



Burkhard (Bogi) Bohm and Family Tribute



## Burkhard (Bogi) Bohm

With the martial art title of Professor, Shihan in the Bushidokan International Federation. Burkhard “Bogi” Bohm holds a blackbelt rank in DanZan Ryu JuJitsu and a 7<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in DanZan Ryu Zenyo Bujutsu under his Sensei, Shodai, Prof. Herb LaGue. Prof. Bohm started with Herb LaGue, Sensei beginning in 1977 at the Sparks Judo and Jujitsu Club now the Bushidokan Martial Arts Temple in Sparks, Nevada. Prof. Bohm was born in Germany, spent his childhood in Namibia, Africa, and emigrated to the US in 1976. Living near Blairsden in Eastern Plumas County since 1984, he made a living as a consulting ground water hydrologist. He has also taught for several years as a part time hydrology instructor at Feather River College in Quincy.

At this time, the Feather River Kodenkan Dojo is closed. 7-2021

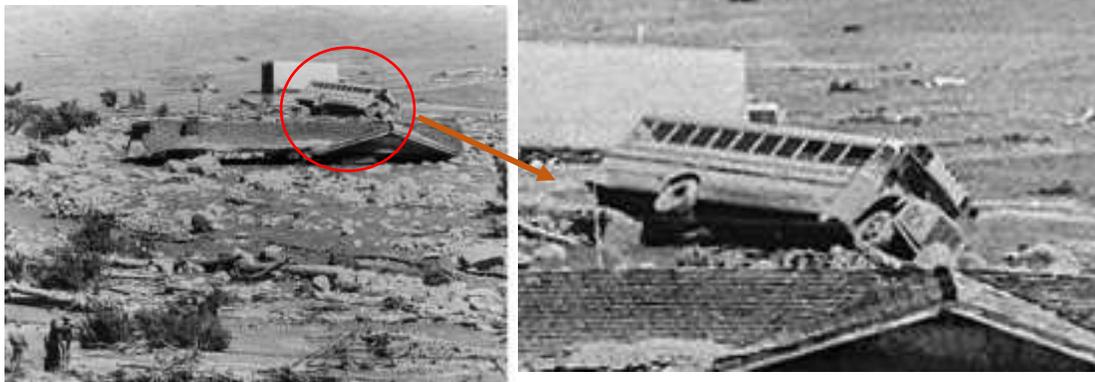
Prof. Bohm opened the Feather River Kodenkan Dojo in Portola, California and they have been teaching JuJitsu in Plumas County since 1998, for both youth and adults.

Being a member of the Bushidokan Federation of Dojos, Feather River Kodenkan espouses the proliferation of DanZan Ryu Zenyo Bujutsu. They have also taught regular assault prevention courses for women and men, both in Quincy and Portola.

Bogi was a consulting ground water hydrologist and Debi is a Registered Nurse. They kept their Martial Art School open for many years with their income. Along with the support of their students, Black Belt assistant instructors, and all the spouses by making sacrifices to teach adults and the junior students. The Feather River Kodenkan has provided a community service as a not for profit business in the Portola and later the Quincy area for 22 years.

### **The beginning stories that I heard about this family**

I heard from Prof. Steve McLaughlin remembering seeing a young Bogi with long blond hair sitting on the porch at 301 9<sup>th</sup> house next to the Dojo in the 1970’s. I heard that Bogi and wife Debie toured the USA on their Triumph motorcycles before settling down with their plan to build a dream home in the woods of Portola California.



### **The School Bus**

from

[https://eu.rgi.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/05/22/photos-slide-mountain-disaster-memorial-day-1983/27773651/.](https://eu.rgi.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/05/22/photos-slide-mountain-disaster-memorial-day-1983/27773651/)

*On Memorial Day 1983, Slide Mountain lived up to its name. Snow, dirt, and rock crashed into Upper and Lower Price lakes, emptying them of hundreds of thousands of gallons of water and sending a 30-foot wall of debris down the Ophir Creek drainage into northwestern Washoe Valley. A house, truck and school bus were among the casualties.*

I first saw this bus in an alley across the street from the Sparks Dojo. Bogi was installing a wood burning stove in it so his family and him could live in it while they built their beautiful home in the woods of Portola, California. On the several acres of property there was only a small shed with a phone line and electricity hooked up to it. After they build their home the school Bus behind the house became a guest house.

## The House in the woods

The home Bogi and Debi built (also the large garage) is impressive. With a large deck and an outdoor hot tub makes a great addition. The way that they educated and exposed their three children to science, art, and the humanities along to the international travel was a joy to witness. Their home in the woods was a sanctuary for everyone who had the honor to call them friends.



## On the Jujitsu mat with Bogi

When I started my Jujitsu studies in 1981 under Ginny, Sensei then at the Sparks Dojo under Herb, Sensei in 1983 I worked out with Bogi. I had a problem with him on the mat (it was really a problem with myself). As we were working together towards our first degree black belt (the beginning of the black belt ranks) I found him to be rigid mentally and physically. Through our training we were taught to look at ourselves first and find out how we can change to improve ourself without blaming others. Herb, Sensei told me to ask him for help with a technique that he excelled in to help me be a better martial artist. We were best friends after that because we looked for each other's positive input and fair criticism to help our Dojo flourish. Our suspicions of each other's differences no longer became an issue.

We participated in martial art events and conventions with all our other Sparks Judo and Jujitsu Club (later the Bushidokan Sparks Dojo). We attended many special in state and out of state black belt and healing art classes with our fellow black beltters.

In my book *STORIES FROM THE DOJO* we heard the same stories from Prof. Herb, and we were part of the history of our home Dojo the Bushidokan. Bogi and I were part of the second wave of black belt students later with Prof. Suki LaGue as a driving force. We had up to 30 students on the Bushidokan mat and we did many Kata Contests and Martial Art Demonstrations for city events.



## The First Feather River Kodokan Dojo

Burkhard (Bogi) Bohm, Sensei

Their (our) Sparks Dojo helped to build a mat at their first Feather River Kodokan ( FRK) Dojo in Portola, California in 1998. There were two Portola dojos for a while, but the FRK that I attended was the Dojo next to the coffee shop restaurant (like a Denny's coffee restaurant). We enjoyed many classes there usually stopping for breakfast at the restaurant next door before class and maybe going next door for Pizza with everyone after class.



## The Feather River Kodengan moves to Quincy, California

The interior modifications of this Dojo started in November 2013. It had a large mat area with a beautiful 2<sup>nd</sup> story view (although the city Cemetery was the view behind the Dojo).



# Feather River Kodokan Quincy Dojo



# Feather River Kodenkan Annual Jujitsu and Tibetan Yoga Camps



**Feather River Kodenkan Camp**  
2019 DanZan Ryu ZenYo BuJutsu Annual Camp – In the Open Air and Sunshine.

**Saturday-Sunday, Aug 17 – 18, 2019**  
**Classes Starting Saturday, 10 a.m.**

Please be there before 9:00 and bring your lunch, water, sunglasses, towels, hat, closed-toe, lace-up and lug-resistant shoes.

**Potluck Dinner, Saturday, 6:30 p.m.**

NOTE: If you plan to stay for potluck dinner, or camp over overnight, please let us know – we can plan a lot.

**Workshop Market, Bonus!**  
(530) 836-1168 [water@jgokyo.com](mailto:water@jgokyo.com)  
Call or email for details.



## **Philosophy of the Feather River Kodengan**

*"The basic difference between an ordinary person and a warrior is that a warrior takes everything as a challenge, while an ordinary person takes everything either as a blessing or as a curse."*

- Don Juan (C. Castaneda), Tales of Power.

JuJitsu training demands slow purposeful study, and one must develop self-control, humility, and a sense of responsibility for others. Though not necessarily evident to the untrained eye, most of these techniques can be extremely dangerous, and should therefore be taught only under a qualified instructor's supervision. This is one reason why cultivating sincere moral and ethical development is such an important prerequisite. It is our belief that this training should enhance not only a person's physical abilities but also the best of their subtle inner qualities. It should create opportunities to confront one's problematic habits, striving to redirect them into positive character traits.

It is said that it requires ten years of practice to gain control over yourself and it requires twenty years to gain control over others. For a student to progress in rank, their character must develop. "Our goal is not (so much) one of producing competent fighters, but (more so) one of producing competent individuals."

Our method of teaching is largely based on senior students teaching junior students (we teach best what we need to learn most). When practicing the arts, both partners assist each other in their training, and it is only by helping one another that real progress is made. Safety is important since injury unnecessarily sets back a student's training.

JuJitsu is not a sport, but a way to develop a very efficient means of self-defense. How much one can get out of these techniques is entirely up to the practitioner, on one's attitude and dedication; on one's willingness to drop preconceived ideas, and on how much of an open mind one wants to develop.

Our goal is to cultivate an environment whereby people can learn to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their actions, and to take charge of their life - the responsibilities of a proficient martial artist.

More of the Feather River Kodengan Philosophy and Dan Zan Ryu History is at

<http://www.graeagle.com/feather/>



The Bohm - Laport Family playing  
Taiko drums at Bob and Alicia wedding



Professor Burkhard (Bogi) Bohm July 13, 1949, to October 30, 2020

## In memory of our friend and teacher Burkhard "Bogi" Bohm

These words are so true our heart is broken too. Bob and Alicia



My very good friend of the last 43 years has passed away. Burkhard Bohm, was a cultured, educated, intelligent, and meaningful person. An excellent father with accomplished and wonderful children, a husband to an amazing wife Debi Laport whose support cannot be appreciated by us enough. A couple others should emulate.

...Bogi, studied jujitsu as if his life depended on it. Learning all of DanZan Ryu jujitsu to it's philosophical and martial depths. His dojo The Feather River Kodokan established in 1998 was one of well-known repute with excellent students.



As a Professor of DanZan Ryu Jujitsu, his sound advice, alternate points of view were always invaluable. We could always trust what Bogi said and felt.

...His GeoHydrology business was helpful to the planet and the people. His hand-built home was just an example of the paradise he created for his family.



My deepest feelings of sympathy and support go to his wife Debi and their children.

...We could only hope to live a life as good as his.  
....my heart is broken.

Professor Steve McLaughlin



