

The T.K.D. Flash

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On November 23, **Axe Taekwon-Do** held its last testing for 2013, and the story itself, complete with names of those pictured, is on page two.

THE YEAR'S CLOSE

The Flash begins its 26th year of publication with thanks to its contributors, and especially its Stringers. They are listed in the Contributing Staff box on page two. Sign up to be a Stringer from your club, your area; it's easy and fun, and can only help Taekwon-Do grow. Contact the Editor.

Want your students to receive the Flash? Just send us their e-mail addresses. Upon request of the Instructor we will delete them from our mailing files. Use the Flash as a marketing "add-on." And enhance the national recognition of your school and events in the eyes of students.

COMING EVENTS

There will be a USTF Referee Course at **Sereff Taekwon-Do** on February 22. Note new date.

On Saturday, January 25, 2014 a 1st – 3rd Dan Black Belt test will be conducted at **Marquette TaeKwon-Do**. Dr. Steve Osborn, the Region 5 USTF Director, will preside.

On that same busy day nationwide for Taekwon-Do, Sr. Master **Stan Martin** will conduct a combined color belt and Black Belt testing at Casper, Wyoming. Included schools

will be Casper, Sheridan, Rock Springs, and Laramie.

A tentative USTF Instructor "C" course will be February 8 and 9 in **Broomfield, Colorado**.

A Black Belt & color belt promotion testing will be conducted at **Bellevue, Nebraska**, Offutt Air Force Base, on February 15 under the able hand of Master **Ricky Todd**.

At the Axe TKD November testing held at **Bellevue, Nebraska**, 37 students tested for various ranks from 9th gup, White Belt Yellow Stripe through 5th Degree Black Belt. The testing candidates ranged in age from 5 years old to over 45 years old. The testing board was composed of Master **Ricky Todd VII** Dan, USTF Region 3 Director and Mr. **Kevin Bushor**, 6th Dan, USTF Nebraska State Director. Before the testing there was a special presentation by Master Todd and Mr. Bushor showing a special recognition plaque for their first instructor, Sr. Master **Gary Meek** who passed away earlier this year. The plaque will be displayed at the Offutt Youth Center. We also celebrated two special achievements outside of Taekwon-Do with Ms. **April Bowing** receiving her Bachelors of Science in Biology and Mr. **Dawsen Ragone** for recently attaining the highest award in the Boy Scouts of Eagle Scout.

After a great display of skill and technique Ms. **April Bowing** was promoted to 5th Degree Black Belt, Ms. **Ashleigh Ragone** was promoted to 2nd Degree Black Belt and Mr. **Donald Duralia** was promoted to 1st Degree Black Belt. These new black belt promotions brings our Axe TKD group up to 22 active black belts in class. Pictured below: Mr. Bushor, Ms. Bowing, Mr. Duralia, Ms. Ragone, and Master Todd.

Other promotions were: To Red Belt Black Stripe - **Angelique Jocson, Samantha Jocson, Gabrielle Jocson, Daniel Cook** and **Robert Cordoza**; Red Belt - **William Duralia, Pablo Chavez, Sean Ede, Charmaine Jocson** and **Staci Chamberlin**; Blue Belt Red Stripe - **Lauren Seaman** and **Joseph Seaman**; Blue Belt - **Sheila Duralia**; Green Belt Blue Stripe - **Zachary Seaman, Cody Gaines, Jady Turnipseed, Jessica Hollinger** and **Emily Hollinger**; Green Belt - **Remi Cimatoribus**; Yellow Belt Green Stripe - **Zarha Brown** and **Caleb Allen**; Yellow Belt - **Evaine Mansfield**; White Belt Yellow Stripe - **Amaya Henderson, Sophia Carter, Brady Bach, Kaden Bach, Braylon Allen, Kacee Buckli, Austin Buckli, Carson Buckli, Gabe Buckli, Lizzie Chamberlin, Layla McIntyre, and Amy Turnipseed**. The entire testing group is pictured on page one.



Contributing Staff: Distinguished Stringer Roselyn Romberg, Stringer Sr. Master Gary Meek (dec'd.), Stringer Mrs. Corinne Sroykum, Distinguished Stringer Master Ricky J. Todd, Stringer Grand Master Renee Sereff.



Fifth Dan April Bowing leaves no doubt.

On February 22 it is rumored there will be A USTF Referee Course at Sereff Taekwon-Do.

Sereff TKD will have a Black Belt Test and Masters Test on March 15.

On March 8 a **USTF Referee Course** will be conducted at Offutt Air Force Base. Promoter, the indefatigable Master Ricky Todd.

Master Todd will instruct a Breaking Seminar at Sereff Taekwon-Do on April 12.

Set aside May 3 for the **Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament**. Always well run. Always planning well in advance, Master Todd has scheduled a Black Belt/Color Belt combined testing June 7.

And now a word about Sr. Master **Gary Wayne Meek**. This plaque in his honor was presented by his students Master Ricky Todd and Mr. Kevin Bushor to honor their first instructor at the recent Axe TKD test. Sr. Master Meek passed away on July 7 of 2013 as previously noted in the Flash. He was young (65), but had an amazingly full life. He began his training in TKD in 1970, served USTF in many capacities, including Armed Forces Director, taught throughout the world and was recognized by Gen. Choi, Hong Hi, as one of the world's great instructors. Sr. Master Meek was the first appointed Stringer of the TKD Flash. He is sorely missed, but all who knew him were honored to know him.



And block out those calendars for **Sereff World Camp**, YMCA of the Rockies Winter Park, June 22 through 27.

On August 23 another Black Belt and Gup promotion testing at Bellevue, Nebraska. Master Todd is the Promoter.

On September 13 Sereff Taekwon-Do will host a USTF Black Belt test.

October 19 is the tentative date for 2014's Sereff Fall Championship.

November 22—Last Offutt AFB test for 2014.

The Flash will award both a Pictorial Submission of the Year and a Best Article by a Non-Stringer for 2014 in December.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Concord TKD hosted the **New England Regional Black Belt Test** on November 24th. Senior Master **Louis Reyes** conducted the test, assisted by Mr. **John Murphy**, VI Dan, Mr. **Robert Giorgio**, IV Dan, Mr. **Thomas Gibbons**, IV Dan, and Mr. **Karl Huffman**, V Dan.

Mr. **Ramón Colón** tested for V Dan. His dramatic breaking display (continued on page 7)

STRINGER OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED: It is with great pride that the Editorial Board of the TKD Flash has awarded Master **Ricky Todd** as its **Stringer of the Year** for 2013. Hereinafter he shall be known as Distinguished Flash Stringer, D.F.S., and joins 2012 D.F.S. Roselyn Romberg in that designation. It is somehow fitting that this be announced in an issue replete with his stories and pictures.

Master Todd is a USTF internationally certified master instructor and is the Senior Instructor at Axe Taekwon-Do.

Master Todd began his training under Sr. Master Gary W. Meek at Meek's Taekwon-Do Center, McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita.

Master Todd was the chief instructor at that school after Master Meek's departure from 1985-1986. Due to U.S. Air Force military service Master Todd moved to Whiteman Air Force Base, Knob Noster, Missouri. He founded Todd's Taekwon-Do Center on the base and was there from 1986-1990. In 1990, Master Todd moved to Incirlik Air Station, Adana, Turkey. He founded Todd's Taekwon-Do Center on the base and was there from 1990-1992. Keeping with the peripatetic ways of our Armed Forces personnel, Master Todd moved to Onizuka Air Station, Sunnyvale, California and founded USTF California Taekwon-Do in Mountain View, California. He was in California 1993-1996. In December 1996, Master Todd moved to Offutt Air Force Base, Bellevue, Nebraska and was the assistant



instructor at Meek's International Taekwon-Do at the Offutt Youth Center until April 1998. He founded and opened a commercial school named Bellevue Taekwon-Do in April 1998, open until 2001.

Master Todd moved again to Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri in 2000 and started Whiteman Taekwon-Do and Windsor Taekwon-Do, teaching there until 2002.

In 2002 he retired from the Air Force and assumed the head instructor position at the Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska in 2004. He was the USTF State Director for Kansas and Nebraska and the Armed Forces Director. He is currently the USTF Region III Director responsible for Taekwon-Do operations in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana. Master Todd is a retired Air Force paralegal and currently working as a law office manager for an Omaha law firm. He is married and has two children. He has also been active in the local Omaha Hockey League as a captain in the novice hockey league for the last 10 years. His wife, Martha is a professor at Creighton University currently finishing her Ph.D. in Nursing. Son Levi is a grad student at The Ohio State University pursuing his Ph.D. in Neuroscience. Daughter Rebekah is finishing her undergrad studies in Art History at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

Master Todd's articles have been frequent (reflecting the character of his club), well-written, detailed and interesting. His photo submissions have been of the highest quality. The Flash has been honored by his participation and his ongoing support. (Some photos on the next page.)

Distinguished Flash Stringer Ricky Todd enjoying a couple of his interests. (We had the pictures, how could we resist?)



The Battle of the Concord TKD Splits Club continues: above, **Lauren Kim** takes it to a new level, and, to the right, Mr. **Ramon Colon**, undaunted by mere youth, shows he got “just this close.” Anybody else out there in the U.S.? (Submitted by Roselyn Romberg, D.F.S.)



On Saturday, November 23rd, **Concord School of TKD** conducted an Adult and Senior Rank Gup Test. **Daniel Krinsky** tested for Gup 8 Yellow Belt. Successful candidates for Gup 7 Green Stripe were **Bradley Myron**, **Jullian O’Neil**, siblings **Andrew**, **Joshua**, and **Anna Pak**, and brothers **Alexander** and **Maxwell Kim**. **Lily Lorenz** tested for Gup 6 Green Belt. Candidates for Gup 4 Blue Belt included **Satish Bhat**, **Timothy Colley**, **Vamsi Konthan**, **Connor Lee**, and **Shivam Midha**.

Kevin O’Neil tested for Gup 3 Red Stripe. **John Albano** tested for Gup 2 Red Belt, along with **Jackson Johnson** and **Alyona Osadcha**. **Sarah St. Pierre**, **Aidan Lee** and **Roselyn Romberg** tested successfully for Gup 1 Black Stripe. In photo, Sarah St Pierre breaks for her instructor Mr. **John Murphy**.



was a genuine crowd-pleaser. Testing for II Dan were Ms. **Elizabeth “Lili” Shoup**, Mr. **Adam Rainis**, and Mr. **Bryce Mashimo**. All three provided excellent HoSinSuls, and impressed those watching with their high jumps during kicking drills. Testing for I Dan were Mr. **Benjamin Gorman**, Mr. **Alex Rao**, and Mr. **Niket Gowravaram**. Congratulations to all for an excellent test! *Photos below & next page*

—Submitted by *Roselyn Romberg*, DFS

Below, Sr. Master Louis Reyes with Bryce Mashimo, Adam Rainis, Elizabeth Shoup, Ramon Colon, Niket Gowravaram, Benjamin Gorman, and Alex Rao.





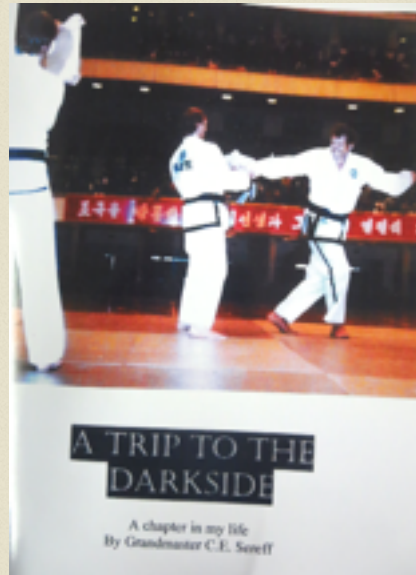
All in a day's work

Ramón Colón breaks two boards. But with his **thumb**.



James Sroykum, one of the Flash's favorite photographers, captures great images at the Class A Instructor Course recently taught by Grand Master **Mike Winegar** in Broomfield. Below, "Thirst for Knowledge"; Right, "In slow motion, just like this".





Two new books by Senior Grand Master **C.E. Sereff** are out and available from USTF. Ten bucks (well worth it) plus S&H. A great man steps up and defines a bit of his, and Taekwon-Do's, history.

Utah State Director **Chris Wadium**, in his inimitable fashion, lays down the rules.



Master Van Hecke,

On November 2nd, 2013, USTF- Utah held it's annual **Utah State Championship Tournament** in Sandy, Utah. This year we had over 40 participants from around the state. It was a great opportunity to train and instruct some of our newest officials and fun was had by all! We'd like to thank the parents for their support and look forward to our next tournament, the Utah State Cup in May 2014. Hope to see everyone there!

Yours in TKD,

Corinne Troykum, Flash Stringer

Sir:

Sr. Grand Master **C.E. Sereff** gave us a great workout on his **80th Birthday** celebration class! Along with the Colorado Black Belts, Louisiana was represented by **Paul Byrne** and **Lance Edwards**, Wyoming was represented by Sr. Master **Stan Martin**, Master **Robin Johnson** and Mrs. **Dee Dee Connell**, Washington by Master **David Mason** and **Lynette Haney**.

Doing what Sr. GM Sereff likes best, he taught us for about 45 minutes and then we celebrated his 80th Birthday by breaking 80 boards on his behalf. We presented him with over 80 fishing flies that he said he would use on rivers and oceans until they were gone. He felt it would take at least 10 years to complete. When fish hear his name, they tremble, or so he has heard. A special tribute of singing Happy Birthday by his son Scott Sereff aka Elvis.

We greatly appreciate the wonderful celebration for Sr. Grand Masters Birthday!

—Grand Master Renee Sereff, Flash Stringer



Photos: Above, our Grand Masters congregate on the special occasion; below, the birthday celebration group.

