



Dick Rienstra: Hanshi Rienstra began karate practice in the mid-1960s receiving his Shotokan Shodan in 1969 from Steve Clapper. He was a respected tournament participant in the late 1960s and early 1970s and became a friend of Sensei James Hawkes during this period. He was co-leader of the UNM Karate Club with Senseis Clapper and Gary Purdue through the 1980s, and later formed a karate club with Rich Willard and Joe Moya until the early 1990s when all three yudansha joined the Hawkes Shorin Kai dojo. He taught an early afternoon class and mentored various well-known yudansha at the Hawkes hombu dojo for several years. He received his yudansha ranks from Master Hawkes and was promoted to 9th degree black belt in 2016 by the USAMA and the Hawkes Shorin Kai. Hanshi Rienstra's focus has been on kihon, kata, and the traditional aspects of karate-do. Although in recent years he has been limited in physical activity, his heart is never far from karate-do. Hanshi retired from Mountain Bell's advertising/marketing department and is an accomplished artist. His vast knowledge spans several decades. He is well-known for his insistence that karate is "an art," his mentorship, and his good humor.