



Ante Brannbacka & Jan Kraayvanger

well received and I hope to continue introducing it when and wherever time permits. This year's training also included Uke-waza [Quad-rant Drill] and Gyaku-waza along with a sizable group of candidates who were evaluated for KU ranks; my congratulations to all those successful recipients of

Shido in

- Bernd Otterstätter [Germany]
- Jesus Espiga [Spain]
- Andrzej Kazmierczak [England]

Sandan

- Roy Hursti [Finland]
- Andrzej Kazmierczak [England]

Nidan

- Passi Lehtonen [Finland]
- Sven Köhler [Germany]

Shodan

- Anders Hansson [Sweden]
- Gilbert Völk [Germany]
- Paschal Wafula [Kenya]
- Bernd Otterstätter [Germany]
- Dinah Kretschmer [Germany]
- Heinz-Peter Assem [Germany]
- Andreas Reifel [Germany]

Yudansha

- Rodney Vandemoortele [Belgium]
- Marc Vogt [Germany]
- Andrea Polzien [Germany]
- Robert Ruether [Germany]
- Hendrik Felber [Germany]
- Andreas Kangur [Estonia]
- Wolfgang Stenmans [Germany]
- Jesus Espiga [Spain]
- Basili Rodriguez Marin [Spain]
- Jordi López [Spain]
- Ben Ryder [England]
- Joost Frehe [England]
- Andrzej Kusmierczyk [Poland]

Mudansha

- Gaby Meijer [Germany]
- Maria Syrjälä [Sweden]

It was a full house with lots of positive energy and, from what I understand, there were participants from 14 different countries. I am very grateful to my Dutch representatives for an excellent job this year and would also like to thank to Renshi Ante Brannbacka for assisting me in the daily morning training.

Just having missed the Volcanic ash cloud in Ireland, literally by hours, the closing of Schipol airport, and that of several British and Spanish airports the day before I was scheduled to depart [from Dusseldorf...which was also being threatened to cancel its flights] forced me to book a new flight from the local airport in Eindhoven to Rome...the only port of call opened! How lucky I've been thus far!! Fortunately, I am not flying British Airways to England next week, which has just started a weeklong strike

It was a great pleasure to work with all the KU family participants again this year and I enjoyed meeting all the new members, too. I wish you all continued success.

KU's 1st Appearance in Italy

Yuriko, and I wanted to say thank you for the wonderful hospitality we enjoyed during our first visit to Italy. Honestly, it was just spectacular! What a fantastic host Paolo Gasbarri was. Thank you so much Paolo san.

In spite of the fierce political animosity and local pressure to prevent/boycott this "non-sanctioned" event, his tireless effort and year of hard work paid off when over ninety participants came out from all over Italy, England, Belgium, Hungary, and the USA to support our KU seminar. This alone speaks volumes about alternative choices and diversity. Paolo san, congratulations to you and your team for such a suc-



Hanshi McCarthy & Paolo Gasbarri
At the Roman Coliseum



Basili Rodriguez Marin & Jordi López
travelled from Spain to train at the EU gasshuku in the Netherlands

cessful undertaking. I am also very grateful to sensei Marco Forti, of Cesena, without whose help, the seminar would not have been as successful as it was. Much appreciation to you both and to all the wonderful people who supported us.

In addition to meeting and working with so many nice people I also made many new friends and learned much about the Italian way of life [*Especially, how to drive a car in Rome's traffic and how to "park"!] - and now better understand the term, "When in Rome..." Judging by how many business cards, Facebook friends, contact details and invitations I received to teach more seminars, I am sure that KU will have a promising future in Italy.

I was especially pleased to learn how much the sporting athletes of competitive karate, who participated in the seminar, enjoyed our application-based drills. Searching for a balance within this tradition, I have always said that while kumite represents the spirit of our art it is kata that exemplifies its soul.

With the seeds planted this past weekend, in Genzano di Roma, I am confident that Koryu Uchinadi, and the IRKRS, will grow and prosper in Italy under the di-

reception of you and Marco Forti and I want everyone to know that you both have my full support.

Thanks again to everyone and hope to see some of you in Hassloch this weekend.

Hassloch [Germany]

Bringing together more than 120 participants to practice KU drills, Sensei Bernd & Elke Otterstätter hosted the perfect weekend.

I was able to get into the dojo early on the Friday evening where I worked 2-person scenario-based aggression drills; These are not terribly different from our quadrant drills except we use disorientation tactics and more aggressive resistance! Lots of fun



Following our training, the Otterstätter hosted a small get together at their residence and put on a small feast, which was very enjoyable. "Special thanks to Martin Cassel-Gintz for remembering to bring the refreshments, [Knockando] ... a wee single malt!

Sat morning I warmed everyone up with a shorter version of the KU quadrant drill [without the kicks] and gradually shifted from level#1 [reception only] to level #2 [receive & respond] which was quickly learned, seemingly enjoyed and adequately performed. Following the morning break I moved onto the Kume-based Oyo-waza drill that I had taught at the EU Gasshuku. I had originally planned on teaching Gyaku-waza but there was such a "buzz in the air," I was easily won over.

In spite of "some" bojutsu training, the weekend was largely consumed by teaching, learning and practicing KU-based 2-person drills [Uke & Kume Oyo-



Hanshi with Dr. Jurgens Wolff

waza], and reminiscing with many long-time students and KU supporters. I have been very impressed with the growing level of many KU learners here in the EU and happy with the work carried out by our team of instructors here. Congratulations to all.

It was very nice of Sensei Ziggy Wolf to bring Wing Chun Sifu, Keith Kernspecht, over to the seminar to meet me. A hugely successful instructor, Sifu Kernspecht had expressed interest in meeting me and learning more about what we're doing. I'll keep you all posted if anything eventuates from our meeting. Finally, some of you know that I'd been battling a MCL [knee] problem these last few months and I was very grateful that Peter Wolff's father, Dr. Jurgen Wolff, was able to treat me without an appointment and help resolve this lingering issue; In spite of the bad rep Cortisone has, it sure helped this weary traveler

My thanks to Renshi Olaf Krey for his assistance throughout the seminar.

A seminar with Patrick McCarthy Hanshi

- by Sue C [England]

<http://kickasssuec.blogspot.com/2010/06/seminar-with-patrick-mccarthy-hanshi.html>

What a week! It's been so busy I haven't had time to blog. However, the highlight of the week has been attending a seminar by Patrick McCarthy Hanshi. Sensei John Burke hosted the seminar at his dojo in Newton Abbot, Devon. Patrick McCarthy is a highly ex-

perienced martial artist who has made it his life work to study the real applications of karate kata and develop a method of training that allows all karate-ka to take their karate back to its original intention as a fighting art by looking not just at realistic defence but also realistic attack. He has traveled widely throughout Japan and East Asia, studying with many eminent sensei and training across a variety of martial arts styles. From his extensive field research he has developed the theory of Habitual Acts of Physical Violence (HAPV) and developed his two man kata application drills, which focus on pragmatic defensive practices. Sensei McCarthy is the founder of the International Ryukyu Karatejutsu Research Society (IRKRS)

The seminar

Nine of us from the SSK set off early on Tuesday morning to travel the 250 miles to Devon. The seminar didn't start until 6pm but being a bunch of keenies we arrived at lunchtime! At least this gave us plenty of time to check into our Guest House and relax a bit after the journey.

We still managed to arrive at the dojo an hour early but were allowed to register and get changed. Sensei McCarthy arrived in the dojo about 5.30pm and before changing into his gi made a point of introducing himself to the various groups of people who were now congregating in the dojo, shaking every one's hand and asking our names. He chatted very informally with us all and we were all impressed with his friendliness and approachability. This informality generally set the tone for the rest of the seminar.

Once Sensei McCarthy was changed we lined up for a bow and then sat around him whilst he introduced the purpose of the seminar and provided a bit of

Around the World

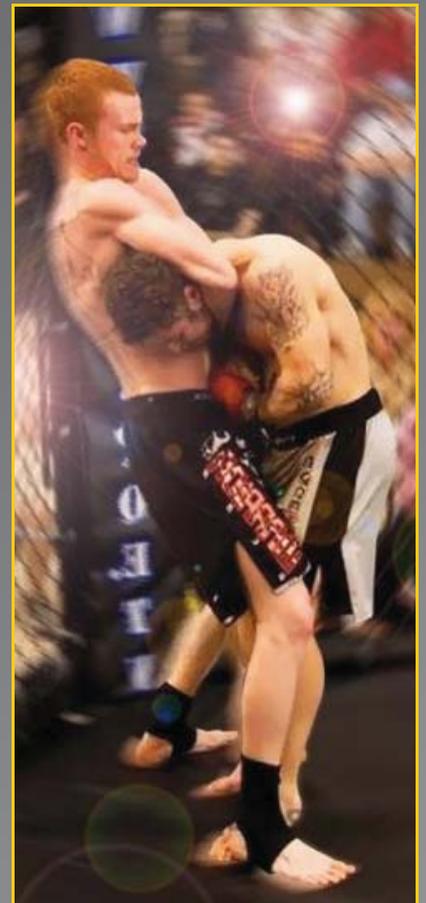
KU on the beaches of Italy



With the establishment of the Italian IRKRS well underway now, KU Yudansha Sensei Marco Forti [far left] brought together 40 black and brown belts for morning beach training



Marco Forti displays correct form with his shime-waza [left] while John Schlosser [Lopresti Aiki Kenpo Jujutsu dojo] buries a deep standing guillotine during his first cage fight win



Around the World



Seminar host, Paolo Gasbarri, brought together an excellent turn out of enthusiastic participants from all over Italy, the EU, UK and the USA



An unprecedented group gathered in Albano to enjoy Italy's first official KU training



Spellbinding action



Marco Forti



Enjoying her training ...



The seminar was enjoyed by all

Around the World



Sensei Darrin Johnson assisted Hanshi McCarthy with the Italian seminar



Seminar host, Paolo Gasbarri did a wonderful job sponsoring the 1st Italian seminar



Congratulations to Marco Forti for an outstanding job as Hanshi's translator for the seminar



For many participants, this was the first exposure to KU two-person application drills [TPAD]



The Italian cuisine was outstanding ...



Hanshi & his lovely wife, Yuriko at Trevi Fountain