

Featured Dojo-cho, November 2003



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River City Aikido, Sacramento, California
Division 2

I was introduced to Aikido by a friend in the early 70s. He was taking a class from Dang Thong Tri Sensei at California State University Sacramento. I started at CSUS not long after hearing about Tri Sensei and began taking his course. Within a year I joined Tri Sensei's dojo and began practicing on a regular basis. I trained with Tri Sensei for 15 years. In the mid 80s I left the Budo Educational Center to join River City Aikido. I wanted to develop my art and teach; Mark Bartosh Sensei (founder of River City Aikido) offered me the opportunity to do both. In 1999 I became Dojo-Cho and have been in that position since that time.

River City Aikido was founded by Mark Bartosh in 1985. In 1991 Bartosh Sensei decided to leave the Sacramento area and turned the school over to the instructors with Herschel Roby Sensei as Dojo-Cho. In 1999 Roby Sensei retired and I became Dojo-Cho.

It was during Roby Sensei's time that River City Aikido joined the

AANC and affiliated with Doran Sensei's division.

My most Memorable Aikido Experience

I don't have just one most memorable experience, as every experience is unique in its own way. However I can say that three different events were critical to my Aikido training. The first was meeting Tri Sensei who inspired and taught me for 15 years. Because of him I have the background in Aikido and in Budo that has allowed me to develop and progress. The second important event was meeting Doran Sensei. He provided support and acceptance at a critical time in my training and continues to do so. The third event was meeting Ikeda Sensei. He opened my eyes to many new possibilities and validated some of the experiences I had been having during my training. Those who have inspired, taught and supported me will always be the most memorable part of Aikido.