

The T.K.D. Flash

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THE OUTCOME

Upon entering its twenty-ninth year of publication, the TKD Flash continues to forge ahead with optimism as to its survival, relevance, and journalistic integrity. We are grateful to you, our readers, for your support and interest.

We are most grateful to our contributors. Without them we'd have nothing to publish, no content, no interest.

Our Fulitzer Prize winning News Department continued to serve our publication and you the reader with the finest in stories and features. We are grateful to them. They are truly our backbone.

Typically we have awarded "Stringer of the Year" in the January issue. However, the performance of the entire department has been so much a matter of selfless teamwork that to single out one or the other, it was felt, would fail to capture the essence of our common enterprise and effort this year. However, we fully anticipate the return of the DFS award in future years.

The January issue also typically singles out the **Best Text Submission by a Non-stringer**. This year the award goes to Ms. **Linda Allen** for her vivid and detailed account of one of GM Mike Winegar's excellent USTF "C Instructor" courses published in the December issue, beating out an excellent field in the final furlong.

On Sunday, November 20, 2016 **Maestas TaeKwon-Do** held its 27th black belt test. This was a very special day as six of the candidates were under 16 years old. Mr. **Hayden Starr** earned the high test score honor with an terrific performance. A high light was Miss **Reagan Meyers** testing for Second Dan and her youngest brother, **Carson**, testing for his First Dan. Miss Meyers is the third member of her family to earn a 2nd Dan or better and the young Mr. Meyers is the fifth black belt in his family. All five family members train on a regular basis. The other candidates were **Tara Mireskandari**, **Mackenzie Caldwell**, **Brodway Haugse**, and **Nicholas Roboff**. Miss Mireskandari's brother recently tested for green belt and Miss Caldwell's father tested for 1st Dan several years ago. As Grand Master Renee' Sereff has said many times "the family that kicks together, sticks together." Pictured are the testing candidates, the test board, and special guest Grand Master Rene Sereff.



Master Robert Martin, Flash Stringer

Arvada, CO -- **Maestas TaeKwon-Do** held a color belt testing on Thursday, November 17, 2016. It was a small test but very good. Master **Robert Pettijohn** was very happy with the work that all students did. Unfortunately, I did not get a picture of the only testing candidate from the advanced class. **Aiden Brown** tested for this first gup after the pictured test and did very well. Pictured are the white and yellow belts students with Master Pettijohn.

Master Robert Martin, Flash Stringer



Noted for its vivid and delightful use of the language by several of YHE's correspondents and thus deserving of special commendation was the work of one specific Stringer in giving voice to the Taekwon-Do Kids' Art Contest's panel of critics in two issues this Fall. This Distinguished Stringer being such a modest individual we shall respect her desires to remain entirely anonymous, right, R.R.?

As to **Image of the Year**, the contest within the Graphics Committee's Awards Subcommittee in Conference Room B-14 on the fourteenth floor of the Flash Building in downtown Manhattan started its usual marathon sessions on December 16, commencement of the meeting having been delayed while Ms. Constanza Auchinkloss Wintour, avid supporter of a certain presidential ticket, was

recovering from the vapors. This year the meeting was catered by Luigi's Won-ton Village. No friends were made as it took fifty-six ballots to decide, and even then some threatened suit claiming a rigged undertaking.

The Image of the Year as we have noted many times before is not a personal award. Thus it is not given to a specific artist or photographer nor to the individual or individuals depicted. It is, rather, intended as a celebration of the image itself and its meaning for our Art. The photographer and the submitter and person(s) depicted have our gratitude; the image, however, gets the award.

As always, the January issue republishes many photos in a sort of photographic

retrospective of the year as well. Look for those images, and for the Image of the Year, later in this issue.

THIS JUST IN

From: Composition Dept.

To: Final Editing

Sir: I just can't cram all the great 2016 photos into the January final! Could we hold over at least one page to February?

From: Editor

To: Composition Dept.

Gentlepersons: Make it 2.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Breaking news? Breaking Seminar! **USTF-Utah**, January 14 in Salt Lake City.

From Master **David Mason**: Black Belt test Jan. 28th at Mountain View Taekwon-Do. I am having my student Mr. **Brandon Stoppani** preside.

Grand Master **Louis Reyes** presided over the New England Regional Black Belt test on Sunday, November 20th at the **Concord School of Taekwon-Do**.

Mr. **Karl Huffman** promoted to VI Dan. Mr. **Ron Micheels** tested for III Dan. Mr. **David Song** advanced to II Dan. Testing for I Dan were **Kevin O'Neil** and "**Dangerous Dan**" **Angus-Kirstein** of Concord TKD. From **Giorgio's TDK**, Mr. **Fenghua Huang** and son **Ian Huang** tested for I Dan, along with



Christopher Thierauf, Kyle Tasker, Meghan Walsh, Wesley Tse, and Jessica Pan. In the group photo, above-- Front Row: Mr. John Murphy, VI Dan; Mr. Tom Gibbons, IV Dan; GM Louis Reyes; Ms. Joanne Haley, V Dan; Mr Robert Giorgio, IV Dan; Second Row: Kyle Tasker, Wesley Tse, Ian Huang, Jessica Pan, Meghan Walsh, and Daniel Angus-Kirstein; Back Row: Mr. Frank Gentile, IV Dan; Mr. David Song, Mr. Karl Huffman, Mr. Ron Micheels, Kevin O'Neil, Christopher Thierieauf, and Mr. Fenghua Huang. Great test, all!

Roselyn Romberg, D.F.S.

On December 3, **Cadillac Taekwon-Do** of Cadillac, Michigan, hosted the USTF Ground Fighting course. The instructor was Mr. **Anthony Giese**, whose expertise, organization, insight and relentless pace made the seminar one of the very best learning experiences possible. The course Promoter was Dr. **Steve Osborn**, USTF Region 3 Director. Below is a picture of the participants including, in the first row right, Mr. Giese and Dr. Osborn. Schools from Ohio, Michigan (U.P. and L.P.), and Wisconsin attended. Pictures and commentary, next page.



At Sequim, Washington, Master **David Mason** will preside at a Black Belt testing on January 21.

The **Sereff Annual Invitational Junior Event with Chili Cookoff** will be January 28, 2017.

On February 18, tentative USTF Referee Course at **Sereff Taekwon-Do**.

On March 11 there will be a Black Belt test at Broomfield, Colorado.

March 25 brings us the **Maestas Challenge 2017**. The tournament will be held at Apex Center, Arvada, Colorado. Master **Robert Martin** is the Promoter.

USTF NATIONALS will be held June 24 and 25, 2017, in Broomfield, Colorado.

On August 19 there will be a weapons self-defense course at **Sereff Taekwon-Do**.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Burning Phoenix Taekwon-Do had a Black Belt test December 3.

On December 10 there was a Black Belt test at **Manera's Takeown-Do**, Kennesaw, Georgia.

Bodystrong Taekwon-do Assistant Instructor Dr. **Linda Allen** and students from Bodystrong took it upon themselves to provide sustenance for hungry children. On Saturday 17th they bought food items together as part of the food bank Friday Back Pack Program to be provided to the children in need.

Jessica Hernandez from the Port Angeles Food Bank gave a short talk regarding hunger and how our tenets of Taekwon-do require us to

be good stewards. She noted that the Holidays, in particular, were stressful for parents' provisions of good meals for their children. Dr Allen said

"It was a wonderful experience for me working with them (the students) yesterday."



Pictures from the Ground Fighting Course. At 11:00, one mean instructor; 12:00 and 2:00, play together to stay together; center above, work stations: to the left, the formidable and "farm strong" Master **Ron Britt**, Ohio State Director, who worked throughout the day with Sr. Master F.M. Van Hecke, pictured leaning for support on Dr. Steve Osborn on course completion at right, who will likely be able to walk again eventually. Photo credits: **Erin Conklin** and anonymous.



Sir,

There have been two tests at **Fairbanks Taekwon-Do** at the end of the year 2016. The first one was a black belt test on November 26th. Two young teens made the leap to 1st Degree Black belt and a long-standing student promoted to 5th Degree Black belt, (achieved I Dan in 1999).



The second test was held on December 3rd where a number of color belts stepped up to be challenged on that day as well. **Cade Jones** was chosen for best test.

Pictured in the Black belt test photo above are from left to right, Master **Marty Lester VII Dan**, accompanied me on test board, newly promoted **Makenna Drummond I Dan**, **Marion Winther V Dan**, **Dana Woolery I Dan**, Master **Guy Williams VII Dan**, and **Susan Hicks III**

Dan (test caller).

Assembled together in the color belt group below: Front row left to right: 9th gup

Hamilton Ling, 4th gup **Mason Jones**, 4th gup **Caleb Drummond**, 5th gup **Carson Lundquist**, 1st gup **Cade Jones**, 9th gup **Shane Erich**, 9th gup **Andrew Boswell**.

2nd row left: 9th gup **Claire Montague**, 9th gup **Peter Boswell**, 1st gup **Gabrielle Drummond** and twin 1st gup **Mattea Drummond**, 9th gup **Noah Boswell**, **Susan Hicks III Dan** (test board seat).

Back row: Master **G. Williams VII**, 9th gup **Mark Boswell**, 9th gup **Grace Boswell**, 6th

gup **Kyle Wright-Bruso**, 1st gup **Shane Jones**, **Makenna Drummond I Dan** (test caller).



Year 2016 has seen growth in many of the U.S.T.F. schools around our great country. Continued success in the year to come. Make a plan, follow the plan!

Master Guy Williams, Flash Stringer

At Sereff Taekwon-Do on December 10 the annual Christmas Cheer followed a fantastic test of White and Yellow belts plus Mr. **Brandon Aitken** for V Dan. The test board was enough to have everyone a little nervous to test! Grand Master **Renee' Sereff**, Sr. Master **Bob Haynes**, Sr. Master **Kirk Steadman**, Sr. Master **Dan Griffin** and Ms. **Louise Fox** plus Ms. **Cameo Zugschwert** called the testing.

Usually we separate the color belts from black belt testing, but after seeing those wide eyes of color belts watching Mr. Aitken and Mr. Jason Rose demonstrating advanced one step with takedowns, (no mats of course)



maybe we should consider combining the testings at least at the Holiday Season! The High Test scores for this test were **Billy Griswold**, grading for 8th Gup, **Bryce Bennett** and **Alex Griffin** Grading for 7th Gup. Mr. Aitken successfully passed his test to V Dan, Congratulations to all!

Pictures: above right, Mr. Aitken's tile break, center, the group, and, left, Mr. Aitken and proud family.

Grand Master Renee' Sereff, D.S.S.

Some of the many great
Flash images of 2017





And some more.





Leading to...





Image of the Year, 2017