

The **Hoteikan System** and it's affiliates conducted it's **5th Annual Spring Seminar** at the **U.S. Military Academy, in West Point, N.Y.** on the April 25th, 26th weekend.

The weekend started with our traditional Black Belt workout at the **Hoteikan Hombu Dojo** in Brooklyn, N.Y.

We were fortunate to have 2 very **special guest Grandmasters** perform at our workout. **Grandmaster Vincent Merenda from the Zen Goju temple** and **Grandmaster Hui Cambrelen, Headmaster of USA Fu Jow Pai Kung Fu**, demonstrated Kata and shared their knowledge with the group. To top off the evening, the **Hoteikan Demo team** performed a dedication to **Shihan Armstrong** with an inspiring rendition of **Kanku Sho** performed by **Sensei Anthony Carrano**.

On Saturday, we all trained with the **Army Judo team and Karate team at the West Point facility**. **Major Ben Ring, Military Judo advisor and coach** demonstrated the art of competitive **Sleeve Gripping** as well as **Uchi Mata** and variations of **Sankakyu Jime**.

Sensei Thomas Carrano, Head Instructor of the Hoteikan Dojo, was next, demonstrating his tournament striking and kicking techniques. **Sensei Carrano** also put together a light competition **pitting the Judo players against the Karate players**. Valuable lessons were learned as the Karate players found themselves getting thrown several times by the Judo players in these accumulated point matches.

In the afternoon session, **Shihan Armstrong, Dai Kaidan Shihan** of the **Hoteikan Jujitsu System**, utilized the techniques used in the morning session and applied them to Jujitsu self defense. **Sensei Armstrong's** ability to expand on basic concepts using variations of techniques that fit into situations was a big hit. **Joint locks, forward throws and rear throws** were all demonstrated based on body positioning.

Sensei Carrano picked up on the self defense theme to incorporate punches and kicks as well as throws into self defense applications.

As usual, **Soke Emilio Claudio was present** and oversaw the entire event, lending his expertise and reality training methods to the seminar.

The dinner after the event was no less spectacular as it was held at the Officers Club at West Point, in the Hudson Room overlooking the Hudson river.

This was the best of the 5 events held thus far. There was something for everyone and no one went home disappointed. We are all looking forward to next year's event.

A special thanks to the following Sensei's for their help and expertise:

Soke Emilio Claudio Jr.

Renshi Thomas Carrano

Sensei Major Ben Ring

Sensei Major Nate Minami

Grandmaster Vincent Merenda

Sifu Hui Cambrelen

Yours in Hoteikan,

Shihan Santiago Armstrong

Dai Kaidan Shihan, Hoteikan Jujitsu System