

Kick Back

Sharkey Karate Studios Newsletter September 2008

Sharkey's Karate students win big at regional tournament

Sharkey's Karate Students Win Big...	1
New Automated Tuition Billing System	1
Brief History of....	2
Sharkey's Karate instructor selected...	2
Stripe testing & Belt testing	3
Quotes to Ponder	3
September Birthdays	3

What better way to kick off the Labor Day weekend than to compete? Sunday August 31st, eleven students from Sharkey's Karate Studio traveled to Merriville, Indiana to participate in the 26th Annual Northwest Indiana Open Martial Arts Tournament. Mary Amato, Daniel Wolf, Ryan Ciappa, Luke Dennison, Cody Sanders, Nick Greenburg, Hannah Simmons, Micha Karns, Seth Austin, Jasmine Wali and Donald Mills took top honors in their divisions, with Jasmine Wali winning Jr. Black Belt Overall Grands, and Donald Mills winning Adult Black Belt Overall Grands. The next AKA Regional Tournament will be held October 19th. If you are interested in participating see Sensei Jeremy for details.



The new automated tuition billing system

Beginning in September we will be implementing our new secured automated tuition billing system for the school. Students will be required to enroll into this system in order for us to keep track of tuition payments. This new system allows students to have their tuition paid monthly or yearly without the hassles of remembering dates to pay or the inconvenience of late fees for late payments. The students can use either a debit card or credit card and can choose between the 1st or 15th of the month to pay, making it as convenient as possible to work around their finances. Please stop by the pro-shop at your earliest convenience and see Sensei Hunter or Sensei Jeremy to enroll.



Brief History of Gichin Funakoshi founder of Shotokan Karate

Courtesy of www.gichinfunakoshi.com



Gichin Funakoshi was born in Shuri, Okinawa in 1868. As a boy, he was trained by two famous masters of that time. Each trained him in a different Okinawan martial art. From Yasutsune Azato he learned Shuri-te. From Yasutsune Itosu, he learned Naha-te. It would be the melding of these two styles that would one day become Shotokan karate.

Funakoshi-sensei is the man who introduced karate to Japan. In 1917 he was asked to perform his martial art at a physical education exhibition sponsored by the Ministry of Education. He was asked back again in 1922 for another exhibition. He was asked back a third time, but this was a special performance. He demonstrated his art for the emperor and the royal family! After this, Funakoshi-sensei decided to remain in Japan and teach and promote his art.

Gichin Funakoshi passed away in 1957 at the age of 88. Aside from creating Shotokan karate and introducing it to Japan and the world, he also wrote the very book on the subject of karate, "Ryukyu Kempo: Karate-do". He also wrote "Karate-Do Kyohan" - The Master Text, the "handbook" of Shotokan and he wrote his

autobiography, "Karate-Do: My Way of Life". These books and his art are a fitting legacy for this unassuming and gentle man.

Sharkey's Karate instructor selected as Korean Cultural Advisor for trip

Last August, the United States Taekwondo Committee's President Sang Lee, nominated Sensei Jeremy Talbott to participate in the Global Martial Arts Human Resource Development Business Committee. Upon review of Sensei Jeremy's past credentials in the Korean martial arts along with his present credentials with Sharkey's Karate Studio and his background with Korean culture, the Korean Ministry of Culture, who is sponsoring the trip while over seas, selected him not only to go but assigned him to be a cultural advisor for the trip.

Beginning October 3rd, Sensei Jeremy will be representing Sharkey's Karate Studio over in Korea for a 10 day trip which will be comprised of several other non-Korean or American born Korean martial art instructors from all over the United States. Part of his role will be to help explain Korean historical events and culture as they pertain to the development of some Korean and Japanese martial arts. He will also be meeting with Grandmaster Kang, Hyon-wook, who is a major driving force of the extreme martial arts movement in Korea, in hopes of promoting Sharkey's Karate extreme martial arts program, along with its instructors, as a major source of training for the Korean program.



Stripe testing and belt testing

The next test stripe testing will be held Monday and Tuesday September 29th & 30th. The next belt test will be Wednesday October 1st beginning at 5:00pm. All those eligible to test for their belt must have Sensei Sharkey's approval and must have their testing application turned in by September 24th. Also, as a reminder, you must be an AKA member in good standing as part of your testing requirement. If you are not currently a member or if your membership has lapsed, please see Sensei Jeremy at the pro-shop.

September Birthdays

Jennie Amato	09/02
Kevin Chan	09/02
Brian Bounds	09/07
Dayna Huor	09/07
Maxwell Orr	09/08
Glenn Patterson	09/09
Nickolas Bounds	09/12
Christopher Ross	09/12
Sebastian Talbott	09/20
Dottie Druke	09/21
Walker Wells	09/24

Quotes to Ponder

"Greatness lies not in being strong, but in the right use of strength."

- *Henry Ward Beecher*

"Footprints on the sands of time are not made by sitting down"

- *Unknown*

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

- *Theodore Roosevelt*

"The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions"

- *Confucius*

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal."

- *Henry Ford*

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will."

- *Vince Lombardi*

Happy Birthday Everyone!