's and Kano's historical lineage. In addition, even if Seki was a dan grade judoka, what would prevent him from also being a dan grade jujitsuka. Although Kano refined judo from jujitsu, there is no evidence, one way or another, that he didn't also provide Seki with some "jujitsu" techniques in addition to his formalized judo program.

Seki held yudansha grades in Japanese jujitsu. He taught jujitsu using Japanese terminology. He promoted his students in jujitsu and his promotions were respected in the martial arts community.

How did "Budoshin Jujitsu" come about? Go to budoshin.com/about-bjj/common-questions/ and

read the first question and answer on that page, or,
1. CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE BUDOSHIN JUJITSU ORIGINATED FROM AND ITS HISTORY?

If you want to track the origin of BudoshinJujitsu go to <https://budoshin.com/about-bjj/budoshin-lineage/historical-lineage/>.

The term "budoshin" comes from bu = martial, do = way, and shin = spirit.

After Bill Fromm and I took over the Burbank YMCA program [free to YMCA members] at the request of Seki [our sensei] in the late 1960s, it became extremely popular to the extent that there was a 3-6 month wait list.

People kept asking us what style/ryu of jujitsu was being taught. Seki's attitude was that there were no "ryu" of jujitsu – there was just jujitsu.

He was aware of our problem but steadfastly refused to allow us to use any name that included the word "ryu". So, budoshinryu jujitsu was out. However, he was ok with budoshin jujitsu as, in this context [to conduct oneself in an honorable manner] had nothing to do with jujitsu per se. So we called it Budoshin Jujitsu.

The name has stuck over the decades, to be included in books, videos, other dojo names, etc.

So the question may be is Budoshin Jujitsu a ryu? That's a question for someone else to answer!

Q: Same with the Gracie's and their lineage that

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Zoom workshops will be on Saturday, Jan.6 & 20, from 8-9:30+/-AM.

If you'd like to participate please click [here](#). If you need help with a technique or two or have some topics you'd like us to discuss, please let me know.

OH-OH or OH NO?

By George Kirby



We all try to keep things legitimate, whether it be in the martial arts or other fields. The reason for this is because the potential for fraud is a reality. This can occur in almost any field or profession and people are aghast when it happens with the infamous question “How could this hap-

pen?”

Someone recently sent me this pix [hopefully as a Halloween costume], but who really knows.

You can go online to find all sorts of vendors for rank certificates and even design your own if you have basic computer skills. [It must be a thriving business.] Military [US & foreign] and college degrees and certifications are also available. Your choices are endless. And you’re only in trouble when you get caught. But as Shakespeare said, “Aye, there’s the rub,” followed by “Et tu Brute.”

I’ve seen things like this happen too often.

Someone once forged my signature on a promotional certificate so they could cross-certify with another organization to get a “legitimate” dan-level certificate, only to have it caught by their certification person and forwarded to me. Legitimate martial arts organizations do communicate with each other when necessary.

I was in a hiring interview with my high school principal for a candidate who wanted a teaching po-

sition [in the Social Studies dept and I was the dept. chairperson]. The candidate was very nervous. Ultimately I looked at his resume and then asked a fatal question “Do you have a California or any state teaching credential?” His answer, “No?” End of interview.

Decades ago a sensei of a dojo that was applying for AJA affiliation sent a required video showing that their dojo trained students to deal with continuous random attacks. The only problem with the video was that the sequence was choreographed to music and the choreography was so well rehearsed [a real no-no] that the uke was flying through the air before the techniques were executed.

On the first day of school years ago a kid wasn’t on my senior US Government class roster. When I asked his name he responded with “Sigmund Freud”. Noting a few snickers by some students, I calmly suggested that he go to the counseling office & get verification that he was supposed to be in my class. On the way out he mooned the class. Bad move. Unfortunately, for him, I had a phone in my room, there was a dean outside the building with a two-way radio, there were three police cars nearby & they nabbed him. My students knew him, he was 18 [and therefore an “adult”], a high school graduate, was planning to go to med school, and just wanted to play a prank. The long-term effects on his “prank” would probably keep him out of the medical profession.

As a teacher, once computers came into the classroom, student’s information on term projects improved dramatically, until I started using simple steps to detect plagiarism. The initial shock that I had discovered this upset many students [they thought I wasn’t being fair]— and I even told them how I did it. But I also gave them an opportunity to do rewrites in their own words if they wanted to improve their “one-legged “A” [“F”].

After my second book was published, my publisher showed me a book from another publisher written by a 15th degree black belt. How did he get there? He got a 1st and then 2nd degree black belt which equaled a 3rd. Then he got his 4th, which made him a 7th. That was followed by his 8th dan, which made him a 15th degree black belt. Go figure!

I could go on, but I hope you get the point. For lack of a better phrase it’s “consumer beware.” YOU are the first line of defense in protecting yourself from all sorts of stuff.



The sad part is that we all need to be aware of and proactive about running into questionable situations. A lot of it can be prevented by being proactive—which is completely different from being scared; a reactive situation. You do need to check contractor's licenses. You do need to look at consumers' reviews. You need to "look around" when you're walking on the street or in a crowded area. It's called "situational awareness." You need to politely or unobtrusively "get Sigmund out of your room".

It's easier to think "oh-oh", then have to say, "Oh no!"

comes directly from Maeda who came from Kodokan. 110223

A: Yes, Maeda was initially trained by Kano, but that doesn't preclude him from modifying what he learned with it eventually becoming known as Gracie Jiu-Jitsu as Helio Gracie improved on & effectively promoted Maeda's segway.

Q: There wasn't an extant Ryu other than Kodokan and everyone seems to negate this truth. 110223

A: In addition to Kano's judo, there's also combat judo [probably has additional skills] and there are military modifications that have evolved from his judo. I'm not trying to minimize Kano's contribution to the martial arts or the philosophical and educational system that evolved from his efforts, but things DO evolve. Yes, judo IS judo. But aikido is aikido, and karate is karate, and whether you put them together to form a ryu of jujitsu or recognize that those three "do" evolved from the parent art of jujitsu for a variety of legitimate reasons

Q: Kano didn't start a new Art but more readily the focus and way it was disseminated that displays his unique polymath genius. 110223

A: No, he didn't start a new art. He found an element in jujitsu that could be used for more peaceful and positive purposes during a time when jujitsu had a bad reputation.

Q: Now Judo is Jujitsu but not the other way around. 110223

A: Nope! Although judo is part of jujitsu, jujitsu is not judo. This misconception comes from "western" ig-

norance of the martial arts after WWII when any martial art [to put it simply] was called "judo" because that was the only martial art term familiar to "westerners" at the time.

Q: One can tell by the use of a Gi, Belts and Dan ranks that it is nothing more than Judo just by a different name as Kano himself invented all of these modern items listed. 110223

A: While he may have come up with various uniform elements that doesn't mean they were unique to judo. Some jujitsu ryu use judo gi, some use karate gi, some wear a hakama, some don't, some use colored belts [more of an American origination and some don't.

Q: If I come from this same lineage but of the true and complete Judo with all Waza's like Atemi, Nage and Katame, and not the "Olympic Judo" debacle, how can one be ranked in Budoshin fairly? 110223

A: If you hold a yudansha grade in judo and you think you can meet the Budoshin Jujitsu criteria, you could try cross-certification. [Go to budoshin.com/training-testing/cross-certification/ for information and procedures.]

Ed. Note: Although the following inquiry is not a "jujitsu" issue, every time I send out a newsletter or general announcement it's not uncommon for a few email addresses to "bounce" back as either temporarily or permanently undeliverable.

My response to this issue should clear things up for those of you who have been "bounce" victims.

Q: It does appear I am not getting all your emails. I am going to get a new email address. When I do I will give it to you. This should fix the issues. 111123

A: I can tell you the following regarding "bounced" emails & this may help you [and me].

1. Very rarely is the email address itself a reason for a "bounce" if the email address itself is legitimate.
2. Sometimes even though I get a "bounce" on an email, the person actually gets the email. [See highlighted info on attachment. I didn't realize this process. But it does explain why some or all recipients eventually get their emails {newsletters, etc.} even though I get a "bounce" notification.]
3. Usually the problem is with the ISP [internet ser-

vice provider] or the email server/program, neither of which you have much control over.

4. Making sure that my email address or [Budoshin Ju Jitsu@mail.vresp.com](mailto:BudoshinJuJitsu@mail.vresp.com) or emails ending in "@mail.vresp.com" are on your "safe-sender list" or not on your "blocked sender" list can sometimes prevent the problem.
5. Sometimes an email containing a link or more than "x" number of links will cause it to be blocked by an ISP, or an antispam program as it may be seen as an "advertisement".

Just to be sure of things I looked up "bounces" on VerticalResponse's tech support link to get clarification and learned a few things. VerticalResponse [VR] is the company I use for all newsletter and general announcement mailings. Even their "live" tech support has been extremely good and timely.

Hopefully all this info might help.

If you want to go a step further and you've saved all the emails [newsletters] sent to you by VR, just send me a list of the past several. That way I can determine if any are really missing. I don't want you "jumping through unnecessary hoops you don't have to" [if you understand the phrase].

Ed. Note: For more detailed information on "bounces" go to budoshin.com/VRBounceInfo.docx.

Q: Does this mean that you'll ignore "bounce" notifications that you receive in the future? 11/12/23

A: No. It means I'll probably send the "bounces" an email asking whether or not they actually received the notification I originally sent. If they didn't receive it I'll resend it. This is probably a more useful response on my part.

I will still probably "debounce" their email address on my email list as before just to clear things up at my end.

Q: I'm still confused regarding Seki's "generic" terminology. If a test asks for a "te nage" [hand throw] which one would I use/demonstrate? 111523

A: A simple answer is "any one you know" or "the one you can do the best." Very rarely does his terminology refer to one specific jujitsu technique or movement.

If your examiner is asking for a "te nage" and doesn't give you anything else to make it more specific, he/she should be looking for the core movement of a basic te nage in the technique/variation you're doing.

Another example might be a "koshi nage" [hip throw]. This could be an ippon sei nage, morote

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seoi nage, harai or hane goshi, obi koshi nage, or even an ushiro morote seoi nage [which is somewhat unique to Budoshin Jujitsu or any of these done “hidari” [to the left side].

Q: I checked out your cross-certification process online and it’s really difficult compared to homologous certificates issued by other jujitsu organizations. Can’t you just see copies of our martial arts dan rankings and issue a comparative dan grade certificate in jujitsu? 111523

A: Nope!

When the BJJY issues a cross-certification to Budoshin Jujitsu it means that the person can demonstrate appropriate Budoshin Jujitsu dan grade requirements AND will teach Budoshin Jujitsu in their dojo. That’s why our cross-certification procedure is so strict. We’re not interested in sending out “wallpaper” for a ridiculous fee. We’re looking for competent black belts.

Surprisingly, those applicants who successfully meet at the prerequisites and properly provide the required documentation have a pretty good chance of securing cross-certification at a rank appropriate to their demonstrated skill level.

Q: Do you need a partner to film belt tests? And are there testing fees? 111523

A: To answer your two questions, yes, you will need a partner to train with and for testing purposes. One way to get someone to be your training partner is to offer to pay their BJJY membership fee [on the assumption that you’re a BJJY member]. After all since they’re learning/practicing techniques as you are, they might as well earn their belt ranks.

There currently are no testing fees for testing below black belt. There also is a test “setup” fee of \$25 starting with the shodan test. Also, just as an FYI, all brown and black belt testing is done via Zoom rather than just sending in a video based upon the belt requirements [tests & promotional requirements in the Budoshin JJ Student and Black Belt Handbooks].

Many common questions and answers [including testing and promotion issues] can be found at <https://budoshin.com/about-bjj/common-questions/> . Or you can get back to me with your questions as an alternative.

Q: Why do you [the BJJY & BJJ] require that a shodan secure “Instructor Certification” from the AJA and why is it a prerequisite for Nidan in Budoshin Jujitsu? 111623.

A: There are a number of reasons for this requirement. The primary ones are that first, I need to see that my black belts are capable of teaching because that’s one of my expectations in a black belt. The second primary reason is that such certification by the AJA may give them more confidence in their teaching ability— - which they will get better at with more experience.

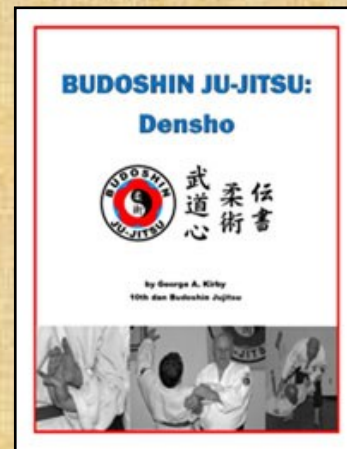
Other reasons include having a national governing body of jujitsu certifying their teaching ability. Also, some community facilities may/can require

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RE-REMEMBERING WHAT YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN

By Professor David A. Bellman



I try to author these articles in *The Silent Kiai* for everyone, beginning students, intermediate students, advanced students and instructors. It is important to remind students as well as instructors where they have been, where they are at the present time and where they are going,

as far as their martial arts training and education is concerned. All three elements are equally important from the perspective of learning.

One crucial element you receive after many years of training in the martial arts, or anything else for that matter, is perspective.

IN THE BEGINNING

It is fair to say that we all have to start from somewhere. But as time (and decades) creep by, how many of you can actually go back in your minds' eye and remember the beginning? It is not always as easy as you might think.

Chronicling (writing notes of what you have learned) is probably the best way to help memorialize what you did on your first day of class. What did you learn? What did your sensei tell you?

Do you believe that you *fully* understood what was being taught to you in great detail? Though we do not discover it for quite a while, you really don't know *what you don't know*.

Why is it that you can do a particular technique a thousand times, and on the thousand and first time you do it, a light bulb seems to go on and you discover something new, different, exciting and innovative about that same technique?

It is important for a beginning student to ask, then understand and realize that, as an instructor, if we *really* thought that you understood how to do the techniques *perfectly*, why would we have you practicing them over and over again. Perhaps the answer is that you really do not know how to do the tech-

niques perfectly. That is one of the many reasons why we have instructors.

If we told a new student every nuance of information that we know about any particular technique, how much would you actually retain?

Knowledge tends to build upon itself. Like when you build a house, you must have a solid foundation, otherwise, the house may not stand up to the harsh elements. Building the foundation, your foundation, of each and every one of your techniques is actually a labor of love. There is something special from the perspective of an instructor, when you see a student start peeling away the layers of the onion (knowledge) revealing the deeper meaning, understanding and precision that is designed into every technique.

One of the differences between a black belt, an experienced black belt and an expert black belt is the *depth of knowledge* that they have acquired.

I can tell you from my six decades on the mat that there are elements a black belt will not know until their 25th year, or 40th year, or 50th year. In fact, the *depth of knowledge* never ends so long as your instructor keeps an open mind about everything they do and teach, and when they acquire new and better knowledge, they assimilate into their teaching. You may not be aware that the assimilation has taken place, but your sensei will know.

THE INTERMEDIATE STAGE

It is almost like a disease. New students learn new techniques, do them a few times, *believe* that they know how to do them *perfectly*, then speed up on their application of the techniques.

What they have actually accomplished is solidifying numerous bad habits that will ultimately take them decades to undo. If you understand just that one reality from this article, you will have learned an especially important lesson is your development as a martial artist.

Quality simply takes time and detailed understanding. It is difficult to take the *time* element out of the equation.

Have you ever wondered why there are different colored belt rankings? Are they really necessary? To some extent, ranks are not necessarily equal across the board. It is possible to keep some understanding in the mind of the instructor of what a blue belt, green belt, brown belt or black belt looks like, but

there are other crucial factors intertwined into the various ranks, such as the character of the individual. From that perspective, we are not all equal at the same time.

Many decades ago, I had a junior student named Kathy. She was a blue belt in my class, and definitely knew how to perform the physical elements of the system at a superior level. She was excellent! Unfortunately, Kathy also had a problem with her temper. She was young, but old enough to know better. That part of her character was untamed and not as developed as I wanted it to be. In my class, I give equal weight to a person's character as I do to how they perform techniques. It is my opinion that a good instructor understands this and builds it into their teaching and rank advancement requirements. Without doing that, you are potentially creating a thug!

I had many talks with Kathy over the years. I *never* moved Kathy to purple belt. That is an important responsibility of a good instructor.

Usually when a student starts moving into the intermediate stage of their training, they learn more challenging techniques, and some more dangerous techniques as well. It is also a weeding out point for some instructors to help them decide who might be instructor material in the future.

Intermediate students been to be reminded the importance of control and safety in everything they do. Of course, that goes for beginning students and all levels of students for that matter.

Sometimes, at the intermediate level, students need to be reminded not to use full strength when they do their techniques. Just as beginners need to be reminded to slow up, that advice also goes for the intermediate students. They are still *a work in progress*.

For intermediate students, take the time to really look at each and every technique you do. Explore, understand and ask questions so that you start to fully understand *how* and *why* each technique works. It is not enough to just do a bunch of techniques without giving them intellectual thought.

When you are practicing on the mat, you may not always have the time to do that, but on the way home, give yourself some quality to delve into the inner working of your techniques. It will ultimately make you a much better martial artist and future teacher.

THE ADVANCED STAGE

At the advanced stages of your training, especially if you are there right now, strive to make yourself the best martial artist possible.

I once had an instructor who wrote something in a training manual that I have always remembered, and I remind myself of it, even to this day. *Learn more than what appears to be so.*

There is *always* more to learn at every level because learning never stops.

When you attend a workshop, class or seminar taught by a master, you expect to walk away from that training session with increased knowledge and understanding. It is not always about learning more techniques, it is often about discovering the *depth of knowledge* waiting to be unlocked within you for the techniques you have already learned.

Not everything you see on the internet or at some workshop are wonderful techniques. I have attended workshops over the past 60 years where the instructor is teaching techniques I would never do. You can learn just as much by watching a lousy technique as you can by watching a fantastic one. The first thing you need to learn is how to determine what makes a technique wonderful, or what makes it lousy, and why.

The technique itself may have many flaws in its execution, but the entry to the technique or the finishing movement might be creative and innovative. To be able to determine that, you need to be able to objectively look within yourself. That is easier said than done. It takes a deep understanding of learning, as well as application.

An advanced student develops their *depth of knowledge* skills to be able to do that.

BLACK BELTS AND MASTERS

A well-trained black belt and expert does not look at how much they know, they look at how much more they have to learn.

I tell all of my students, especially my advanced students and black belts, that a martial arts system is like a living entity. It does not stop developing. It becomes a living system that grows and matures, and sometimes changes.

I will acknowledge that change is difficult for most people. But change is just a part of our lives that we learn to deal with. Sometimes change happens because we desire it happen, sometimes it

happens because of necessity. Change is not something you should be fearful of. If you are, perhaps a different approach might be to learn to embrace it. You might discover that it opens up many doors that you did not realize were sitting right in front of you, ready to be opened. Behind those doors, new and exciting knowledge is waiting to be discovered, enhanced or re-remembered.

that a black belt has some sort of teaching certification from a reputable martial arts organization.

Just as an FYI, although the AJA requires only "Heads-Up" [concussion training] certification in order to issue a black belt certificate, I require first-aid, CPR, and "Heads-Up" certification for all of my black belts in the US.

Why do I have these additional requirements? Maybe it goes back to my Boy Scout days & their "be prepared" motto, or Seki's maxim to "help" people.

3 EASY WAYS to PAY!

PayPal: The most common way to pay for memberships & merchandise. There's usually a credit-card option here.

Zelle: If you bank at almost 7,000 other financial institutions in the US, [check <https://www.zellepay.com/get-started>], you can use Zelle to send money directly to my checking account. Email me for total prices including shipping for the items you want before paying with Zelle.

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Please **do not** send checks or money via Western Union [numerous restrictions, time constraints] unless there are no other options open to you. Any checks from foreign countries must be payable from a US bank and will have a minimum 10-20 working day processing delay due to banks' check clearing procedures. The three choices above **in red** will give you the best opportunities for the quickest shipping turnaround.

Q: Have you ever used your "Heads-Up", first-aid, or CPR training in the dojo? 111623

A: First, it's good to have this training just as a decent and responsible human being because you might need to use it to save someone's life . . . even your own.

Second, in 56 years as a jujitsu instructor and 39 years as a classroom teacher I've used it numerous times. Other than little "owies" the most common "injury" I've had to deal with is students going into shock from a fracture, sprain, convulsions, drug overdose, or even a broken blood vessel. You need to know what the signs of shock are, what to do to prevent/control it [as much as possible], and you can't wait around for paramedics or someone from the "front office" to show up to deal with it. You need to act and that includes having someone call paramedics for "help". [Back to Seki's and the "scouts" maxim.]

Going into shock can be fatal. Do I need to say anything else?

Q: I received the Budoshin Jujitsu Densho today and was surprised that the "pdf" was a computer file rather than a hard copy. How much would it cost to send me a hard copy of the Densho? 111823

A: Although I originally gave you a guesstimate of \$60-80 plus \$12.50 Priority Mail postage, I checked with FedEx online, still had to guess on binding and cover and including my travel & time to FedEx as some pages are in color & I have to explain where they go, the guesstimated total including 9.5% Calif sales tax & \$12.50 Priority Mail, would be around \$107.50. I'd have to make 2 trips to the local FedEx printing store. I can't quote an exact price until I go to FedEx, which would then be a 3rd trip which would have to be added to the cost.

I think \$107+ is a ridiculous price to pay.

It probably would be a lot cheaper and faster if you go to FedEx Printing or a UPS Store or some other retailer that copies stuff & have them do it for you directly. You could probably even print it up cheaper at home & take it someplace to have it covered & bound. Or you could use a 3-hole punch & simply put all the pages in a binder or 3-hole notebook.

Q: I believe I'm ready to proceed with my budoshin tests, may I know how I should proceed? Will I be testing for every kyu? Or it will be one

test for everything? 120323

A: You can either work through the ranks up to shodan or you can just test for shodan. It all comes down to how proficient you are in Budoshin Jujitsu.

The advantage of starting at lower ranks and working your way up is that I can spot potential problems early on and you have then time to get them corrected. If you were to test for shodan at the outset there is a high probability [based on my experiences] that there would be so many small problems that passing even the kata portion of the test would be unlikely.

Another advantage of starting at the lower ranks is that there is no time-in-grade requirement. You can move up the ranks as fast as you can [or want to].

As far as the actual testing is concerned you just follow the tests in the Student and Black Belt Handbooks. Up through 4th kyu you just submit a video of you taking the belt test and send it to me via Hightail, a dropbox service I use. I will send you the link when you want it. You will NOT have to register or sign up with Hightail to use this link. The only restriction is that your video file can't be larger than 5GB, but that's never happened. Starting at sankyu [3rd kyu] and going up through the black belt ranks, all testing is done "live" via Zoom. Before "Zoom" students had to submit a video and there were 2-3 pages of instructions/security-measures to assure the credibility of the video test. Even stopping the recording at any time [even accidentally] would void the entire test. Going "Zoom" has eliminated all of the "security" problems, PLUS I can interact with the person being tested which has many advantages for the tester and the testee. Lastly, there is a \$25 test set-up fee starting at sankyu testing, each time I have to set up a test for you. Prior to going "Zoom" if a test was voided [security issue] or the person didn't pass the test, they'd have to pay another \$25 setup fee to take the test again. With Zoom, this hasn't happened even once - - - yet.

That's about it. If you pass, you get a BJJY certificate of rank - - no charge for BJJY certificates of rank. Starting at sankyu you must also be a member of the AJA [\$25/calendar year] and you can get AJA certification of rank as well; 3rd-1st kyu \$8, 1st-2nd dan \$15, 3rd dan \$20, 4th dan & up \$25.

I think that just about covers it. Please let me know if there's anything I missed.

TRAINING PARTNER HELP?

I can send an email out to people in or near your state if you're looking for training partners.

Just let me know & I'll do this for you! Hopefully your link-up will be successful.

USE HIGHTAIL TO SEND ME VIDEOS & OTHER LARGE FILES!

You can send large files, such as belt rank test/evaluation videos, or videos of a technique you're having problems with, [up to 5gb/file] to me via my Hightail "dropbox" at <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/Budoshin> for FREE as part of your BJJY membership benefits.

Just click on the link above & follow the directions. Also, you do NOT have to register or sign up with Hightail to send me these video files.

To Send Me Better Belt Evaluation Videos:

1. Please make sure your uke is familiar with the techniques you're going to do.
2. Make sure your video camera, cellphone, tablet, or laptop camera is at about waist height.
3. Make sure the camera can cover the entire mat area in which the techniques will be executed.
4. Make sure your cellphone or other device is in a horizontal position BEFORE you start recording. Otherwise your video will be sideways and there's no way to fix that.
5. Do a short test video to be sure your cellphone or other device is a) recording correctly—including sound, b) is in the correct position and c) can playback properly on a computer screen.
6. Be sure to position yourself and your uke so that most of the technique execution is visible [can be seen by the device camera]. On occasion you may also repeat the technique execution from a different angle to make sure the entire sequence is visible.
7. Send a copy of your video to me using Hightail [details below], keeping the original for yourself.

Q: I am going to be sending you the Budoshin Ju-Jitsu books that I have compiled, as well as the junior syllabus which I made to get younger students up to ROKYU as per your videos which we are using as the syllabus. 120423

A: Love to see it. May I have permission to make it available to others via my website? [I can set up my own link to it.]

Q: Please let me know if I need a special hightail link or do you simply send me one, go that I can send you the handbooks Budo pass etc. 120423

A: You can send me anything, up to 5GB/file at: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/Budoshin> . You will NOT need to sign up or register with Hightail to use this link.

Note: If you've developed any teaching/learning aid or modification to the Student/Black Belt Handbooks that help your students learn better please send it to me using the Hightail link above [also in the right column of the previous page]. I will post it on my website and give you credit.

We can either "share" ideas with each other or we "steal" them from each other. It's our choice.

Q: We have completed the construction of the new DOJO, and we completed the painting of the DOJO on Saturday evening, 3 days of painting, now it's just the mirrors and our logos that need to go up and we will have our unveiling on Saturday this week, been a long journey and a lot of money and hard work, but we now have our own DOJO. 120423

A: I wish you solid luck in getting your dojo up and running. It is a true commitment and I have a great deal of respect for anyone who makes a commercial venture and I really hope you succeed. Maybe some pix when it's up & running?

A Time for Change

When we are young we are filled with optimism and no challenge can go unfulfilled.

Then age catches up with you and sometimes you muddle along as best you can.

After 56 years of teaching the art almost every week, sometimes 2-nights/week while still fully employed 39 of those years, age has caught up with me to some extent.

Rather than go into a full explanation of all the medical and physical limitations I am now facing, it is simply easier for me to say, for my safety and the safety of my students, that I am retiring from being a regular instructor at the Budoshin Jujitsu Dojo, Santa Clarita. Although Budoshin Jujitsu Dojo, Inc. [a non-profit corporation] will continue to run the dojo, the major instructional responsibilities will be taken over by Sensei Michael Langewisch, who has been with me since 2001.

However, I'm not going to just kick back in my lounge and watch tv. Life does go on for me. I will be acting in an advisory capacity for the dojo and may be there on the sidelines occasionally coaching individual students. I will also maintain the Budoshin Jujitsu Yudanshakai as an active dojo. I'm also hoping to continue the annual Budoshin Jujitsu summer camps as well as perhaps do some seminar & other dojo visits.

So don't plant flowers above me yet. :)

I'd really like to keep teaching on a weekly basis for many more years until I hopefully go to the great tatami up in the sky. However, I do have to face reality. And sometimes reality can be a real challenge. I will miss the camaraderie of my black belts and working with you, my students, every week. You've been a major part of my life for 56 years. It has been a pleasure and honor to see many you grow, not only in the martial art of jujitsu, but also as individuals. I shall miss that because that's why [at least I think] why people go into teaching - - - anything.

This is a time for change. Hopefully I can go with the flow and continue in my modified role. Life does go on . . . and I plan to as well. :)

-Sensei George Kirby

PS: I remember some of the kids in the pix on the next page.

The Olde Photograph



1975 - Olive Vista Jr. High School,
Sylmar, CA, Jujitsu Club

[before it became a regular class and P.E. alternative]