Please join Briarwood Kendo Club at Birmingham’s head instructor and go-dan (5th rank) holder, Dr. Norio Yasui, as he gives a lecture on the history of kendo and its transformation into a modern martial art. He will also provide a rare demonstration of a kendo practice and match!

What is Kendo?
Kendo is the most popular martial art in Japan. There is an estimated 200 thousand people in Japan alone and 500 thousand worldwide who actively practice kendo today. Kendo has a rich history that dates back as early as the 10th century, when what is now considered the archetypical Japanese sword, Nihonto, was invented. The practice has now been passed down for centuries with a few contemporary alterations.

Who is Dr. Norio Yasui?
Dr. Norio Yasui began kendo when he was 6 years old and participated in several championships in Japan until graduating college. He then made a comeback to competitive kendo in the United States in 2018 by winning 3rd place at the Southeast US Kendo Federation (SEUSKF) tournament. He is also currently a prodigious scientist in the Department of Radiology, Cyclotron Facility at UAB.