

Sogo-Goshin-Do

WKDA Kai Newsletter July 2004 issue #1 Vol. 4

Sogo-Goshin-Do 2004

This is the first newsletter for WKDA kai in a while and it is my privilege to be returning as the monthly editor. As always if you have some information that you think the kai needs to be aware of from any of the schools just e-mail me at nowheremann3@yahoo.com and pass on the information to me. I will try to incorporate it in an upcoming newsletter. Also, if anyone wants to write an article just let me know. If you need more details just ask. I have included some recent news in this issue and have re-printed the lineage feature from a 2000 edition of the old newsletter. This is good info on our past and that is always a great place to begin.

New Black Belt

We tested Marshal Morehead for black belt on June 19th and he did an excellent job throughout. We had a big turn out for the panel and the line-up of *ukes* (partners) was also plentiful. Great job to everyone, especially Marshall. He is ready to truly begin his journey on the martial path as a student and a teacher in the arts.

The Ancient Past

We are very fortunate to have been involved with great martial artists like Kyoshi Earl Marvin. Kyoshi was just as lucky to have studied with three Sokes and true martial arts masters. Hopefully you have heard the names: *Soke Shogo Kuniba, Soke Albert Church, and Soke Ron Cherry*

before. If you haven't then you should take note. Much of the information we have in our system today comes from these three men through Kyoshi Marvin. Because of that we share a lineage with these masters.

What is even more historic is these masters have long family lines that go back to Japan, Korea, and China. Through them we are linked to many martial arts styles, and that is evident in our combined fighting style.

I will examine Soke Albert Church's lineage (*which is shared by Soke Cherry's*) and Soke Shogo Kuniba's in this newsletter in as much detail as possible and as accurately as possible.

Soke Albert Church

Back in the 1970s and early 1980s many of us were in a system called *Kamishin Ryu* under Soke Church. Unfortunately Soke passed away in 1980, but in many ways his legacy continues through our martial arts family.

What is even more interesting is the history of the *Kamishin Ryu* system. It starts in China and goes through Korea and then Japan before making its way to the USA. The following is a family tree to show you where the system came from and how it came to us.

CHURCH/CHERRY LINEAGE

Begins: Shaolin Temples

(the temples are dated by historians at about one thousand years ago or more)

CHINA: 1300s a style emerges called **Pa Ming Ch'uan** (*Eight ram's head fist*)

1697-1751: the Pa Ming Ch'uan style mixes with other martial arts of the time such as: **Shaolin-Szu & Tang-Su-Dao**

One of the earliest known masters in this lineage was:

Yong Ho CHIN (master) in Honan Province, China
*He was succeeded by his son **Lee Ho CHIN** (son/master) in Chekiang Province, China*

After 3 centuries in China the system was succeeded by a Korean master and it was mixed with Korean styles during the Silla kingdom and becomes known as:

**So Rim Sa Churl Kwon Do
Tang Soo Do**

The Korean lineage then begins with:

Lee Chi KOOH (master) in Ingei City, Korea

*It is passed on to his son: **Kim Chi KOOH** (son/master) in Yong Dong Po, Korea
He teaches **Albert Church** in the early 1950s in Korea.*

1954 Master Kooh moves to Japan where the style is referred to as kenpo-jutsu. Prior to his death Master Kooh names **Albert Church** as his successor.

1967 Dr. Albert Curtis Church, Jr. inherits the system
**The system is endorsed by Soke Kuniba and officially*

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recognized by the Japanese federations as:

Shorinji-Tetsuken Do

Kamishin-Ryu

(Shaolin Ji Tetsu Ken Ryu / kenpo-jutsu/ karate-do)

This was the art that most of the higher ranking black belts within Sogo-Goshin-Do studied early on in their careers. This included Kyoshi Marvin.

1981: Dr. Ron Cherry (Soke/AKKA) leaves the Kamishin-Ryu system after the death of Soke Church and founds his own system:

Shorinji-Toraken Do Kempo Karate

1990: Kyoshi Earle Marvin (founder of **Sogo-Goshin-Do**)

Shihan Marvin forges out on his own and finds the SKKI and Soke Clement Reidner to officially sanction Sogo-Goshin-Do as a true martial art and Shihan is promoted to 7th dan black belt with the title of Kyoshi.

Soke Shogo Kuniba another lineage

In the late 1980s and early 1990s Shihan Earle Marvin also studied *Motobuja Shito-Ryu* and *Kuniba-Ha Goshin-Do* under Soke Shogo Kuniba after leaving the AKKA. During that time Shihan Marvin was promoted to 5th degree black belt in Kuniba's Goshin-Do and it is believed that he was one of only 2 people to earn a 5th degree in Goshin-Do. After Soke's death Shihan wanted to continue to promote the concepts of Goshin-Do but felt it would be more practical to do so in an independent system.

Our connection to Soke Kuniba is twofold. First we are connected to him through Soke Church who

had a strong martial arts relationship with Soke Kuniba and also received endorsement from Soke Kuniba when he inherited the Kamishin-ryu system in 1967. Secondly we were briefly a part of Soke Kuniba's Seishin-Kai martial arts family in the late 80s and early 90s. So our connection to Soke Kuniba is very important, and he too has a rich family lineage which I will outline here briefly.

Soke Kuniba Lineage

(The Kuniba's have a true Samurai family ancestry.)

1921, Choki Motobu settled in Osaka

1935, Master Kosei Kuniba inherits (*Ryukyu Motobu-ha*) system from Motobu Soke.

1952-1956, Shogo Kuniba earns high ranking black belts in *shito-ryu, iadio, kyudo, kobudo, and jo-do*. He trains with the premier martial arts masters in Japan.

1959, Shogo Kuniba inherits the system from his father at age 24.

***1967,** Kuniba reviews and sponsored Albert Church's Kamishin system (see front page)

1968, *Motobu-ha Shito-ryu Seishin-Kai* officially founded as an independent system.

1973, Two Japanese karate organizations officially

recognize Soke Kuniba's *Goshin-Budo (Goshin-Do)*.

1983, in the US Soke Shogo Kuniba founded *World*

Headquarters for Seishin-kai USA in Virginia.

1988, Promotes Earle Marvin to Shihan in *Kuniba-Ryu Goshin-Do*

1990, *Sogo Goshin Do* is founded by Kyoshi Earle Marvin prior to Kuniba's passing and with his blessing.

1992, (July 14th) Soke Shogo Kuniba passes.

Knowing your history

Knowing your system's history not only makes you more credible, it is your responsibility as a member of any martial arts family. Help keep the legacy of these masters alive by knowing their stories.

(to contribute to the newsletter contact Shihan Sean Mann by e-mail at: Nowheremann3@yahoo.com)