# The TK.D. Flash A Publication of the Association of Academies of Martial Arts The National Newsletter of the United States Taekwon-Do Federation

<u>The TKD Flash</u> is published by the Academy of Martial Arts, Inc. The Editor is F.M. Van Hecke. The mailing address is P.O. Box 853, Grafton, WI 53024. E-Mail <u>fmvh1@mac.com</u>. Archived at USTF Region III site <u>www.ustf-region3.org</u> Persons submitting photographs, letters to the editor, reactions to published articles or articles will be deemed to have consented to their publication unless specifically specifying otherwise. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission prior to publication. Persons submitting materials represent that they have the right to publish the submitted materials and images and submit the same without seeking compensation. Award-Winning Contributing Staff: Distinguished Stringers Ricky Todd, Renee' Sereff and Guy Williams, and Stringers Corinne Sroykum, Lisa Eastin, David Mason, Melanie Bunch, Linda Allen, Sharon Spungen, Cary Gulsby and Marsha Wright.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

[Editor's Note: A number of the following events, particularly in April, may have been cancelled due to COID-19 directives, but the Flash has not yet been fully informed. Contact promoters if questions]

On April 4 Bodystrong Taekwon-Do Academy of Sequim, Washington, will host a

USTF Basic Ho Sin Sool course to be taught by Master **Brandon Stoppani.** 

Marquette Taekwon-Do will hold a Black Belt test on April 6 at Marquette, Michigan, in the U.P. U.P. State Director Mr. Charles B. Giotto is the Promoter.

On April 16 **Foothills Taekwon-Do** will sponsor a Black Belt testing in Lakewood, Colorado.



Master **Bob Pettijohn** looks on while Master **Robert Riley**, and his student Mrs. **Michelle Hirschi**, get ready for pre-arranged free sparring at a seminar February 29. Story, next page.

February 29th was an incredible day of Taekwondo in Utah. It was the first time the Step-Sparring seminar came to our state! I won't name any names but for some, step-sparring has never been the most exciting topic..... But through the passion and expertise of Master Robert Pettijohn, everyone came away with a greater understanding and excitement for this topic. It was even fun! I would highly recommend this course. Many thanks to our Wyoming brothers and sisters for coming out for the second month in a row and to Master Rob Riley of Utah Chang Hun Taekwon-Do Alliance for hosting this event at his school, Community of Grace Taekwon-Do.

Corinne Sroykum, Stringer

<image>

The **13th Annual Axe Taekwon-Do Invitational Tournament** originally to be held at Bellevue, Nebraska on April 18 is cancelled.

On April 25, **Rock Springs Taekwon-Do** will host a Wyoming Black Belt testing.

The **AAMA Spring Classic** Tournament will be held at Grafton, Wisconsin on April 25.

Sr. Master **Ricky Todd** will conduct a USTF Referee Seminar in Columbia, Missouri, on May 2.

On May 21 **Axe Taekwon-Do** at Bellevue, Nebraska, will host a combined Black Belt and Color Belt test.

On June 20 a Black Belt Testing will be held as Des Plaines, Illinois. The principle

Presider and promoter is Grand Master Earl Weiss.

**Sereff World Camp 2020** is scheduled for June 21-26. For information and applications, contact USTF Headquarters.

The **USTF Technical Course** will be held in the Denver area on August 8. It will be taught by USTF Technical Director Grand Master **Mike Winegar**. Your Humble Editor can assure you that based upon the assigned instructor this is a "Don't Miss."

On August 27 there will be a combined Black Belt and Color Belt Testing at Axe Taekwon-Do, Bellevue, Nebraska.

August 29, the 6th Annual Kirksville Taekwon-Do Tournament in Kirksville,

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Missouri. The Tournament Director will be Sr. Master **Ricky Todd.** 

September 19, a USTF Step Sparring seminar at Mountain View Taekwon-Do & Fitness, Washington State, Promoter Sr. Master **David Mason.** 

**The 21st Annual Wyoming Invitational Tournament** will be held on September 19, Promoter Master **Gerald Sisco**. Chief Referee will be Mrs. **Dee Dee Connell.** 

There will be a USTF Ground Tactics Course at **Harrisburg Taekwon-Do**, Harrisburg, Missouri, on September 26. Also on September 26, there will be a Black Belt test at **Big Dog Taekwon-Do** in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

A Black Belt test will be held at Mountain View Taekwon-Do and Fitness, at which candidates will participate from Mountain View and also Bodystrong Takeown-Do and Rainier View Taekwon-Do on October 10. Promoter, Sr. Master David Mason.

On November 19 there will be a Black and Color Belt Testing at **Axe Taekwon-Do.** 



We had our quarterly color belt test on March 7th at **Fairbanks Taekwon-Do** in Alaska. These young people are really taken to learning as best as they can. In fact they practice so hard that at the last tournament held here in Fairbanks all of them, placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in their division. (See bottom pic.) The test group (on right) starts in the front row left to right with: **Clark McElroy** 9th gup, **Lola Martin** 9th gup, **Sophia Chythlook** 6th gup (Sophia was presented with Best Test), **Nina** 

Chythlook 6th gup. Back row starts with Master G. Williams VII, Gavin Miller 9th gup, Trevor Stagdon 6th gup, and test director Mr.Carson Lundquist I Dan.

In these days that we are going thru, our wish for everyone is to stay well and be safe in what you do.

Master Guy Williams, D.F.S.



#### **AROUND THE COUNTRY**

A substantial numbers of USTF events were cancelled in March due to COVID-19 restrictions. Some items scheduled for April may be as well. USTF Administrator Grand Master **Renee Sereff** issue the following statement:

"With recent updates from World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control on CoVID-19, many schools will have to change the way our Taekwon-Do classes are structured if and when they are allowed to operate depending on the Federal and State guidelines. "\ For the next few weeks, some will be having on line classes, some will have to completely shut down and others may have the option of implementing small group classes. At this time USTF headquarters office is still working processing memberships, orders and paperwork on a limited basis. There are no classes at Sereff Taekwon Do in the same building as headquarters. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call us at 303-466-4963 Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. We can all participate in sending positive thoughts to our students to help all to stay healthy, physically as well as mentally. A phone call goes a long way to recovery! We will all get through this crisis only with the support we give and receive from one another. We wish you well, stay healthy and STAY HOME for your safety as well as others! Stay USTF Strong!"



Grand Master **Stan Martin** presents U.S. flags for his students' doboks in a specific "flag ceremony" as a special recognition of the important and unique role filled in General Choi, Hong Hi's legacy by our organization. Herewith, a photo recognizing this tradition.



trek to Bodystrong shows how strong and unified we are in the USTF! SM Mason brought several students from **Mountain View Taekwon-Do**, Mr. Young representing his school **Valley View Taekwon-Do** and Mr. Egan representing his school **Golden Tiger Taekwon-Do**. Sr. Master Mason put us thru a great workout with patterns and stretching. In addition to patterns, Master Stoppani put us thru our paces with kicking drills and Ho Sin Sul. Of course no workout with Sr. Master would be complete without some breaking. Sr. Master Mason surprised all of us at Bodystrong with a dojang gift of approximately 30 tiles for breaking!!

Bodystrong also had a color belt test scheduled for later that morning. Imagine the look on the eyes of our



March 9 was a scheduled red belt/black belt workout at **Bodystrong Taekwon-Do** in Sequim Washington. A wonderful surprise that early morning was seeing several black and a red belt come thru the door from 3 other schools! To have not one but three other schools make an early morning



white and yellow belt students to have

the honor of testing in front of SM Mason, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Dean as well as Master Stoppani.

We all had a great time and look forward to another training. All of us here in the Pacific Northwest hope all our Taekwon-Do brothers and sisters are healthy and staying safe. [Pictures: above, Red and Black Belts; center, Mssrs. Young and Muckley; below, test group and board. Photo credit to Mrs. Mason.]

> Respectfully Submitted, Dr. Linda Allen, F.S.



Sereff TKD's quarterly testing had four students for 1<sup>st</sup> Gup, Dr. Pawsecki, Hannah Rose. Peter Daniell, Tillery, Garret one for 3rd Gup, Emily Rose, one for 5th Gup Montana Lang, one to 6<sup>th</sup> Gup, Tyler Phillips, one

for 7<sup>th</sup> Gup, **Ronan Dickenson** and one for 8<sup>th</sup> Gup, **Sam Smith**. The high test scores for the testing were Dr. Pawsecki, Peter Danniell and Montana Lang. Grand Master **Renee' Sereff**, Grand Master **Kirk Steadman** and Master **Jim Smith** were the test board for the color belts.

The Black Belt test and promotion started ½ hour later with Master **Paul White** being promoted to 8<sup>th</sup> Dan Sr. Master of the USTF. Sr. Grand Master Charles Sereff was not in attendance but a letter of congratulations was presented along with Certificate and belt. A special lapel pin with the Roman Numeral VIII was presented to Sr. Master White but not pinned on because his wife was unable to attend due to health concerns so we wanted her to be a part of the celebration by pinning it on later. On the Board were GM Sereff, GM Steadman, and Sr. Master **Dan Griffin. Kathy Lynch** tested for V Dan after missing last year due to a broken arm along with a liver transplant Persistence, in spades. **Bryan Sievert** tested for III

Dan after an absence of 20 between vears 2nd gup and I Dan. He came back to class and brought his wife and two sons who are now I Dans. The amazing knife defense and prearranged sparring with **Michael Bennett** 



## was one for the books! All candidates did exceptionally. At top the Gup Testing group and officials. Lower, Dan testing group, board, and important helpers. Additional pics follow. *Grand Master Revel Scieff*, D.J.S.

Congratulations Senior Master and Eighth Dan Paul White!





Grand Master **Stan Martin** proudly displays his USTF Dojang Plaque, "#2 in 2020!"

