



# GMA News June 17

***Congrats to our newest Black belt—Nico Inman***

***Congrats to our newest lil dragon graduate: Alexis Irwin***

## ***Break-a-thon Results***

Thank you to everyone who worked very hard to make our break a thon and annual picnic a success. Our final tally was approximately \$1800. A special thanks to our sponsor lumber companies who donated the wood: 84 lumber and Bender Lumber. Please relay your appreciation to them.

## ***SUMMER ATTENDANCE REWARD and Referral Program***

As usual we have our summer attendance reward program starting in June. Look for details on how you can be a part of a celebration at the end of the summer for strong attendance during the hot summer months.

## ***Upcoming Events***

June 3rd	Bedford TKD tournament and HOOSIER OPEN BJJ tournament
June 6-7	Kids BJJ camp
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	TKD testing 5:30 and black belt ceremony
June 10	Demo Team 9:00-11:00
June 10	BB Stripe makeup/retest 11:00-12:30
June 10	Stickfighting 1:00-3:30
June 12-16	TKD Day camp
June 23-25	GM William CC Chen Tai chi seminar- Bloomington
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Kid and Adult FAST classes in Columbus
June 27-29	Hapkido Day camp
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Demo team practice 9:00-10:30
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Tentative BB prep 10:30-12:00
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Demo team practice and performance for Artiefest—TBA
July 19-20	NEW Cinematic Sword Fighting Camp

## ***Adding a new SPECIALTY camp—Cinematic Weapons***

To build on our already successful movie camps, we will be adding another stunt/choreography camp...this one with a weapon focus. Cinematic Sword Fighting: We will cover a few different styles of sword fighting for film/tv, from classic Hollywood Swashbuckling to more modern Viking sword and shield. Guest instructor Patrick Kelly (who works on *Vikings*), will discuss the techniques, training methods and safety protocols of the cinematic sword fight while learning fight choreography and developing custom fights. We will NOT be filming a feature movie. Due to the weight of the weapons, camp is limited to age 13 and up. Camp will be July 19-20th

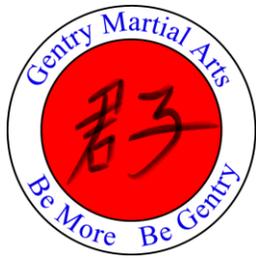
## ***Fathers' day invitation***

After inviting the mothers to join the kids in class for mother's day, we would be in trouble if we didn't offer the same to our fathers. Dads, Grand-dads, etc. are welcome to join their kids in class the week following Father's Day—June 19-24.

## ***Training Anniversary***

Congrats to those students who are celebrating a year or multiple years of training with us:

Noah Wilson (TKD 14 yrs, BJJ 8 yrs)	Andy Farmer (TKD 4 yrs)
Jase Irwin (TKD 1 yr)	Megan Brook (TCC 1 yr)



### ***Happy Birthday to these students***

Sam Hixson	6-1	Alex Skirvin	6-3	Kevin Biddle	6-8
John Mascoe	6-8	Blaise Shaw	6-9	Corey Trudeau	6-9
Adam Satter	6-14	Kamden Clayton	6-15	Alysha Lewis	6-15
Fisher Dunscombe	6-16	Morgan Williams	6-19	Dominick Spires	6-19
John Hirt	6-21	Martina Ruba	6-26	Eithan Ziegelbauer	6-26
Katherine Satter	6-27				

***Quotes of the week***—We will be discussing some of GM Choi’s more memorable teaching phrases.

### ***Please keep us posted***

*A reminder as summer approaches: if you have vacation plans, we would appreciate being kept informed, so we don’t worry if we miss you in classes. Thanks.*

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

- June 15, 1917 Birthday of American jiu-jitsu pioneer Wally Jay
  - June 1961 Black belt magazine is founded
  - June 1978 “Good Guys Wear Black” first features Chuck Norris as the star
  - June 22, 1984 Karate Kid debuts—forever changing the perception and demographics of martial arts in America  
Karate II and III are released in June 1986 and 1989 respectively. As well as the remake in 2010.
- Other June movie releases include *Mulan* (1998) and *Kung Fu Panda* (2008).



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### ***Cops Have a Hard Enough Time Without Having to Do Our Job Too***

*This is not a criticism of law enforcement, many of which I call friends, teachers, and honored to call students; it is more a commentary on other people’s perception and expectations.*

Recently, while promoting one of our Kids FAST classes, another person with no knowledge of the content of our course dismissed it because, according to them, they were thinking of more escape and evasion, preferably taught by law enforcement. Aside from the fact that we actually do teach kids in the class to break tunnel vision and look for the opportunity to run to safety, I found the objection rather peculiar. Primarily because cops really shouldn’t be doing much running away; in most cases they are mandated to do just the opposite and go towards the danger. I am not sure what police academy would send their cadets through SERE training. Given that, I personally have no interest in learning from a cop who is good at running and hiding. In contrast, a military recon team member might have *some* interesting things to teach (but they wanted LEO instead). And I say some, because even then it makes you wonder how much is relevant to a child (which camouflage or native foliage to work into your ghillie suit probably isn’t.) Secondarily, certain LEO’s may be great with children, but how many of them have experience formally teaching and developing child appropriate curriculums?



I must admit, I am probably hyper sensitive to this issue because of the bias I have often encountered in regard to professionalism in my field. For example, let's say I call up an elementary school in another town and offer to teach abduction prevention and personal protection strategies at an assembly. Odds are, it would be met with much skepticism and questions. What are you going to teach them? We don't need them karate chopping everything in the hallways afterwards. We don't want to encourage violence. Maybe even that we don't let businesses advertise in school. In contrast, if a LEO would call and make the same offer, it would more likely be met with more enthusiasm and gratitude for taking the time for such an important community service. And yet, in all likelihood I have done more research and had the experience of teaching many more children these types of strategies.

Let me be clear, this is not to bash on police officers anywhere. I am honored to occasionally work with some of Morgan County's finest, and I appreciate the difficult and often thankless job that they do. And sadly, even routine parts of their jobs are becoming increasingly more dangerous. But the requirements of that job means that most simply don't have the chance to become focused and expert in areas where I have spent the bulk of my time. Now of course, there are a few who have specialized and taken it upon themselves to hone the craft. Some of the people I consider true mentors are law enforcement who have taken positions in jails or prisons, which gives them more experience with "fighting" in a few months than most officers get in a career.

But most officers spend their day writing tickets, paperwork, investigating, doing many things other than training combatives. I just read that the average law enforcement trains 14 hours a year in firearms. I certainly hope I get more practice than that in this year! One of my gun fighting instructors—one of those specialized, dedicated men I mentioned above-- would say that he would prefer to be in a gunfight with the regulars of these classes than with the overwhelming majority of officers. I have taught seminars for law enforcement and soldiers where they struggled with concepts and techniques that I would be mad if our upper rank colored belts in Hapkido couldn't do.

Again, this isn't a criticism per se. While the possibility of danger is ever present in their jobs, the majority of their work simply isn't focused on what a major portion of mine is. And I think more of the public should be more understanding of that as well. Perhaps some people would be more realistic in the standards they hold police to in use of force incidents. \*That does not mean we should be condone negligent behavior, only not hold LEO's to superhuman expectations in those situations.

As martial artists, we also have to be careful of falling into many of the same traps. I am personally amazed at how many people want to learn the newest "top secret" navy SEAL knife fighting techniques. I question when they, as civilians, will ever have the need to take out a sentry without them making a sound. (Side note— it is interesting that many of these same people that insist on learning police or military style combatives fail to realize that they are scoffing at the very same martial arts styles that those combatives are rooted in.) I have taken some very interesting classes in military style tactics, but great instructors realize their audience and are able to explain how it relates to us as normal people in everyday life. And even more importantly, they realize the limitations of their audience and what they can or cannot do or even realistically achieve.

In the medical field there are general practitioners, specialists, surgeons, etc. It is the same in the realm of personal protection/combatives/self-defense. I would never attempt to teach anybody about how to do traffic stops, but then again, none of my students need to know how to do that either. When it comes to our field, maybe it is time that civilians at least start out with people who specialize in civilian self-defense. The LEO's job is hard enough without have to be an expert in that as well.