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Onegai-shimasu Hanshi and Kyoshi[s],

I am humbled to receive another opportunity to be taught and reviewed; at the upcoming 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ueshiro Shorin-Ryu Karate USA. It is a great privilege to train and learn from you again, with inertia from the recent 2016 Black Belt special training in Palisades, New York; where I continued to learn along our path set by Grand Master Ansei Ueshiro, which is continually plowed forward with Zen-Shin by you, Hanshi Robert Scaglione and your Kyoshi[s].

It is remarkable how I continually find myself on this path of Karate-Do, for the past 40 years, since I was 10 years old. Even though I am not a religious man, I recognize that 40 years is a significant number in my religion; it shaped my people, educated them, hardened them, and cleansed them along the path from slavery at Egypt through Mount Sinai and the dessert; in preparation to re-enter the land of Israel, promised to our forefather Abraham by God.

My Karate-Do path has shaped me as well; it strengthens me, teaches me patience and perseverance, and nourishes me with joy and vigor. Karate-Do has been my everlasting home and fortress; protecting and shielding me. I train to help me overcome the daily stresses and challenges as well as the bombshells of life. I trained in Neve Yamin, Israel, the morning just before my second wedding (5 years ago), after being informed by my lousy boss that he was laying me off as a "wedding gift", and I could not tell my bride, in order to keep her soaring through the clouds of marital bliss. I later trained in a cramped prison cell in Cocoa, Florida, to help me cope with a crazy ex-wife leveraging a twisted unfair court system, wanting her continued alimony after the loss of my job, and loss of my home. I recently trained in my parent's backyard in Newbury Park, California, during Shiva (7 days of mourning) of my father's death; thanking the spirit of the powerful man who created me with his seed, and

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was the most significant shaping force in my life, introducing me to my Karate-Do path.

I train to celebrate and amplify the gift of life, which I receive daily from God. I trained along the hiking trail, next to young pine trees growing on the sides of steep mountains, surrounding my favorite place on Earth – Yosemite Valley, California. I trained in a hollowed-out, huge tree trunk, in the Sequoia forest in North California, where explorers once slept along their path; among towering giants continuing to grow in peaceful serenity on this Earth of ours for thousands of years. I trained at sunset on the deck of a cruise ship approaching the US Virgin Islands, soaking in the wonder of the Caribbean Sea and an emerging island, pretending to be a “Karate Pirate”☺. I trained on the biblical beach at the lowest spot on Earth, at the Dead Sea in Israel, and nearby on the ancient fortress mount Masada, soaked in the spirit of the stories of the Bible. I trained in a pine tree forest, next to Modi'in, Israel, adjacent to the burial grounds of the biblical Maccabee warriors, where they roamed and fought for freedom.

Last week, I led a Kanpai training celebration at one of my own built dojo[s] in Neve Yamin, Israel; continuing to pass along to my students the traditions and skills, which I continue to learn from you along the path of Karate-Do.

God willing, I will train and learn more in a couple of weeks, on the sands of Cocoa Beach, Florida, next to you, my big brothers, being led by our Hanshi – our Karate-Do Father. I will be celebrating the life I am living. I will be energized by the sun and the spirit of Karate-Do surrounding me, and not thinking – just floating with Mushin, along the path that lays ahead; preparing myself to support my loving wife on her path of pregnancy. Please keep it a secret for now – two new deshi hopefully coming our way ☺☺ along the path...

Domo Arigato Gozaimasu

Your humble Deshi  
David Tamir

Sensei-Denshi-Shihan  
Roku-Dan



Ueshiro Shorin-Ryu Karate USA  
Under the Direction of Hanshi Robert Scaglione