



Gentry News Jan 2013

****2013—Year of the Snake****

Upcoming events:

Jan 5 th	Black belt prep class 9:00-11:00
Jan 12 th	Leadership Team 9:00-10:30
Jan 12 th	Demo team 10:30-12:00
Jan 18 th	Parents committee meeting 5:30
Jan 19 th	Tai Chi trip to IU 9:00-12:00
Jan 20 th	BJJ Autism Awareness charity seminar 1:00-5:00
Jan 25 th	TTCA testing 5:30
Jan 26 th	Lil Dragons testing beg 9:00-10:30, int/adv 10:30-12:00
Jan 26 th	Demo team 1:00-2:30
Jan 26 th	Black belt prep 2:30-4:00
Feb 2 nd	Stickfighting 9:00-12:00
Feb 9 th	Capoeira seminar 1:00-4:00
Feb 16 th	FAST Adult Basics 9:00-12:30
Feb 16 th	GMA Red Carpet Night—Movie Premier 6:30

Other dates:

March 2 nd	Andre Galvao BJJ seminar
March 8 th	TTCA testing
March 9 th	Demo Team 9:00-11:00
March 15 th	TTCA black belt testing at tournament
March 16 th	TTCA tournament-Central City, KY
March 23 rd	Dr. Yang Jwing Ming seminar—Indy.
April 6 th	Proposed date for USHF seminar at DPU
April 20	Proposed date for FAST Extravaganza
April 27 th	Proposed date for HKD black belt testing

BJJ Charity Seminar

Thanks for Mr. Sledd's vision, GMA will once again be hosting a ground breaking event. Never before have the majority of Brazilian Jiu-jitsu black belts in the state of Indiana gathered in one place. Each one of them will be teaching a segment in a collaborative effort that will raise money for Autism Awareness. The school will be filled with practitioners from across the state, and other BJJ legends and gi companies have donated door prizes. Everyone is welcome to stop by and see the spectacle or to donate.

And the winners are....congrats to our award recipients!

We want to once again thank everyone for a great time at the annual Christmas party and awards banquet. This year we recognized the following students with our annual awards:

- Most Improved Student—Luke Wilson
- Competitor of the Year (TKD)— Miss Bekah Wiley
- Competitor of the Year (BJJ)— Mr. Jake Waltz
- Black belt of the Year—Mr. Austin Brummett
- Student of the Year— Lise Roberson

GMA Wishes a Happy Birthday to:

Grant Chapman	1-8	Annabelle Cleary	1-8	Ryan Jerome	1-11
Anthony Tejera	1-13	Anderson Chapell	1-16	Noah Lambert Adams	1-23
Branden Mason	1-28	Abby Schilling	1-30	Jacob Waltz	1-31



Training Anniversaries

Jia Jones (TKD 7 yrs)

Ryan Spires (TKD 3 yrs)

Torrey Hanson (HKD 1 yr)

Austin Brummett (BJJ 3 yrs)

Kylie Yoshida (LD, TKD 4 yrs)

Sammy Petraits (TKD 3 yrs)

Tyler Lessman (LD 1 yr)

Announcing our Movie Premier

We will be making a “red carpet” event for our movie camp participants, and the whole school is invited to the premier! Show up a bit early if you want to catch a glimpse of stars arriving. Watch the movie and enjoy popcorn. We will also be showing clips from Mr. Yoshida’s movies and another full length feature –although it won’t be as entertaining as our sequel. Families and friends are welcome.

Quotes of the Week

Since Jan is the time for new years resolution, we take the chance to discuss goal setting. We will be getting everyone to share their goals through a homework assignment.

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

Jan 7th 1932-- Birthday for Jhoon Rhee—father of American TKD and Chung Do Kwan member

Jan 17th 1939—Birthday for Dr. He-Young Kimm—HKD master and Korean martial arts historian

Jan 17th 1970—Chuck Norris’s last fight before retiring.

2012 in Review—Another Year of Improving on What We Call Average

At recent leadership team meetings, I have covered the common success maxim that you are the average of the 5 people whom you spend the most time with. In other words, spend the majority of time with losers, and they will eventually pull you down, but if you surround yourself with successful people or people with traits you admire, you will become more like them. You will start to think the way they do. Their habits will rub off on you as well as some of their knowledge. This is certainly true for martial arts professionals as well...but creates a bit of a problem for school owners. As I pointed out at our leadership team, I spend most of my time hanging around teenage students. Now, these are great kids who are further along in their martial arts careers than I was at their age, and in some cases further than other instructors. But it still doesn’t help my average. That is why it is important that I and our top instructors supplement our growth with outside learning—from books on leadership, professional networks for business materials, to martial arts instruction. This year, we did well.

At the front of the school is our “mats of fame” row. It is a whose who of famous and top level martial artists whom we have had the honor of hosting in our building. Our students have had the opportunity of meeting and learning from them. World champions, Olympic gold medalists, Grandmasters, and leaders in their field. This year, our list grew significantly. We had Master Holcombe Thomas, one of the highest ranking Hapkido practitioners in the west, visit from VA. I count Master Thomas (he has the rank but is too humble to use the term grandmaster) a friend, and he was very giving and instrumental in planning our Korea trip. We had the Mendes Brothers—6 time world champs and innovators in the sport of BJJ—do a rare seminar at GMA. We had visitors from Alabama to the Dakotas attend the seminar. This is addition our semi-annual seminars with one of the most decorated BJJ competitors ever—Andre Galvao. Lastly, we were honored to have GM Choi’s instructor—a master to grandmasters all around the world— world famous in TKD circles-- GM Hae Man Park from Korea come to our school. When he tours the US and visits GM Choi every 3-4 years, it is usually a black belt only affair. It was a dream come true to have all of our students learn from him at our own school. Additionally we had guest instructors in sparring and introduced our students to the German Long Sword in an extremely rare class.

We brought plenty of opportunity to our school here in Martinsville, but perhaps the most memorable part of 2012 is having 11 of us travel to the opportunity of training in Korea. We had the pleasure of seeing the Kukkiwon Demo team



in person, in training at Sangrock gym, and with Master Thomas's teacher GM Kim Nam Jae (another master to grandmasters), watching the top players in Korea train at Yong In University, and train alongside other top players at Korea National Sport University. The coach of KNSU is 4 time world champ and Olympic gold medalist, Kuk Hyun Chung—whose picture hangs in the Kukkiwon museum. Our goal was to bring back as much of the experience as we could. So I don't discuss the trip to gloat or rub it in. I consider it is a school accomplishment that will help all of us grow in the long run.

There are lots of "orphan" martial arts instructors who don't continue in their own education, who do their own thing, the same way, for decades. There is a difference between having 20 years experience in the martial arts and having 5 years experience four times over. Granted, there is something to be said for some of the traditional ways, but that doesn't mean one should stagnate. I am happy to say that I train with each of my primary teachers in each of my major disciplines each year. I am happier to say that many of our students have the same opportunities and more. But hopefully though our example, they are learning the even more important value of being proactive in their education and seeking out people who are the best in any given field.

Granted, this isn't the first year that we have had people sign the mats. While we feel both honored and blessed to have had such great opportunities, we have always felt that is was also our job to create them. In some ways, it was another year of doing what we do. So in that regard, it was just another, average year. But our job is to constantly improve what we consider average. ---BLS

PS from BS

Though beyond the theme of the article—we had plenty of additional milestones in 2012. To reiterate, our students had a *rare* opportunity to take an excellent class on the German Long Sword. Our movie camp got nationally published in *Martial Arts Success* magazine...our students where magazine models! We promoted 14 new black belts (including our 100th TKD black belt), 4 second degree black belts, and doubled the number of purple belts in BJJ. We took home 17 medals in BJJ and 86 in TKD, including having $\frac{3}{4}$ of the grand champion division at the most recent tournament. That isn't a bad average either!