



GMA Newsletter

March 2015

Congrats to our new black belt ranks:

Miss Chelsea Schumacher (1st dan), Mr. Dominick Spires (2nd dan) Mr. Christian Marion (2nd), Mr. Ryan Spires (2nd dan) and Mr. Rob Snyder (3rd dan).

Upcoming events:

- March 7th IU TKD tournament (DPU and 18 yo) 12:00-5:00
- March 7th Movie Premier night
- March 8th Tai chi push hands practice session- B-ton
- March 13th TTCA testing 5:30
- March 14th Stickfighting 1:00-3:30
- March 14th TKD terminology and language seminar, 3:30-4:30 Korean Dinner outing (see below)
- March 18th Lil Dragons testing 5:00-6:45 (no regular classes)
- March 21-22 Dr. Yang Jwing Ming seminar—Indy.
- March 28th TTCA black belt ceremony
- April 17th BB stripe testing 5:00-7:00
- April 18th USHF seminar make up date
- April 25th Stress shooting 9:00-1:00
- April 25th Stickfighting 1:30-4:00

Red Carpet Movie Premier Night

Forget all the celebrity sightings during the super bowl. The real A-list is when we have the GMA movie stars come out on March 7th at 7:00 (camp participants be there no later than 6:30). 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 blockbuster release. Families and friends are welcome. Students are encouraged to bring buddies. Please arrive early to help with the Hollywood atmosphere. Parents committee will be decorating in the afternoon prior and would welcome help.

Korean Terminology/Language Study Session and Dinner

We will be holding a Korean terminology and language seminar to help people be better prepared for their next belt test and beyond....to better understand the bigger connections. Following that, we plan on extending our cultural experience with a group meal at Mama’s Korean restaurant in Bloomington (arriving approximately 5:15-5:30). We have arranged for a family style sampling of dishes for 20.00 per person. * We need a number to RSVP the restaurant, so you must sign up!

Birthdays:

Caedmon Patterson	3-3	Kenyan Tackett	3-3	Logan Whaley	3-10
Aleah Spires	3-14	Amanda Spires	3-27	Luke Gamble	3-28
Lise Roberson	3-29				

Training Anniversaries

Mike Dodge (BJJ 9 yrs)	Dan Wiggins (BJJ 9 yrs)	Noah Lambert-Adams (HKD 4 yrs)
Jeremy Johnson (BJJ 2yrs)	Liam Gadberry (LD 1 yr)	Jackson Gadberry (TKD 1 yr)
Anzhella Hubbard (TKD 1yr)	Aviah Todd (LD 1yr)	Jazlin Zweck (LD 1 yr)

Quotes of the Week

It has been a while since we discussed the focus points, and will be going over those.



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

- March 1, 1907 (-Feb 2 2003) GM Won Kuk Lee (founder of Chung Do Kwan) birthday
- March 10, 1940 Birthday for Chuck Norris
- March 11, 1967 Birthday for Renzo Gracie
- March 19, 1931 Birthday for Ed Parker, Sr. (famous for Bruce Lee demo and taught Elvis Presley)
- March 24, 1950 Birthday for Peyton Quinn—Reality based training pioneer, influence on FAST program
- March 10, 1921 Chojun Miyagi and Gichin Funakoshi (important to our line) hold the famous demonstration for the future Emperor of Japan—putting Okinawan Karate “on the map”
- March 20, 1971 South Korean President Chung-Hi Park declared TKD as Korea’s national sport
- March 30, 1990 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles debuts in theaters—creating a craze.
- March 31st 1999 The Matrix debuts in theaters—changing the way movie fights are done, and changing perceptions of what we do!

Tournament Results

TKD: Altogether our team of 39 competitors brought home 47 trophies—24 forms and 23 sparring. Some divisions were quite full, some were light, but we are proud of everyone’s performance. Also thanks and congrats to our demo team. Congrats to those who placed (we apologize for any mistakes or omissions, please let us know if there are any so we can correct our records).

Gauge Clephane	3 rd forms	4 th sparring	Monica Thompson	3 rd forms	
Katheryn Clephane	2 nd forms	1 st sparring	Karen Kachelmeyer	2 nd forms	
Katy Pickering		2 nd sparring	Luke Kachelmeyer	1 st forms	1 st sparring
Kyler Chylaszek	2 nd forms	1 st sparring	Ben Rahman	2 nd forms	
Adam Johnson	1 st forms		Debbie Rahman	2 nd forms	1 st sparring
Reese Satter		4 th sparring	David Yoshida		3 rd sparring
Katherine Satter	2 nd forms	2 nd sparring	Luke Gamble	3 rd forms	2 nd sparring
Christian Marion	2 nd forms	1 st sparring	Karissa Cozee		3 rd sparring
Keegan Spires		1 st sparring	Sabrina Chouinard	4 th forms	2 nd sparring
Aleah Spires	2 nd forms	4 th sparring	Donovan Sieg	1 st forms	1 st sparring
Dominick Spires		2 nd sparring	Noah Wilson	1 st forms	2 nd sparring
Ryan Spires	4 th forms	2 nd sparring	Nate Wilson	1 st forms	3 rd sparring
Kylie Yoshida	3 rd forms		Morgan Williams	1 st forms	1 st sparring
Caleb Waltz	4 th forms		Chelsea Schumacher	2 nd forms	1 st sparring
Eric Kachelmeyer	3 rd forms		Anthony Depassuale		3 rd sparring
Jackson Gadberry	4 th forms				

I Wish You Were A Big Deal Like Me

(I hope everyone will indulge me in a little tongue in cheek arrogance as I make my point in the following article. Not that I have often been accused of lacking in confidence, but this is different).

As usual it is a busy spring for us at GMA. Personally, I will be presenting at the USHF seminar, then going to the TTCA tournament where I will preside of a table as one of the masters, and then later assist Dr. Yang as one of his chin-na instructors. So if you couldn’t already tell, to borrow the Ron Burgandy line, “I don’t mean to brag, but I am kind of a big deal around here.” I mean, at tournament, I have the sport coat to prove it! Once at a TTCA tournament I was standing by Mr. Miller’s wife, Amanda, when out of the corner of my eye I caught a little girl with a tournament program spying on me. I told Amanda, “this girl is trying to figure out who I am so that she can ask for my autograph.” It wasn’t the first time something like that had happened. Amanda chortled but then realized I was serious. Her face changed when she realized I was also right, and I signed the program. I am not so sure she suddenly felt more in the presence of greatness.



Similarly, when I visit Donovan for lunch as school, I am sort of mobbed. Lots of kids want to sit with the Karate guy. Donovan, however, doesn't see what the fuss is all about.

I signed my first autograph as a teenager. Actually, the first time I was asked I didn't sign it. I told the little kid that he didn't really want my autograph, that he was being silly. I thought I was being humble. At some point I realized I was just being rude. I have since decided to sign every request...the person can wise up and throw away my signature later. And a tiny fraction of people might actually hold onto it, perhaps more out of nostalgia than actually valuing it.

But truth be told, I don't want you to put me on a pedestal (even a small one) for sitting at the big kid table at tournament. I want you to sit beside me at the table. Everyone at that table was just too stubborn to quit, and we hope you are that stubborn as well. Actually, I hope you are not one of us, I hope you transcend us.

Master Holcombe Thomas recently reminded us that the next Ji Han Jae (founder of Hapkido), the next Andre Galvao, or the next Bruce Lee is in a beginning class somewhere. It might be our school. I heard an adage for teachers once that asked, "If you knew you had a future President of the United States in your classroom, would you do things differently?" And of course, the answer is that we should be treating every student as if they had that potential. Similarly, here at GMA we need to be doing our best to make sure everyone gets the best martial arts education we can provide. A good instructor is not threatened when his students exceed him in some way; in fact, that is his job. We lose the art if each generation is less skilled than the previous one.

Some instructors won't spar or work with their students for fear of losing, and losing face as well. Worse still, the student is "punished" for any success they might achieve. Even small wins should be celebrated, because our job is to get our students to surpass us. *

And perhaps, if we are lucky, one of them will be truly transcendental, reach new heights, and be one whose autograph really does mean something. I don't want to be looking down from a pedestal on my students. I hope someday to be straining my neck to look up at them. At the very least, I hope they are as big of a deal around here like I am. ☺ ---BLS

*While students may surpass a teacher in skill, unfortunately it is sometimes accompanied with loss of respect or gratitude. While I hope some of our students transcend us, I also hope one of the things they learned here was to not forget where they came from and stay true to their roots.