



The Judo Compass



Winter 2015

Into the Woods

A few years ago, a mentally and physically healthy man in his seventies stepped a few feet off the trail in the north woods. When he turned around he realized he was lost. Dreadfully and hopelessly. He was rescued about seventy-two hours later.

Which, of course, logically brings us to phone covers, bumper stickers, etc., with judo quips.

There are many that are really fun. Then, there are these, seen recently.

JUDO BADASS. DEAL WITH IT.

It's all fun and games till the judo starts.

If it's not judo, it's just a game.

The more people I meet, the more I like judo.

And, as a graphic shows tori tossing uke away into space, the message is, **BAD UKE!**

They bring a quick smile. Judoka are underrated, unappreciated, and can't be blamed for wanting to flex a muscle or two. But we must be careful what we dignify by our responses. These sort of slogans belong on the sweatshirts of other manner of martial artists.

No, no, judoka are not pansies. The knights of Kano's round table were more cactus than thinking violet. They came from true samurai stock, not movie samurai, but generations of the real thing. Yet, every Friday they met with Kano for sake or tea and discussed how they had implemented judo principles into their daily lives.

Feel like a judoka. Every day, reflect upon how you implemented a judo principle into your life as well as your judo practice.

Bring your compass with you everywhere. It is easy to take a few steps off the path.



Judo Compass is published by Tom Crone. If you wish to be removed from the list, simply respond with Remove Me in the subject. Previous issues can be found on www.cronejudo.com