



GMA News April 2012

Good luck to our black belt candidates:

Wishing our next crop of black belts the best of luck in the upcoming tests:

TKD: Drew Berggren, Jordan Mascoe, Tim West, Haley Sieg, Zac Speer, Jon Speer, Christain Marion, Trinity Britton, and Ethan Minton

HKD: Jordan Mascoe, Kaitrin Higbee, and Adam Luhman.

Upcoming events:

April 6 th	Parents committee meeting 5:30
April 6 th	Demo team practice 6:30
April 12 th	NO BBC. MANDATORY demo team practice 8:00-8:45?
April 13 th	NO CLASSES: see you at tournament or USHF seminar
April 13 th	TTCA black belt testing
April 14 th	TTCA Tournament—Jeffersonville IN
April 14 th	BJJ workshop with Mr. Sledd at IU.
April 14 th	USHF seminar- College of DuPage in Chicago
April 21 st	Lil dragons testing 9:00-11:00
April 21 st	USHF black belt testing 2:00-5:00
April 25 th	HKD testing
April 28 th	FAST EXTRAV 9:00-3:00
May 5 th	TKD black belt stripe testing 9:00-10:30
May 5 th	Annual school picnic and break a thon 11:30-3:30
May 11 th	Tentative TTCA testing date
May 12 th	TTCA Black belt ceremony, Louisville main school, 1:00 pm.

Tournament news and notes:

- Reminder that classes are cancelled on Friday April 13th, as all instructors will at tournament or HKD seminar.
- Remember to wear your Team Gentry (Hero in Training) and GMA Parent t-shirts to show your support. Wear your flair to school on Friday as well to support the team.
- Make sure all gear is clean and white. Please order any uniforms, patches, etc in advance—we sometimes sell out just before tournament.
- GMA group photo will be taken at 9:30 at venue of the tournament. This is the photo to be used for the local paper, website, etc. There will likely be a line into the room at that point, so don't be stuck in line while we are doing the photo. Please be in full uniform at that time.
- Be sure to get to the finals a bit early to get a good seat to cheer on our demo team and any people we have in the finals. Demo team, you will be expected to be back around 5:00 for walkthroughs.
- Review the tournament etiquette section of your manual.
- Good luck to all those testing for black belt!!!! Other students are encouraged to watch.
- We will be organizing social stuff—like going out to eat on the riverfront, so be sure to ask and stay in the loop.

Break-a-thon and annual school picnic

It is time for our annual school picnic and break-a-thon to benefit our scholarship program—which provides scholarships for students to become or stay involved in martial arts. Some of our own students benefit from this fund, so we need your continued support, plus it is great chance for our students to get a lot of breaking practice! Our SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAN OUT LAST MONTH! The break-a-thon will begin at 12:00 (arrive at 11:30) with a cookout and fun and games to follow. This year we will be having it at Pritchard Park (off Blue Bluff Rd). Parents committee would welcome help with logistics.



GMA Wishes a Happy Birthday to:

Mr. Noah Wilson	4-1	Isaac Merida	4-2	Ethan Minton	4-5
Silas McFarland	4-6	Urban Owen	4-8	Dalton Leitz	4-8
Sabrina Chouinard	4-10	Charlie Gillaspy	4-11	Kody Gist	4-17
Mr. Todd Miller	4-18	Haley Sieg	4-23	Megan Gens	4-23
Cathy Petraits	4-27				

Training Anniversaries

Dan Wiggins (BJJ 6 yrs)	Sabrina Chouinard (TKD 6 yrs)	Finnegan Vandewalle (LD,TKD 4 yrs)
Elijah Roberson (LD, TKD 4 yrs)	Eliza Vandewalle (LD,TKD 4 yrs)	Jonny Harmon (TKD 3 yrs)
Colten Lynn (BJJ 2 yrs)	Logan Brinegar (TKD 1 yr)	Adam Satter (LD 1 yr)

Quotes of the Week---We will be discussing sportsmanship—martial arts style—for the upcoming tournament and testing.

Summer day-camp dates are set

Some people have been asking about this year's date of our popular day-camps. More details will follow, but we wanted to announce the dates so people can start planning for our intensive training camps. Pre-registration discounts apply. We are stilling waiting on some things to set lil dragons camp and possibly another new, special camp. But here is what we have: HKD day-camp: July 16-20, July 11-15; TKD day-camp: July 9-13 and Aug 6-10;

IU Tournament Results

Congrats and thanks to team “DePauw” at the IU tournament: Rob Snyder (1st sparring, 3rd forms), John Michael Murphy (1st forms), Miki White (2nd forms), Jordan Mascoe (1st sparring, 2nd forms), David Yoshida (1st forms)

This Month in Martial Arts History (selected from “Dates with Destiny” in *Martial Arts Success* by John Corcoran.)

April 7 1954. Jackie Chan's Birthday * April 13 1913 (-Feb 2 2003) GM Won Kuk Lee (founder of Chung Do Kwan) birthday * April 15 1922 (-Oct 20 1982). Donn F Draeger (martial arts historian) birthday * April 26, 1963 Jet Li's Birthday * April 1922 Gichin Funakoshi demonstrates karate in Japan—setting the course for Karate and TKD worldwide * April 11, 1955 the name Tae Kwon Do is adopted by committee to describe the Korean karate styles * April 21 1993 Walker Texas Ranger starring Chuck Norris debuts

GMA—a first rate third place

You might have heard Starbucks describe themselves as a “third place.” It is the place you routinely go that isn't work, but you don't want to go home either. Starbuck's business model is about becoming an inviting “third place” to spend a lot of your free time. When I heard it, I liked the concept, but I thought to myself, why would I go there when I could go to the studio? Technically, GMA is my work so I guess it is my second place, and it sometimes it feels like I live there, but anyway... for a lot of people, GMA is their third place.

Certainly, we hope our students become friends while interacting in class. And we try to do lots of social events to help build the GMA family. And we certainly encourage our students to help each other out in their shared martial arts journeys. But I am proud that GMA has become a safe place for people to hang out before/after classes on a nightly basis, not just at school gatherings, and not just martial arts related.

I have seen GMA be a place for kids to do homework together, or even get tutoring help. I have seen GMA be a place of support after a rough day at school. I have seen GMA be a place for parents to talk and be supportive of one another and help each other out with schedules. Recently, some parents have even taken to helping other parents who have had surgery with family meals, much like a church would.

I will admit that sometimes the fact that kids want to hang out here so much is problematic. The place gets congested and too loud to the point of disrupting classes and bothering others. And we are not a daycare for little ones. Sometimes so much social interaction results in social drama. But, I will gladly take these inconveniences in order to have a school that is “united in mutual friendship” I would much rather have those headaches versus a dead school, where no one interacts, let alone supports one another. Sometimes I hear parents complain—often tongue in cheek—about the amount of time spent at GMA. Maybe I am biased, but I think there are lot worse places for kids to be hanging out. I am glad we have the atmosphere in the building that people makes people want to spend time there. Starbucks is has been successful in creating their own third place, but most times, I will get my coffee to go and bring it to my 1st-3rd place. -BLS