

Dragon Tale's

February 2009

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Birthdays for February

Braeden Jury
Christine Dufuis
Daniel Smith
Jackson Steel
Carl Babst
John Stearn
Cole Tomkins
Morganna Yoshida
Sam Bugley
Scott Zmaeff
Shahil Lal
Taylor Stiller
Elija Pelletier
Mackenzie Khakh
Robert Williams

Happy Birthday



Change, change, change.....

As you the students may have noticed there have been some changes in our katas lately. This is all part of the planned migration to the IKGA way of doing things.

For your information IKGA stands for International Karate-do Gojukai Association. This is the organization that Sensei Marshall trained with when he trained in Japan in 1975. He came back as a Black Belt under Sensei Gogen Yamaguchi. At that time the Gojukai did not exist in Canada so Sensei joined with O' Sensei Richard Kim and the Butoku-kai and Sensei Kim became our head Instructor for the next 25 years.

Sensei Kim passed away in 2001 and the Butoku-kai basically fell apart. We continued to train and teach under Sensei Marshall, but in 2007 the city of Parksville appropriated his land for a road and forced him to shut down.

After this Sensei Marshall decided to retire to Victoria and come up on occasion to oversee Black Belt gradings etc. After talking with Sensei we decided to contact the Gojukai and look into joining with them to continue our training in Goju Ryu.

We then learned that the Gojukai is headed by Shihan Goshi Yamaguchi the son of Gogen Yamaguchi. We also found out that they have grown in Canada and have a number of dojos in Western Canada.

What we learned is that a lot of little things have changed in the last 25 years and we have now made the commitment to changing the details of our basics and katas over to the Gojukai way of doing things. So yes, there will be changes and growing pains over the next few months. We will be introducing the changes to the basics starting in February and starting in September the curriculum will follow the Gojukai.

As of September all grading certificates will come directly from the IKGA Canada.

The Gojukai offer two different training camps per year and a Black Belt only camp. When you grade for your Black Belt you will grade at a camp in front of Shihan Goshi Yamaguchi.

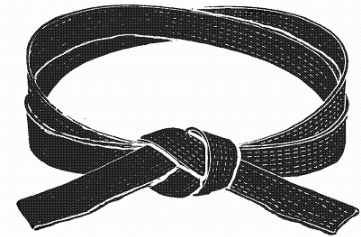
So for the next few months embrace the change, if you can continue to train through the summer then come fall you will be ready to go.

Sensei

Late Policy in effect

This is just a reminder that the late policy is in effect for all classes. This means that if you are late for class and do not phone in to let us know that you will be late you or your child will not be permitted to attend that class. Remember, if you think you may be late, just phone and we will put your name on the list to be let in. But if you plan on being 10-15 minutes early and you will not be late.

By the way, since we brought this into effect we have only had two students late out of all our classes. Good work to all students and parents.



Next Grading:

February 6th, 2009

Private Lessons with Sensei

This is just a reminder that I have started doing private lessons. If you are trying to get ready for a grading or learn your new belt stuff a private lesson may be the way to go.

The lessons are ½ hour and are \$30 per lesson. You will be expected to be here at least 10-15 min early so you can warm yourself up, and plan to stay 10-15 min later so you can practice what we worked on.

If you know you will want more than one lesson they are 4 for \$100.

There are only a few available time slots and they have been filling up quickly, so book now.

Saturday Training

The dojo is now open from 12:00-1:00 on Saturdays for open training. This is a great time to come in and start working on some of the changes that are coming into our system.

There will be some higher belts there if you have any questions. Jr students are welcome to come but please bear in mind that this is a time to train, not a time to play. You are generally on your own so please take it seriously.

Shiai

Well, there were about 60 competitors at the Shiai and everyone had a great time. The katas went very well with some of the students doing the new variations, and the sparring was very exciting with the captains going at it at the end. Our parents were introduced to Bernadette the "Tasmanian Devil", and got to witness her and the boys scrapping it out. A good time was had by all. The next one will be held at the Nanaimo Dojo where there is just a little bit more room.



IKGA Seminar



On Saturday February 21st Sensei Gardecki from the IKGA will be coming in to do a seminar. It will be from 7:00 – 9:00 on the Saturday evening and is open to all adults' green belt and up. She will be going over the new curriculum and some of the kata changes. I would highly recommend that you attend if you are eligible. Please get your name down on the signup list as soon as possible as the class will be limited to 20 students.

KARATE BC EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 15 th	Zone Training	Duncan
February 28 th	Zone 6 Eliminations	Campbell River
May 9 th & 10 th	Provincial Championships	Burnaby

Zone Training

Date: February 15th, 2009
Times: 10:00-12:00 General training
12:30 – 4:00 Competition Specific training
Place: Duncan Island Savings Center (home of the big hockey stick)
Cost: \$10 for half day, \$20 for full day

Those students that enjoyed the tournament and are seriously interested in training to compete should be there for the full day, any other students can use this to augment their regular training and do either a half day or full day. The afternoon session is geared towards tournament training. Remember if you wish to compete in the Provincial Championships you must qualify in the February 28th eliminations. Take this opportunity to work on your katas and kumite for true competition.

Zone 6 team Jackets

Anyone interested in purchasing Zone 6 team jackets may do so at the next Zone training. They are \$75 and will have your name embroidered onto them.

