

The T.K.D. Flash

A Publication of the Association of Academies of Martial Arts
 The National Newsletter of the United States Taekwon-Do Federation

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HELP US OUT

The TKD Flash is informed by its Circulation Department that it has no good way, given our independence, to keep up on USTF promotions comprehensively, so do us a favor: Take a look at the name you're given with your

mailing address. (Just look at the e-mail you received with this issue). If it's "Mrs." and should be "Master," "Miss" and you prefer "Ms.," "Name Appreciated" and it should be "Senior Master Roger P. Throckmorton," please let us know. We'll gladly make the correction.



On Saturday July 22 Wyoming had its quarterly color belt testing in Sheridan. Thank you to Sr. Master **Robin Johnson** for hosting the testing. Twenty-two candidates for different levels of color belt were present. Mrs

Megan Garretson 3rd Degree (Sheridan) called the test and did a great job. High test score winners were, from left in front: **Tristan Schroeder** for Best Pattern (Sheridan), **Matt Clark** for Best Ho Sin Sol (Steel Dragon) and **Leon Andrews** for Best Break. Congratulations to all who tested.

—Submitted by Grand Master Stan Martin

The whole Johnson Family gathers on the occasion of Miss Natalie Johnson's promotion to First Dan in July: from left, Fifth Dan Mark (dad), Natalie, Second Dan Rosalia (sister), and Fifth Dan Caren (mom).



COMING EVENTS

On October 7, look for the **Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament** in Bellevue, Nebraska. Tournament Director Grand Master **Kirk Steadman**, Chief Referee Ms. **April Bowling**. See advertisement this issue.

Mountain View Taekwon-Do will host a Dan testing, First through Fourth Dans, on October 14. In addition to Mountain View, testing schools schools are **Bodystrong Taekwon-Do**,

Valley View Taekwon-Do, **Golden Tiger Taekwon-Do**, and **Next Level Taekwon-Do**.

A USTF Breaking Seminar will be taught by Grand Master **Ricky Todd** at La Center, Washington on November 4. The Promoter is Mr. **Thomas Egan**. See ad this issue.

A USTF Referee Seminar is to be conducted November 11 at **Axe Taekwon-Do**

in Bellevue, Nebraska. Promoter Grand Master **Ricky Todd**.

On November 11 a Black Belt test will be held at Grafton, Wisconsin for students at **The Academy of Martial Arts, Sheboygan Falls, and Fox Valley Taekwon-Do**, Neenah, Wisconsin

Maestas Taekwon-Do will have a Black Belt testing on November 19 at Arvada, Colorado.

On March 16 a USTF Weapons Defense Seminar will be held at Sandy, Utah ,promoted by the **Utah Chang Hun Taekwon-Do Alliance**.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

April 29, there was a Wyoming Black Belt Testing at **Rocksprings Taekwon-Do**. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

A USTF Knife and Weapons Seminar, Promoter Dan Pingleton, was held April 29 at Columbia, Missouri. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

On May 20 the **UCHTA ANNUAL UTAH CUP INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT** was held in Salt Lake City. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue. issue.

John Michael Butitta M.D., 73, Fifth Dan USTF, passed away peacefully at his home, with his family by his side on Thursday August 24, 2023. John was the head instructor at Fox Valley Taekwon-Do in Neenah, Wisconsin, and a beloved student of this editor.

He practiced medicine throughout the years in Appleton, then Kaukauna, taking time off to build a successful wellness consulting business, Concert Health Resources. He maintained a part time medical practice specializing in his passion, Nutritional Support, and remained committed to it for the rest of his career. He also was Medical Director for nonprofits Samaritan Counseling, Options, and Apricity, and found time for his many hobbies, including board gaming, German, bonsai, calligraphy, and origami. He loved football and was a rabid Chicago Bears and Fighting Illini fan through many lean years. He was a wonderful husband, father, and extraordinary grandpa to Hazel and Finn. He was a good friend of Taekwon-Do and was instrumental in kicking off a revival of long-dead tournaments in Wisconsin.

John is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Liane; two daughters: Rachel (Josh) Crockett, and Amber Butitta; two grandchildren, Hazel and Finnegan; and a sister, Mary (Jon) Green. His loss will be mourned by his extended family of in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews, as well as the many patients and friends whose lives he touched and his friends in TKD.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to Samaritan Counseling, 1205 Province Terrace, Menasha, WI 54952 or Kathy's House, 9101 W. Doyne Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53226 would be most appreciated.





THE BUILDING BUT THE PEOPLE. Even though i will miss it terribly am looking forward to a new beginning.

—Grand Master Stan Martin

Sir:

On July 27th I closed my commercial school at 613 West Yellowstone Hwy after 24 years. A lot of very good memories and events during this time. Moving forward into the future i am very excited about our new school at the Casper Mountain YMCA. New beginnings and all of my students and instructors supporting and making the move with me. I truly am a lucky man in so many ways. Learning concept for me —IT IS NOT

A Black Belt testing was held at Kirksville, Missouri, on June 10. **Tim AuBuchon, Ethan Tatro, and Ashley Lane** tested for Second Dan. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

Fairchild Taekwon-Do conducted a Black Belt test on August 7 at Mexico, Missouri. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

A Black Belt Testing was held at **Las Vegas Taekwon-Do Studio** on August 19 under the able guidance of Sr. Master **Joe Bosse**. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

August 26, a tournament was held at Kirksville, Missouri. Promoter Grand Master **W. Stephenson**, Chief Referee Master **James**

Rolston. The Eighth Annual rendition of this event. Hopefully an article and pictures to be shared in the next issue.

A “make-up” test was held at the Academy of Martial Arts, Grafton, September 27, especially for students who were judged to need more preparation time at the Board Evaluation on August 23 for the September 6 testing. Additionally, two individuals had, due to professional conflicts or physical injury, been deferred to the 27th. Presiding were Sixth Dan **Mary Lubner** and Ninth Dan F.M. Van Hecke. The appointed Corner was dismissed for failure to comply with the formal uniform code and the test was directed by the Board’s chairman.

The ultimate conclusions: **Trishan Ghosh**, promoted to Gup 5; **Josh Koner**, promoted to Gup 5; **Saija Modak**, to Gup 5; **Daniel Le**, to Gup 3; **Chris Wacker**, to Gup 5.



Watch Mr. **Omar Welch**'s students show their demonstration stuff at the Pigs and Peaches event in Kennesaw Georgia on August 19th! Top, **Aditi Kadam** and **Stoyan Stamov**. Right: **Maia Teo** and **Kayla Teo**. Lower left: **William Huang**



and **Dorothy Hoang**. Also, bottom: **Ravin Collins**, White Belt; **Dorothy Huang**, Yellow Belt, and Red Belt **Adam Welch**.



A gup level test was held at the **Grafton Academy of Martial Arts**, Grafton, Wisconsin, on September 7. Presiding were Sixth Dans **James Pals** and **Mary Lubner**, Second Dans **Gabe Peters** and **Shaunak Chaudhuri**, First Dan **Cylis Zirtzlaff**, and F. M. Van Hecke. Msrs. **Roshan Selvakumar**, **Joshua Rupert** and **Alex Rupert** handled Corner.

Students tested for the following ranks: to Gup 3 Red Stripe, **Khoi Le**, **Khai Le**, and **Vinh Le**; to Gup 5 Blue Stripe, **Evon Koner**, **Pranay Balaji**, **Anna Wacker**, **Sashwath Suriyaraj**, **Saina Modak**, **Easton Wacker**, **Saina Balaji**, and **Miles Krogman**; to Gup 7 Green Stripe, **Erin Williams**, **Ari Krogman**, **Gwen Williams**, and **Kate Williams**; and to Gup 9 Yellow Stripe **Cora Vizanko** and **Disha Tagalapu**.



Grand Master **Ricky Todd** taught the USTF Breaking Seminar at **Sereff Taekwon-Do** July 15. Over thirty students from Wyoming, Nebraska and Colorado covered the art of breaking!



A black belt promotion test was held in Columbia, Missouri, on Saturday, August 12th. In the photo, the first row are the instructors and testing board. From left to right: Mr. **Jim Givens**, Mr. **Dan Pingelton**, Grand Master **Larry Winn**, and Ms. **Star Katsaros**. In the second row are the students who were promoted. Mr. **Travis Carthron II**, promoted to II Dan, and Mr. **Isaac Faith**, promoted to III Dan, Ms. **Rowan Schul**, promoted to III Dan, Mr. **Johannes Schul**, promoted to III Dan, Ms. **Sarah Bush**, promoted to II Dan, and Ms. **Louise Schul**, promoted to II Dan Grand Master Winn and Ms. Katsaros are from **Harrisburg TaeKwon-Do** in Harrisburg, Missouri. Everyone else in the photo is from the **Columbia Academy of TaeKwon-Do**, Columbia, Missouri. Thanks to Jim Givens for this submission.



Congratulations to Master **Anthony Giese** for instructing the USTF Knife and Weapons Course at Sereff Taekwon-Do August 12. Over 45 participants from Wyoming, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Washington learned from Master Giese’s experiences and knowledge from his time in the service. The course gave us all insight for facing threats with knives and sticks.

Grand Masters **Renee' Sereff** and **Kirk Steadman**, Masters **Jim Smith** and **Lorie Ruby** and Mr. **Jason Rose** were the Test board at a color belt test at **Sereff Taekwon-Do** on September 9.



As instructors of the students it is a great refresher for them to see what the students need a little more work! Patterns, step sparring and kicking were well done! Instead of plastic, we had them break wood, which surprised all! Above, the test board and the candidates.



High test scores went to **Rafal Prusinowski**, **Sofie Long** and **Grason Hill**, pictured with Grand Master Sereff at left.

Maestas Taekwon-Do held a color-belt test Thursday, September 14th, at Apex Recreation center in Arvada Colorado. Twenty-three students tested for their new ranks. High test scores were awarded to **Grace Bettis** testing for 3rd Gup high blue-belt, and **Eli Cho** testing for 5th Gup high green-belt. They are pictured at right, top, being congratulated by Sr. Master **Robert Pettijohn**. Group-Photo Below: Pictured from left, back row: **Troy Merrick, Theo Crandall, Scarlett Merrick, Jacob Olsen, Mrs. Amy Bettis, Mr. Dan Nelson, Mr. Joel Bettis, Sean Lund-Brown, Mr. Ryan Makelky, Cary Gulsby, Mr. Silas Gulsby, Mr. Matt Shifferle, Laura Makelky**. Middle Row, from Left: **Harley Camp, Grace Bettis, Emily Vogt, Max Wiggs, Brady Sidara, Evan Bettis, Curtis Lorenz, Ms. Tracey Pettijohn, Sr. Master Robert Pettijohn**. Front row, from left: **T.J. Merrick, Eli Cho, Aiden Camp, Ella Makelky, Nora Vogt, Gabriel Bettis, Kyan Mondragon, George Marsden**. At the bottom, a top-flight ending to Pattern Joon-Gun by Grace Bettis, Jacob Olsen, Harley Camp, and Aiden Camp.

Erin McGovern, F. S.



USTF Breaking Seminar Initial \$75; Refresher \$50

Grand Master Ricky Todd IX Dan, Instructor

Began training at McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kansas.

Operated USTF schools at McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kansas. Whiteman Air Force Base, Knob Noster, Missouri. Incirlik Air Station, Incirlik Turkey. Onizuka Air Station, Sunnyvale, and Mountain View California. Windsor, Missouri, and now Offutt Air Force Base, Bellevue, Nebraska

Served 21 years in the United States Air Force. Eight years in the security police field and 12 years in the Judge Advocate General field as a paralegal.

***USTF Region 2 Director
Former USTF Armed Forces Director
Former USTF Kansas State Director
Former USTF Nebraska State Director***

If you are a beginner or expert please join us for a USTF Breaking Seminar, instructed by Grand Master Todd in LaCenter, WA. This unique way of teaching breaking will help everyone be the best you can be at breaking! This course is for all students from yellow belt green stripe to include all levels of black belt. This course provides black belts with 8 hours of continuing education, which is required by the USTF.

Please pre-register by emailing eganta2077@yahoo.com or calling the promoter, Mr. Egan (971) 570-2622. Checks payable to Mr. Thomas Egan. Register now!



***Saturday – November 4th, 2023
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
(includes a lunch break)
Golden Tiger Martial Arts
LaCenter Elementary School
700 E 4th Street
LaCenter, WA 98629***

- All Aspects of Breaking
- Wear your Uniform
- USTF Gup & Dan Syllabus Breaks
- 8 hours Continuing Education
- Age requirement 12 (or younger) with instructor's permission
- Breaking materials provided



14th Annual Axe Taekwon-Do Invitational
USTF Taekwon-Do Tournament

Sanctioned by the United States Taekwon-Do Federation (USTF). Axe Taekwon-Do invites all USTF-affiliated schools and their students to this tournament. This event will include individual patterns, sparring, and team breaking. All divisions will be created on the day of the event at the discretion of the Chief Bracketeer.

The competition will be in accordance with USTF rules. Sparring gear including hand and foot pads, mouthpiece, headgear, and protective cup for male competitors will be required. Headgear is mandatory for all ranks. All referees and judges must be certified by the USTF and dressed properly in the official dress code established by the USTF.

Saturday, October 7th, 2023
Offutt Youth Center Bldg. 5085
25th Street & Hruska Blvd
Bellevue, Nebraska 68123

Registration Starts: 8:00 am ***pre-registration suggested by **October 3rd, 2023**
Black Belt Meeting: 8:30 am
Tournament Starts: 9:00 am

Preregistered Cost: \$45.00 – Fighting/Patterns/Team Breaking
(Team Breaking – 3 breakers per team, must be a green stripe or above, downward punch (knife hand for Peeweeps), side piercing kick (can be modified), and mid-air 180 back piercing kick (Blue Stripes and below can perform back piercing kick to D with rear leg). All breaking will use the PNP plastic boards.

Spectators: Free

*****Registration is \$55.00 at the door*****

Contact: Grand Master Todd (402) 650-4399

For more information contact: Grand Master Todd at ustfneb@cox.net or Master Bushor at kbushor@cox.net

<i>Tournament Director:</i>	<i>Grand Master Steadman</i>	<i>9th Degree</i>
<i>Chief Referee:</i>	<i>Mrs. Bowling</i>	<i>6th Degree</i>
<i>Tournament Promoter:</i>	<i>Grand Master Todd</i>	<i>9th Degree</i>