



Bushishin Budo Renmei

August, 2006

Association Newsletter

From the desk of Harold Hicks, Shihan/Director S.K.S.B Assn.

As of November 5th, 2005, the former Sumter School of Martial Arts is now named Academy of Martial Arts. It is being operated out of a building that was formerly used as a dojo. Many thanks go to one of our students, a third degree brown belt, and business manager. This individual saw the need and God gave him the vision to seek out a building large enough to accommodate a karate school as large as ours. After praying about this and seeking God's guidance, he asked me would I be willing to move if a place could be found to be used as a dojo. After seeking advice from the former Director and others within the Association, I made the decision to make the move. Since this move, the manager has acquired several pieces of equipment to make the dojo more suitable for our students. These items include: large mats for the floor, punching bags, lockers for students and teachers, mirrors on the wall, etc.

The student that I am talking about is none other than Tim Martin. Many thanks go out to Tim for stepping out on faith and following his vision.

Shihan Dai Sho Ray Mohalick

After being "retired" for over two years I'm glad to have the opportunity to return to teaching in at least a limited way, helping out where needed. On my return, I was impressed with the proficiency of the students under the direction of Shihan Hicks. He has trained some very able young black belts. I also enjoyed being a "judge" at the recent tournament between the Savannah school, of Sensei Gamble, and the Sumter school. I'm happy that the Association is helping the sensei keep in touch with one another periodically and promoting this type of competition between schools.

Sumter Dojo

The Academy currently has more than 50 students. We have acquired a large number of new students As a result, as we did at the old school, we made adjustments to

accommodate belt testing for yellow belts so that the ones that were ready for testing were not held back to wait for the others to reach their testing plateau.

On January 21st our class opened as usual and after the basics the class was broken down into groups. These groups trained for about 30 minutes and then Tim, a brown belt and business manager, asked Sensei Ray Mohalick to bring the class together. As Head Instructor I was wondering what was happening. Sensei Ray made a little speech about my birthday on January 20th. I had assumed everyone had forgotten. I received a very nice card and birthday cake that was presented to me by Crystal Pearson, a yellow belt student at the school. There was food and drinks out back of the school that really made my day. My deepest thanks go out to all of you.

Awards

The Academy of Martial Arts has been awarded the Sumter Daily Item's Reader's Choice Award for the best martial arts studio. This is due in great part to the high caliber of instructors at the Academy. Thank you for all of the hard work and let's continue to keep the bar of excellence raised high.

Women's Self Defense Class

On January 21st and January 28th, the Academy held its first Women's Self Defense Class at the school. We had 27 ladies in attendance and the Sumter Daily Item came in to take pictures and write an article on it. It was a really great class and all the ladies seemed to enjoy it. The Instructors were: Ray Mohalick, Jason Capell, David Capell, and Shihan Harold Hicks. Along with these were several other upper belts to assist in showing the ladies how to apply what they had learned.

Daycare/Karate Class

On February 2, 2006, our school started a daycare/karate class, which began with 9 students. The class runs from 4 p.m until 5 p.m, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Jason Capell and Amanda Carter were the Instructors for this day. The new students seemed very excited about being able to learn karate. These two instructors took their time and worked diligently with the new students. They taught them what they would need to excel and make it to the next level when the time comes.

As of September, this class has grown to about 18 to 20 in regular attendance. We are all really excited about all of the new students and the chance to share our knowledge with them. I would like to thank all of the instructors and upper belts who show up each class to help instruct. Your time and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Promotions

On February 23, 2006, a belt test was given to several students. There were five brown belts, three green belts, five blue belts, and one yellow belt that were promoted. These

students worked hard to get to this level. Congratulations to all students who tested and passed.

On March 24, 2006, two senior brown belts, which are female, were tested for their Shodan (black) belt rank. These students worked very hard for several months to make sure they were ready to become black belts. Jamie Ayers and Kendall Painter were tested before a panel of black belt Instructors who, without any doubts, attested that they should be promoted to that level. Congratulations to both of you for a job well done.

In June, Todd Gainey tested for his black belt. In August he left for college and has since started teaching some of his fellow students. We are very proud of Todd and wish him the very best.

Visitors

On June 17 2006 Sensei Charles Roberts, from Ballston Spa. N.Y., stopped by the Academy of Martial arts to pay the new school a visit. It was a pleasant surprise to see him. He stated that he had some business in the area and decided to stop by to see the school, the Instructors, and students. We talked about how things were going and how much he liked our school. I asked him for a photograph of himself so it could be placed on our wall. He said that he would send me one for that. Many thanks go out to Sensei Charles for all he has done for the school and our association.

Shihan Larry Barnes, in an e-mail, asked about my family and how the school was going. I responded that the school was doing well and we had a growing number of students on record and with 20 to 25 attending on a regular basis. I also informed him that we had some women's self defense classes going. He stated that he would like to see us and the school. Hopefully, we will be getting together soon.

Rummage Sale By Tim Martin

On August 19 and September 9 we held a rummage sale that went very well. I want to thank all of you that helped out. Thanks to Bob and Shihan Harold for the tables, merchandise, and man-power. Jamie, Kendall, Chris, and Matthew, thanks for all the work during the sale and for setting our dojo back up. For those who came and shopped, thank you for your support. The award for most spent goes to the Spohns. I want to give a special thanks to the Pickells. Not only did they donate lots of stuff, but they also bought a lot. Mr. Pickell was quite a salesman and helped carry items to people's cars. He even brought lunch to all the workers. With support like this, we can make OUR Academy a great place to be. There are others that helped and I want all of you to know it was appreciated. I know we have some of the finest instructors in the world and I believe we are becoming the finest place to train. Let's take pride in our dojo. The lessons we learn here will benefit us throughout our lives.

Deployments

A couple of our students, Mike Riggins and David Pontious, are being deployed and we want everyone to keep them in their thoughts and prayers. Mike will be gone for 6 weeks and David will not be back until January. We look forward to them returning safely and being able to be with us again. Until then, please keep these men and their families in your prayers.

1st Annual Reunion

Thanks to everyone who attended the 1st annual Kamishin Ryu reunion. We have already had several people give very positive feedback on the time spent. We really hoped that this year would be not only a time of workout but mainly a time of fellowship with past friends and a meeting time of new friends. This is what happened; some people at the reunion had not seen each other in over 25 years!

Special thanks to Harold Martin, Shihan, past head family of Kamishin Ryu, and Ron Cherry, Shihan, past chief examiner of Kamishin Ryu and founder of Shorinji Toraken Ryu, for attending. Their presence at this reunion made it so much more special!

There were quite a few senior people in attendance: Harold Martin, Darrell Collins, Ron Cherry, Ray Ferrell, Ken Burke, Tommy Lequiere, Jim Murphy, George Newkirk, Matt Avant, Kenny MacDonald, Harold Hicks, Will Marvin, Jim Simpson, Thomas Blair, Jason Fugle, Toni Collins and a few Black Belt students from the Sumter dojo.

We are already looking forward to next year being even bigger and better! It will be planned far in advance and will be held at a local gym to ensure no problems with space constraints.

Again, thanks to all who attended and we hope you enjoyed the day.

Soke Darrell Collins
Shorinji Tetsu-Ken Kamishin Ryu
Nippon Kobudo Rengokai

From the desk of the Editor

Thank you all for the submissions for this edition of the newsletter. As usual, if you have any news or something you would like to see in the next newsletter please feel free to e-mail it to me at dcapell3@sc.rr.com. Ideas for new articles or exciting happenings are always welcome.

Sensei David Capell