

Chad Goerzen



Chad Goerzen holds a yondan (fourth degree black belt) in Naginata. He began training under the late Miyako Tanaka in 2003, and has continued practicing naginata since then. He also has 18 years of experience in Tendo Ryu, is ranked 2-kyu in Kendo, and has 10 years experience in practicing Joachim Meyer's multi-weapon system. He currently teaches naginata in San Francisco. Chad can be reached at www.naginata.org/ncnf.

Classes

Naginata Japanese Pole Arm

The Naginata, a long-handled weapon used by samurai, dates back to the 9th Century. Focusing on balance and leverage rather than brute force, the sweeping movements of the Naginata develop physical balance and poise. Currently, Atarashii Naginata (All Japan Naginata Federation style Modern Naginata) is specifically designed for competitors using the same weapon. Practice includes striking techniques, attack-and-defense drills, and free sparring with armor.

Strategy for Unmatched Weapons

A workshop for adventurers, writers, choreographers and martial artists. When your enemies attack, they'll usually choose a time when they have an advantage, such as when you're out walking without your trusty halberd. Here you will learn strategies for unmatched weapons, learned from the writings of Renaissance European weapons masters. Your best strategy will depend on your reach, strength and speed.

Staff fighting from Renaissance Bavaria

In his 1570 treatise on fighting, Joachim Meyer has a chapter devoted to polarms. The "short staff," an 8-foot pole, is considered to be the basis of all long weapons. This workshop will teach some of the fundamental techniques for fighting with a stick, which can be used for fighting with other weapons such as a spear, halberd, partisan, glaive, or any other type of long-hafted weapon.