

THE THREE AGES OF MATSUBAYASHI-RYU

Our most ambitious themed Internationals

BUSHI MATSUMURA

KOSAKU MATSUMORA

MOTOBU CHOKI

ANKICHI ARAKAKI

CHOTOKU KYAN

SHOSHIN NAGAMINE

HANSHI FRANK GRANT

Beginning with our 2018 WSKF Internationals, we will present the first of a three-year International theme in the context of training in a given "Age." During each year or Age, we will learn how the evolution of Matsubayashi-Ryu developed and became the premier and most respected art of karate it is today.

2018 WSKF Internationals

The Age of the Masters - Pinan, Naihanchi, Passai, Chinto, Kusanku:

The Age of the Masters, encompasses Masters Arakaki, Kyan and Motobu. It is the era of the Meiji Restoration (1870), the modernization of Japan and the end of the "top knot." Meiji means the "Era of Enlightened Government." Japan was becoming increasingly industrialized and modern, and in those days, karate-do was practiced in secret. Matsubayashi-Ryu, as a style, did not yet exist.

2019 WSKF Internationals

The Age of Nagamine - Fukyugata, Yakusoku Kumite B, Birth of Matsubayashi-Ryu, Essence of Karate-Do:

The Age of Nagamine is born amidst international strife resulting in the ultimate defeat of Japan and destruction of Okinawa at the close of WWII. Nagamine developed Matsubayashi-Ryu as we know it today from the wreckage of a devastating world war in an effort to preserve his culture and provide a healthy focus for the young people of the next generation. However, with the arrival of American servicemen and women stationed on Okinawan soil, he had to decide whether or not to teach westerners a traditional Okinawan art form. His decision would allow karate in general, and Matsubayashi-Ryu in particular, to spread throughout the world.

2020 WSKF Internationals

The Age of Hanshi - Preservation and Innovation -Yakusoku Kumite A and "The Next Step:"

With a system of kata in place, the essence of karate-do was at a crossroads. The west was exposed to karate and the art was spreading throughout the world, but at a cost. Okinawan karate was degenerating and fragmenting into numerous styles and combinations of styles. Master Nagamine would task a young Frank Grant, the last of his five "special" students, with preserving Matsubayashi-Ryu as true to its traditional form while at the same time "taking it to the next step."



DALE HOLLOW STATE RESORT PARK
BURKESVILLE, KY



WSKF INTERNATIONALS 2018

JUNE 17 - 20, 2018

THE AGE OF THE MASTERS

Hanshi's 85th Birthday Celebration



ANKICHI
ARAKAKI



CHOTOKU
KYAN



CHOKI
MOTOBU

FRANK
GRANT



2018 WSKF INTERNATIONALS AGENDA

Sunday, June 17

• 6:00 pm - Promotions

All classes will focus on one of Grand Master Nagamine's teachers and their contributions to the Art. We will explore Kata, Kumite, Special Techniques and Contributions from each Master's perspective. Also, there will be a special guest speaker at each days' event, available for photos and autographs.

Monday, June 18 (Master Ankichi Arakaki)

- 9:00 - 9:15 am - Official Welcome with Hanshi Grant 10th Dan - Hanshi Grant will explain the contributions from the Masters and the tremendous impact their teachings had on Grand Master Nagamine.
- 9:15 - 10:00 - Arakaki on Kata - Master Arakaki stated, "There is an integral and inseparable relationship between karate and the Okinawan culture."
- 10:15 - 11:00 - Arakaki on Kumite - Master Arakaki avoided confrontation, however his knowledge and proficiency in karate were devastating when used.
- 11:15 - 12:00 - Arakaki's Special Techniques and Contributions
- 1:00 pm - Dojo Owners Meeting

Tuesday, June 19 (Master Chotoku Kyan)

- 9:15 - 10:00 - Kyan on Kata - Master Kyan stated, "It is deeply important that we study the true value of ancient kata in an effort to fully understand the magnitude of its actual application."
- 10:15 - 11:00 - Kyan on Kumite - Master Kyan understood the importance of shifting and moving your body to gain a superior position over your opponent.
- 11:15 - 12:00 - Kyan's Special Techniques and Contributions
- 9:00 pm - SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Every beginning has a back story. Come and join us for The Gathering - a brief dramatization of what may have happened in the time before Fukyugata Ichi if Masters Arakaki, Kyan and Motobu had met to determine the future of Karate-Do.

Wednesday, June 20 (Master Choki Motobu)

- 9:15 - 10:00 am - Motobu on Kata - Master Motobu believed, "The applications of kata have their limits and one must understand this."
- 10:15 - 11:00 - Motobu on Kumite - Master Motobu felt you need to liberate yourself from fixed postures and seek to cultivate unconstrained technique and movement.
- 11:15 - 12:00 - Motobu's Special Techniques and Contributions
- 1:00 - 3:00 - Kobudo Training
- 6:00 - AWARDS BANQUET - Join us for a special celebration for Hanshi Grant's 85th Birthday. Also, please accompany the WSKF Board of Directors as we celebrate the continued success of the WSKF and the accomplishments of its' members.

Thursday, June 21

- 9:00 am - Breakfast Celebration of Hanshi's Birthday - June 21 is Hanshi's official Birthday. Join Hanshi and other WSKF Members and family for an informal breakfast in celebration of Hanshi's 85th Birthday.

AGE OF THE MASTERS

Ankichi Arakaki

To Arakaki, culture and karate were inseparable. Traditional Okinawan folk dancing shared principles of movement, not only with hands and feet, but in the breath and the use of the tanden, a single point in the abdomen from which all motion begins and ends. As Nagamine would later put it, karate as an art form would set a foundation for a "spiritual path on which its followers could discover and conquer the sources of human weakness."

"POWERFUL ENOUGH TO SEIZE THE FIRST BOLT OF LIGHTNING, THERE'S NOTHING AS FIERCE AS THE GRASP OF KARATE'S EMPTY HANDS."

Chotoku Kyan

Master Kyan was a small man and knew he could not take most men head-on. He combined China's vital-point strikes with the technique of tai sabaki (body shifting) to step aside and forward, so as not to be in front of the opponent but have the opponent in front of you.

"KATA TEACHES YOU TO MOVE WITH SUPPLENESS AND WITHOUT THOUGHT IN THE MANY POSSIBLE SITUATIONS. ANYONE CAN ACQUIRE THIS ABILITY WITH HARD TRAINING AND LONG RESEARCH. WITHOUT ENLIGHTENING YOUR SPIRIT, YOUR TECHNIQUES WILL NOT BE USEABLE."

Choki Motobu

Master Motobu taught the concepts of ashi sabaki (stepping and sliding) for evading and advancing in coordination with ma-ai (engagement distance)

"POSITION ONESELF CORRECTLY AND MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE SPACE OR INTERVAL CREATED BY MOVING ONE'S BODY IN AN EFFORT TO EFFECTIVELY SUBJUGATE ANY OPPONENT... A STREET ENCOUNTER (IS) NEVER THE SAME. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE KATA, HOWEVER, NEVER VARY. THUS, ONE MUST LEARN HOW THEY ARE APPLIED AND HOW TO BEND WITH THE WINDS OF ADVERSITY."