



Goju-Ryu Karate-Do

KyoKai

NEWSLETTER

March 2005

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

Your GKK Membership dues and student lists are due. Please notify your students that all member dojos are to submit dues and member lists no later than April 1, 2005. The dues have not changed. Kyu ranks are still \$15.00 and Dan ranks are still \$25.00 for the year. The maximum amount for a family is not to exceed \$50.00. Instructors are to send a list with member names and ranks marked whether they are renewals or new students, along with the dues. Remember, this is the lion's share of our budget and we are unable to operate without it.

MARKETING OUR SCHOOLS ??

by Rich Stamper

Recently, there has been some discussion about marketing plans for our schools. This has prompted me to provide some observations on what has shown to work for some of our larger schools. Keep in mind that I am not a marketing expert – just an observer.

There seems to be three main things prevalent in our more successful programs. These are:

- 1) Student retention,
 - 2) Enthusiastic students, and
 - 3) Making the program known.
- These sort of overlap, but I'll speak briefly on each.

Student retention is the key to developing a core group of upper rank students. To retain the students their needs have to be met. Their needs include being made to feel good about their progress, being taught new material on a regular basis, having some responsibility in the program, and being treated with dignity in recognition of their accomplishments. What doesn't work, is push-ups for errors and telling them only what they need to improve without recognition of their accomplishments.

Enthusiastic students help ensure retention. Enthusiastic students tell others about the program. Enthusiastic students bring excitement to the school. How to develop enthusiastic students? They need encouragement and recognition. They do not need stronger arms from push-ups. They need respect for their efforts. They need to feel good about what they're doing. If we raised students like we should raise our kids, with encouragement and

recognition, they will be enthusiastic. Think of the things you're excited about. These are usually things that you want to do and have some success at.

Making the program known in the community brings in more students. The best advertisement is word-of-mouth. Enthusiastic students pass the word. If you discover a new restaurant or a good deal on something you tell your friends. Same thing here, the enthusiastic students pass the word along. The struggling, discouraged student will not inflict others with the same situation.

I will elaborate on these and other related topics in the future. For now, keep in mind that new students want to learn martial arts when they sign up for the class. Also, keep in mind that martial arts are scary for them. Just making it to the first few classes is a real accomplishment. They need care and recognition just as we all do - regardless of rank.

There are some of us old-timers who wanted the training so much that we would endure anything to get it. We also knew that only a small number

of us would make it to black belt. The way we were brought up weeded out the weak. We tend to teach the way we were taught. Looking back, I remember many, many very promising students that would have excelled if they had not been driven away. Driven away!

We can't help the students learn if we don't have them. To get them and keep them we have to make them enthusiastic about the training. To do that requires meeting their needs. Their needs are emotional and psychological. The physical part will develop if we keep them in the program. Respect them and preserve their dignity.

More later.

GKK SPORT KARATE-DO **TEAM NEWS**

by Mark Cramer

Charlestown, W.Va. ~ On February 12th, the GKK Sport Karate-do Team successfully competed in the USA-NKF Regional Championships and qualified for the National Championships in USA Team Trials which will be held this summer in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The results are as follows:

Andrew Walker ~6yr. old
Novice Kata ~ silver
Kumite ~ silver

Blake Spencer ~6yr. old
Novice Kata ~ Nat'l Qualifier
Kumite~Nat'l Qualifier

Alex Perry ~6yr. old
Intermediate Kata ~ Silver
Kumite ~ Silver

Weapons ~ Nat'l Qualifier
Hunter Eades ~9yr. old
Intermediate

Kata ~ Nat'l Qualifier
Kumite ~ Nat'l Qualifier
Filmore Walker ~11yr. old
Advanced Kata ~ Gold

Kumite ~ Gold
Jeff Knerr~14 yr. old Beginner
Kata ~ Gold
Kumite ~ Gold

Mary Meade~18-34 Advanced
Kata ~ Bronze
Kumite ~ Gold
Weapons~Nat'l Qualifier

Mark Cramer~18-34 Advance
Kata ~ Bronze
Weapons ~ Silver

Chris Perry~35+ Novice
Kata ~ Gold
Kumite ~ Gold
Weapons~Nat'l Qualifier

Wayne Dutched ~ 35 +
Advanced
Kumite ~ Nat'l Qualifier

Congratulations to all.

(If any who missed the W.Va. Regional, another regional will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio on February 27th. Contact me at colette.cramer@gte.net for further information)

SEMINAR'S AND **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

February 26, 2005

USA/NKF REFEREE **COURSE**

Conducted by
Mr. Cleve Baxter
USA/NKF Referee Council
Saturday
9AM to 5PM
at
Buckner Martial Arts

6875 Fountains Blvd.
West Chester, Ohio 45069
This course will provide an opportunity for all participants to raise their level of knowledge and skill in WKF Kumite competition. Instruction will be in the areas of Refereeing, Judging, and Scorekeeping. The course will consist of lecture, written examination, practical-training, and practical examination. Proper dress is required. USA/NKF licenses will be issued and renewed up to League Referee level.

Cost:

\$75 New License or Upgrade
\$25 Participation Only
\$10.00 WKF Passport
(if needed)

Information: Mr. Steve Buckner
V.P., USA/NKF Chairman,
USA/NKF of Ohio
513-779-2413

Sanctioned by the USA
National Karate-do Federation
Member United States
Olympic Committee

February 27, 2005

2005 USA NATIONAL **KARATE-DO FEDERATION** **REGIONAL QUALIFIER**

Winton Woods Middle School
147 Farragut Road
Cincinnati, Ohio
Doors open at 11AM
Tournament starts at 12 Noon
Spectators: \$5.00 adults
12 and under \$3.00
3 and under FREE

Dear Instructors and Students:
I would like to invite you and your students to the 2005 USA-NKF Regional Qualifier. This tournament will qualify

Karate competitors for the USA National Karate-do Federation National Championships and the USA Team Trials this summer in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The USA National Karate-do Federation is the National Governing Body for Sport Karate within the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee. It is at the USA/NKF National Championships that the official USA Karate Team is chosen for both adults and juniors to represent the United States in international competitions.

If you have any questions concerning the regional qualifier please feel free to contact me at 513-779-2413. I look forward to meeting you and your students.
Sincerely,
Stephen M. Buckner
V.P., USA National Karate-do Federation

March 5, 2005

**32ND STEVESTON
INTERNATIONAL KARATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Doors Open at 7:30 AM
Eliminations Begin at 9AM
SHARP!
Starts from Div. 1 (Team Kata)

Door Prize
\$500 Cash (Two or more divisions includes team Kata)
\$200 Cash (One division entry)
\$200 Cash (Second chance draw if we need)
If the first draw winner entered one division then there will be a second draw for \$200 cash

even if that winner entered two or more divisions.

Mom and Pop Kata contest
FREE
Steveston Karate Club
4111 Moncton Street
Richmond, BC Canada
V7E 3A8
uchiage@telus.net
604-272-4660
Fax 604-272-4662

March 6, 2005

**JKF SHITEI KATA SEMINAR
&
WHAT IS GOJU-RYU?**

9:30 AM – 12 Noon
1 PM – 3:30 PM
Takeshi Uchiage Sensei
JKF 7th Dan
(The highest JKF Dan out of Japan)

This seminar will have detailed explanations about Goju-Ryu history, basics and Kata, etc.

Books and videos never mention these explanations. This will be the first time. This is a Tokubetsu (very special) seminar and you will not be able to get these details in regular class, or even at other international seminars.

Takeshi Uchiage Sensei's father Grand Master Kenzo Uchiage passed away in October 23, 2003, however he taught a variety of techniques and stories about Goju Ryu pioneer Chojun Miyagi. Grand Master Kenzo Uchiage is only one of the two who received 5th Dan from Chojun Miyagi who issued the highest Dan in his life. Including Japan and Okinawa. This seminar is only for those who are members of Uchiage Kai and those who

received this original tournament invitational letter only.

March 19, 2005

**GKK INTERNATIONAL
TOURNAMENT**

Goju-Ryu Karate-Do Kyokai in conjunction with USA Karate Federation presents the GKK International Invitational Tournament

When:

Saturday, March 19, 2005

Where:

Bedford High School
Gymnasium
8285 Jackman Road
Temperance, MI 48182

Directions:

Take I-475 and Exit Secor Road North
Take Secor to Dean Road and turn right (east)
Bedford H.S. is at the corner of Dean and Jackman
or see www.mapquest.com for Door to Door driving instructions.

Events:

Open Kata (All divisions)
Weapons Kata (All divisions)
Compulsory Kata (16+ Advanced Only – the JKF Shitei Kata list will be used)
Kumite (All divisions)

Fees:

\$40 up to four individual events
\$10 additional for late registration after March 12.

Spectator Donations

\$5 Adults
\$2.50 Children

Information:

Mark Cramer 419-475-1499
colette.cramer@gte.net
Shawn Kidwell 419-536-5783
startgkk@yahoo.com

GKK Members

Since its inception, the GKK has hosted many successful sport karate-do tournaments which have dramatically increased both the visibility and prestige of our organization among other traditional karate-do organizations in the USA and Canada. The major reason for our success is that our members have pulled together to support our organization in various ways. I am certain that we will once again pull together for the March 19th tournament and that it will once again be a success. We still will need support in the following capacities:

- 1)**Competitors:** All able-bodied men and women should consider competing in kata and/or kumite
- 2)**Judges:** Whereas we will have enough center referees, we will still need corner judges.
- 3)**Set-up/Take-down** of the mats.
- 4)**Medical Official**
- 5)**Photographer**
- 6)**Time Keepers/
Score Keepers**

If you will be able to contribute in any of these capacities, please contact me at colette.cramer@gte.net or 419-475-1499

April 1, 2, and 3, 2005

MARYLAND SEMINAR

by Jeffrey Sullens

Yamakura Shihan will be here in Maryland teaching at a seminar on April 1,2,and 3. The seminar is being hosted by Shiro Shintaku founder of Tenshin Ichi Ryu. There will be several arts represented. You can find more information at www.tenshinischiryu.com. I have trained with Shintaku and you all know Yamakura Shihan. It should be a very good seminar.

GKK SPORT KARATE-DO

PHILOSOPHY

taken from GKK Website

Sport Kata:

Kata is not a dance; kata is not a theatrical performance. Kata is used to teach various principles of attack, defense, and the strategic evasion. Additionally, various training methods of generating power, moving into and out of stances, exhibiting proper distribution of body weight, and demonstrating proper timing are utilized within each kata. A Kata, which properly demonstrates these principles and training methods, will receive high scores. A kata which does not demonstrate these principles and training methods, or which is theatrical will receive low scores.

Mandatory Kata:

In this multi round event which is limited to adult advanced competitors, the World Karate

Federation has selected and standardized two katas from each of the four major Japanese styles. These katas are referred to as the compulsory or shitei kata. In each of the first two rounds, all competitors must perform one of the eight shitei kata; in subsequent rounds, contestants may perform any kata from one of the four major Japanese systems. For example, Goju contestants must perform Saifa and Seipai in the first two rounds, and then may perform any recognized Goju kata in subsequent rounds. A different kata is used in each round. In a field of sixteen contestants, four rounds of competition are necessitated.

Open Kata and Weapons Kata:

In these single round events, contestants of all ages and training levels are able to compete with other individuals of commensurate ages and training levels. Any kata may be selected and performed. The kata will be judged according to the principles and training methods enumerated above.

Those who lack the
courage to follow their
dreams,

always find ways to
discourage others from
theirs.

February/March/April 2005

26	USA/NKF Referee Crs.	Buckner Martial Arts	9AM-5PM	W.Chester, OH
27	USA Nat'l Karate-do Fed. Reg.	Winton Woods Mid.Sch.	11 AM	Cincinnati, OH
2	Nat'l GKK Team	Sho Yo Kan Dojo	6:30PM	Toledo, OH
5	32 Steveston Int'l Champ.	Steveston Karate Club	9 AM	Richmond, BC
6	JKF Shitei Kata Seminar	Steveston Karate Club	9:30AM-3:30PM	Richmond, BC
9	Nat'l GKK Team	Sho Yo Kan Dojo	6:30PM	Toledo, OH
16	Nat'l GKK Team	Sho Yo Kan Dojo	6:30PM	Toledo, OH
19	GKK International Tournament	Bedford HS Gym	9AM	Temperance, MI
23	Nat'l GKK Team	Sho Yo Kan Dojo	6:30PM	Toledo, OH
30	Nat'l GKK Team	Sho Yo Kan Dojo	6:30PM	Toledo, OH
1-3	TSIR 2005 Int'l Spring Train.	Doubletree Hotel		Rockville, Md.

Please contact individual dojos for their class schedules.

Mr. M. Yamakura

Chairman

P.O. Box 470446

Tulsa, OK 74147-0446

Mr. R. Stamper

Assistant Chairman

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Toledo, OH 43623

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GKK Newsletter

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