



JODO Shinto Muso Ryu

17th Spring gasshuku in Fribourg (CH)



For the 17th time, we gathered in Fribourg for the Spring training camp. People from Switzerland (some of whom seemed to have the gift of ubiquity!!), France, Hungary and the Czech Republic trained diligently, under the amused gaze of some and the sceptical glances of other.



But everyone gave it their all.

A grading examination took place in the late afternoon. All participants passed and congratulated one another warmly. Congratulations to Eric and Gatien on their 5th kyu, to Pascal on his 3rd kyu, to Valentin on his 1st dan and to Céline on her 3rd dan.



After all that effort, it was time for some comfort!
The Fribourg gasshuku is renowned for its efficient kitchen team. This year, as Chantal, Séverin's wife, decided to retire from the kitchen, a new member, JC, was brought in to assist Marie. At first, I wondered if the new recruit was a good choice.

But judging by the result, and the smiles on the faces of those eating the delicious, traditional fondue, I think we'll be rehiring him next year.



On Sunday morning, everyone was present for an intensive hour on sotai kihons, then the groups were split so that the more advanced students could practise the kusarigama and jutte under Michel's guidance.

The course ended with a Ran-Ai session for Joshi, who was celebrating his 60th birthday that very day. As usual, Joshi put all the intensity he is capable of into his techniques. It was a wonderful display.

I hope to welcome just as many of you next year.

Yves.

