

Sensei & Yomeikan Information

Sensei Robert Bonner established the Yomeikan Judo Club in Defiance, OH during the early 1990s.

Dr. Sachio Ashida named Sensei Bonner's club Yomeikan Judo. Yomeikan is translated as meaning

"The Hall of Enlightenment." Sensei Bonner has taught judo in Buffalo, New York, the YMCA and

Bowles Karate Academy in Defiance, Ohio, and the Bushido Martial Arts Dojo in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He transferred the club's association with the Niagara Yudanshakai to the Konan Yudanshakai in 2011

due to location and the passing of his Sensei Dr. Sachio Ashida. The Yomeikan Judo Club's current

locations are at 6125 Cross Creek Blvd. in Fort Wayne and 1623 Evan Drive, Defiance, Ohio.

Sensei Bonner began practicing Judo in Akron, OH in 1952. He joined the United States Air Force in 1955

and became a member of the All Armed Forces Judo Team. As a member of the team, he competed in Judo

events held in the United States, Europe, and Asia. He was promoted to 1st degree black belt in 1958.

After completing his service in the Air Force, Sensei Bonner practiced and taught Judo from 1959 – 1984

in Buffalo, NY at several YMCAs and at the University of Buffalo.

Sensei Bonner first met Dr. Sachio Ashida at the Senior National Judo Tournament in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dr. Ashida became his teacher, coach, and close friend. Sensei Bonner was promoted to his 2nd and 3rd

degree black belts in 1967 and 1971. He participated in the Olympic Judo Trials in 1968 in Sacramento,

California and in 1972 in Pennsylvania when Dr. Ashida was the US Judo Team's coach. Sensei Bonner was

promoted to 4th degree black belt in 1977 and certified by the United States Judo Federation as a National

Referee and Judo Instructor in the 1980s. He was promoted to 5th and 6th degree black belts in 1984 and 1996

and to 7th degree black belt in 2011. In 2005, he was also promoted to 2nd degree black belt in Heike Ryu

Jiu Jitsu.

Robert L. Bonner

Judo Training	1952 - 1954 YMCA Judo Club ▪ Instructor Captain Fouls, Shodan (Black Belt 1 st Degree)	Akron, OH
	1955 - 1959 U.S. Air Force – All Armed Forces Judo Team ▪ Instructor: An Sun Bok, Hachidan (Black Belt 8 th Degree)	Osan Air Base, Korea
	1960 - Present Judo Clubs ▪ Instructor: Dr. Sachio Ashida, Kudan (Black Belt 9th Degree)	Buffalo, NY & Defiance, OH
	1968 Olympic Trials - U.S. Air Force ▪ Instructor: Dr. Sachio Ashida, Kudan (Black Belt 9th Degree)	California
	1972 Olympic Trials - U.S. Air Force ▪ Instructor: Instructor: Dr. Sachio Ashida, Kudan (Black Belt 9th Degree)	Pennsylvania
	1955 – 1984 Senior National Championships	United States
Instructor Experience	1960 - 1978 Bison Kodokan Judo Club & Michigan Avenue YMCA	Buffalo, NY
	1979 - 1981 Town Boys Judo Club	Buffalo, NY
	1982 – 1984 University of Buffalo Judo Club	Buffalo, NY
	1994 – 2000 Yomeikan Judo Club – YMCA	Defiance, OH
	2000 - 2004 Bowles Karate and Judo Academy	Defiance, OH
	1994 - 2004 Yomeikan Judo Club	Defiance, OH
Judo Certification & Memberships	1958 – Shodan – Osan Air Force Base, Korea 1967 - Nidan – United States Judo Federation & United States Judo, Inc. 1973 - Sandan – United States Judo Federation & United States Judo, Inc. 1978 - Yondan – United States Judo Federation & United States Judo, Inc. 1984 - Godan – United States Judo Federation & United States Judo, Inc. 1996 - Rokyudan – United States Judo Federation & United States Judo, Inc. 2005 – Shodan – Heike-ryu Jujijutsu 2011 – Shichidan – United States Judo Federation	
Occupation	Machine Repair Trade Journeyman Retired	General Motors Powertrain Defiance

YOMEIKAN JUDO & JUJITSU

ROBERT L. BONNER

419-789-1494 & 260-755-3875

Shichidan (7th Degree Black Belt) United States Judo Federation 2011
Rokuyudan (6th Degree Black Belt) Niagara Judo Yudanshaki 1996
Instructor at Bowles Karate and Judo Academy, Defiance, Ohio 2002 – 2004
Instructor at Defiance YMCA 1995 – 2001
National Certified Kata Examiner (Naga no Kata and Katame No Kata)
National Certified Referee
National Certified Judo Teacher
National Certified Coach
Back ground check with United States Judo Incorporated 2004
Nidan (2nd Degree Black Belt) Heike-Ryu Jiu Jitsu

I started Judo in 1952 at the Akron, Ohio YMCA and entered the United States Air Force in 1955. I was promoted to Shodan (1st Degree Black Belt) in 1958 at the Osan Air Force base in Korea. My instructor was Hachidan An Sun Bok (8th Degree Black Belt). I was a member of the ALL ARMED FORCES JUDO TEAM for two years traveling to 15 different countries or more fighting until honorably discharged in 1959. I participated in the Senior National Championship for 20 years and in the 1968 and 1972 Olympic Trials in California and Pennsylvania. My instructor then and thereafter was Hachidan Dr. Sachio Ashida. I opened the Bison Kodokan Judo Club in Buffalo, New York in 1960. I also taught judo at the Michigan Avenue YMCA for four years, the Town Boys Club for two years, and the University of Buffalo for two years until I was transferred with my job at General Motors in Buffalo, New York due to a plant closing in 1984 to Defiance, Ohio. I retired from General Motors Corporation in 2000 with 46 years of seniority.

Club Certification Enclosed: USJF and USJI