

The Las Vegas Seminar is Now History

If you were there, congratulations! Because it was something you'll remember for the rest of your life. Las Vegas is spectacular under ordinary circumstances and for there to be an IKCA event going on when you're there makes it even that much more stupendous. That town goes twenty-four hours a day, and the day we put in at the Stratosphere was incredible, making the combination truly unforgettable. Unfortunately, it will probably be the one and only time that the two shall ever cross paths.

It's a shame but the logistics just don't make the location viable for the IKCA to hold its Seminars there. The two rooms we utilized for the various subjects that were taught were just barely adequate for their purpose. They were packed, almost but not quite to the point of being uncomfortable. There is no way of knowing just how many people will attend something of this sort, as far in advance that you need to book the facility, so you can only book the amount of space you feel will be adequate for your needs, leaving little room for error.

Because of the crowd we drew, we just about hit our limit. If many more people had showed up we would have ended up teaching them in the hallway, which we believe the Hotel management would have frowned upon, to say the least. Unfortunately, the next available space allocation is so huge we wouldn't be able to afford it for our purposes. We feel that we need to keep the cost in line with what our people can afford and renting the kind of space we would need would put our prices out of line.

Also, we were asked by a lot of our students and Instructors to consider bringing the Seminar back to Long Beach because many local people felt that the trip to Las Vegas was too expensive and time consuming and didn't attend because of those factors alone, which this year was a good thing, because if they had shown up we would have been overloaded for the space available.

## **BACK TO LONG BEACH**

So, we are going to hold the 2007 West Coast Karate Connection Seminar back on the West Coast at the SeaPort Marina Hotel, in the rooms so familiar to so many of our people. They've told us that it feels like home to them. They're comfortable there and there's plenty to do in the Long Beach area as it is. That, plus the weather is a whole lot more comfortable than it is in Vegas. The average high temperature at that time of the year is 104 degrees, and can go a lot higher.

One of the other things we missed about Long Beach and the SeaPort Marina Hotel was the dinner out back in the pool/patio area, under the trees, that we have had for the past couple of years. What an outstanding pleasure it is to break bread with all of our brothers and sisters at the end of that day, Instructors and students alike. It just finishes the occasion in a manner that we couldn't get any other way.

## THE NEW MODUS OPERANDI WAS A WINNER

In the past, as you know if you have been attending the annual Seminars, the Karate Connection has experimented with a variety of methods of presenting our material and offered a variety of entertaining events, such as the Tournaments we've had in the past. As you know also, we started decreasing the time devoted to the competitive events in favor of more training time, which has been very well received. In fact, it has been so well received that we finally eliminated the competitive events completely.

Now the day is all training, and this year in Las Vegas we did something totally new. It worked out fantastically well. We segregated the Black Belts from the under belts and offered a completely different syllabus for each group. The under belts were divided up into belt level units, Yellow-Orange, Purple-Blue and Green-Brown. The Yellow-Orange group was overcrowded so we further broke them down into two groups so each group could receive more personal attention.

The four groups reviewed "first the basics" to make sure everyone had this *most important* element of the art in place before moving on. The rest of the morning session was spent on the techniques for each belt level. We rotated Instructors hourly so that each group could get a different point of view, instead of just one approach or opinion.

In the early days of my own training I never minded it when one of the other Instructors would take over the class if Mr. Parker wasn't able to be there. Rich Montgomery was one of the first *Student Instructors* at that time, and he got that duty fairly often. Mr. Montgomery would always show us things about the techniques we had already learned from Mr. Parker in a slightly different light, because of his size difference from The Old Man. I liked it especially because I was much closer to Rich's size than I was to Mr. Parker's and it gave me a different perspective on the technique; same technique, but a different point of view. Later on I was given the chance to instruct as a *Student Instructor* and it taught me how to think for myself. What a rare opportunity. I'll never forget the day Mr. Parker called me and asked me to come in and teach an entire class for the first time, from beginning to end. I was scared to death but determined not to let it show. I started out kind of shaky, but then I realized that all I had to do was to mimic the instructors that I admired the most and it would be no problem. Not a bad approach. I could actually hear myself saying things the Old Man had said and in the same manner as he. In time you develop your own style and pace and if you stick with it long enough you'll find people are emulating your methods and terminology.

After the one hour lunch break we came back and the entire afternoon with the under belts was spent teaching freestyle techniques and doing drills, which many of our distance-video students have no way of doing on their own, so that was a highlight for many people there. Freestyle techniques are always a great feature because in the past, and not that distant past, freestyle was never actually taught, you had to figure it out on your own. Not an easy thing to do, so whoever attended this Seminar now has a big leg up on freestyle that they wouldn't have been able to get any other way. They got to see it, they got to try it and they got to be guided through it, which is something you can't get on video. But that's why we have these things in the first place, even the students from our Affiliate School Program who has an IKCA Certified Instructor benefited because they got to see how teachers other than their Instructors do it. Not everyone's aptitudes or philosophies are the same, or even near the same, and what works for me might not for you, but somewhere within the Karate Connection's fantastic mix of talent we've got someone who will show you something that *will* work for you.

Everyone who attended, be it beginning student or high ranking Black Belt, left a better martial artist than what they came there as that day. To reproduce this kind of experience on your own, you would have to travel far and wide, whereas we bring it all together for you. You can't beat that!

## THE BLACK BELTS HAD THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES

The whole concept behind the IKCA Seminar, for the Black Belts, is that they can get into things that the Karate Connection Program itself doesn't offer. In the old days, and it still exists today in many styles and systems, your instructor fully expected you to study with him forever. In fact in the very early days it was a serious offense if a student even went to another dojo just to see what was going on, even if a friend was studying there. If it was ever discovered that you had gone to another school and actually trained you would probably be asked to leave the school you were attending. It was, at the very least, considered to be a slap in the face to your Instructor.

When we created the Karate Connection, and later the IKCA, we made a conscious effort to think outside that box. From past experience we know that many people *need* somewhere to go beyond just one style, system or even martial art. They *need* to expand their knowledge and experiences, so we decided early on to not only allow them but to encourage them, and what better way of encouraging them than to literally help our Black Belts find the best of what they might be seeking. Forget about allowing them to go out and find it, and travel to it. How about going even beyond that by having their Association finding the best of what's out there for them and bringing it to them. Most students have neither the time nor the resources to find it on their own. But, we reserve giving that privilege exclusively to the Black Belts. We insist that you have a solid base first and that base is Karate Connection Kenpo, period. Get your Black Belt and then we'll help you get the rest.

And that's what the Karate Connection is all about. It's also for that reason that we decided to make the time for rank standardized and to have it apply to everyone equally, and the test for degrees for Black Belts simply the Master Form. Karate Connection Kenpo is complete in and of itself. It doesn't warrant expanding, because to do so would only dilute it and that's the last thing we want. The system has proven itself over and over again. If anyone needs proof, all they have to do is simply take a look at our Black Belts and that claim is immediately validated.

An analogy I used at *Karate Nation,* the IKCA Affiliate School in Henderson, Nevada, that John Kelleher and Jeff Hurbace so graciously allowed us to use for two evenings before the Seminar, I think says it the best. I compared our Black Belts to a fallen bird that you help to recover its health. "*If you love it, set it free, and if it loves you, it will come back"*. That's how we feel about our Black Belts. We love them and want to see them happy and fulfilled, so we let them go to find what they need, and what we love above all is when they bring it back home and share it with their brothers and sisters of the IKCA, which is probably why the IKCA

enjoys one of the largest populations of Black Belts in the art today, especially considering the length of time it has had to work with.

Very few other heads of systems feel as we do in that respect and for that we are grateful, because it makes the IKCA unique and allows it to stand apart from the rest of the pack. Add to that, the fact that it's the IKCA Members that are the only ones who can amend the Bylaws and it really stands alone. To our knowledge, no other Karate Organization operates in such a manner.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERY BLACKBELT

I believe that just about every Black Belt attended every class available to them and if they didn't it was their choice. Maybe you feel you're too old to be getting on the ground and being twisted up like a pretzel. I certainly feel that way but then again, probably most other people in their seventies feel likewise. So personally, I wouldn't actively attend that class. Actually, I'd like to watch it, and who knows, I might even try a few things. I did just a few years ago and loved it. But at the Seminar if you didn't want to, you didn't have to.

Everyone seems to be fascinated by the stand-up manipulation that Mr. Meeks teaches but here again, if you've had an injury recently and don't want your joints manipulated, pass or watch. The Knife fighting class held by Mr. Koeshall was enjoyed by all. The Reality Training by Mr. Metz is always popular and a revelation to all who attend, and the Freestyle Class with Mr. Parson was great, you get a chance to try your stuff out against people you've never seen or worked with before. GM Vic LeRoux puts on a terrific Trapping Class which is always looked forward to. As to my own participation, I spent the entire day with the Under Belts, and no better a day have I ever had. I love working with Under Belts of all levels, because their rate of progress is always great, and their enthusiasm at the top of the chart. They no doubt heard me say many things that their Instructors have said countless times which is good, because it validated what their Instructors. As far as our video students are concerned, they heard and saw a lot that they never heard or saw on the videos.

The interesting thing about an organization like ours, in that we encourage our Black Belts to explore other systems and arts, is that we very seldom need to go outside our own Association to find it. In some extraordinary instances we do, because we find something so rare that it hasn't been introduced to our people before and they haven't yet found it on their own. This was the case with Professor Joe Lansdale. I couldn't believe how many people at the Seminar asked me, "Where did you find this guy?" At first I had to stop to think, because I've known Joe for so long but had never had the opportunity to spend any in-person time with him to find out exactly what it was that he did in the martial arts.

It all started well over ten years ago, when Joe sent for our videos. He actually took a couple of tests and then decided to get the rest of what he needed from the videos themselves. This is something that we normally would frown upon but in his case, because of his background, we knew it would be alright, plus the fact that he wasn't seeking rank from the IKCA.

Joe and I became very well acquainted through many phone conversations over the years and one face-to-face meeting when he was out on the West Coast for a book signing tour.

You'll remember from previous issues of the Newsletter that Mr. Lansdale is one of the top selling and most prolific novelists in America today.

One thing that was always present in our conversations was the question, "When can I get you to come to Texas to teach at one of our camps?" My answer was always the same: "I'll make it one of these days" and the day finally came last October when I flew down there for a weekend and participated at the famous *Camp Lansdale* in Nacogdoches, Texas. It was a marriage made in Heaven. They enjoyed what I brought to them and I loved what I saw them doing and made it a priority to get Joe to one of our Seminars as soon as it was possible, which was this past July at the Stratosphere Hotel in Las Vegas. Joe is a very busy man, as you can imagine, and we just got lucky as to timing. We also got even luckier because he was able to bring several of his top people with him to help out.

It was fantastic. If you were there you know what I'm talking about. If you weren't, you missed the Karate Connection event of the year, or maybe the decade and we're sorry. We wish you could have been there. I'm not going to dwell on this because what's done is done. I just wish every Black Belt in the Karate Connection could have been there with us, they would have come away enriched and enlightened.





## Vic LeRoux is coming to Texas

If you are anywhere within a thousand miles and would like to attend please be sure to make your reservation.

Mr. LeRoux will be there on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

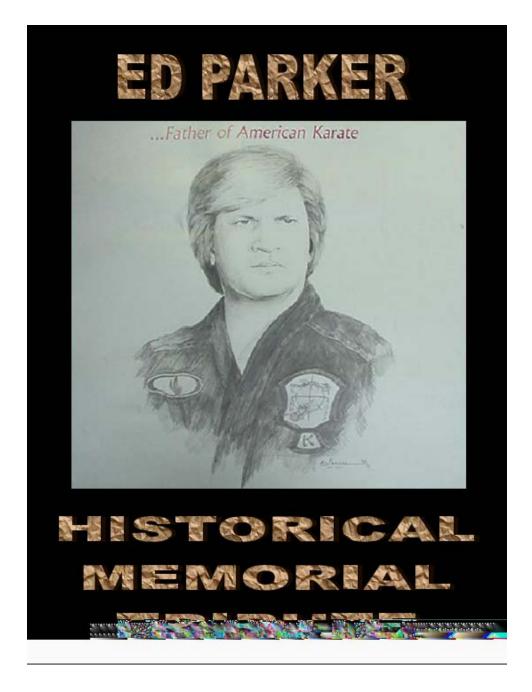
#### Ford Kenpo Karate

Location: Ft. Worth, TX suburb: Whitesettlement Municipal 8213 Whitesettlement Rd. Whitesettlement, TX 76108 For Info call Vic LeRoux (714) 229-0372 or Travis Ford (817) 903-8012

Grand Master LeRoux will be teaching all belt levels from 8:00 AM to Noon.

Fee - \$50.00 Includes Barbeque – (Seminar participants only)

There will be an **OPEN TOURNAMENT** hosted by Mr. Ford from Noon to 6:00 PM at the same location. **FIGHTING \* FORMS \* SELF DEFENSE DIVISIONS** Fee - \$40.00 for all three – or \$25.00 per division



Vic LeRoux has been acquiring and squirreling away Ed Parker memorabilia for as long as I've known him, which is over forty years. Anything he could get his hooks into concerning Ed Parker went into his private collection. I've always wondered why anyone would save every scrap of information about someone and now I know.

I am certainly happy that someone did and I'm even happier that it was Vic, because that way I know it's all here. And that's what this portion of the IKCA Website is all about. We are hosting a Historical Memorial Tribute Site, for your enjoyment and to further your knowledge about the Senior Grand Master of Kenpo, the Father of American Karate, Ed Parker.

On the site we have an abundance of video taken from several sources over the span of Mr. Parker's lifetime when film and video were available, and photos when they were not. The segments range from only a few minutes, as in the case of the famous TV commercials, which Mr. Parker credited with getting him more movie assignments than anything else, to over half an hour for some other segments such as the very entertaining Demonstration/Seminar he did for us at the Seal Beach School back in the eighties. We are getting the site up and running with eleven segments.

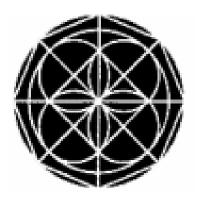
Much of the video on the website has never been seen outside the homes of the people fortunate enough to have a copy of it, which is very few. And now the Karate Connection wants to share it with you and the rest of the world.

Go to the page and check out the various titles and watch what you want, or just start at the beginning and watch it all the way through. Right now there's probably a couple of hours worth of material. But we will be adding more as time goes by and we get more submissions. So, if you happen to have anything that you don't see on the site and wish to share it with the world, please know that we will give you credit for it.

Log onto our website at <u>www.karateconnection.com</u> and click on the listing titled The Ed Parker Historical Memorial Tribute page, you will need to have DSL or cable to get the full benefit of the videos. If the feed is slow or comes in pieces it's because of the tremendous traffic, so you might want to try it at a later time.

We hope you enjoy this web page as much as we have enjoyed putting it together for you. Each piece we did was pure pleasure.

## May the memory of Ed Parker live forever.



# **PRESSURE TESTING YOUR SKILLS**

I don't know about other organizations but the Karate Connection has to be one of the luckiest ones around. We have so many people of so many talents that it is overwhelming at times. Among them is Brenda King. Not only is Brenda a highly proficient practitioner and Certified Instructor but she is an accomplished writer as well. Check out her article on "Pressure Testing" your skills.

We all know that IKCA has an outstanding curriculum for teaching self-defense. With its emphasis on quality basics and the "Theory of 55", IKCA Kenpo can adapt to just about any street situation. But how do you personally "Pressure Test" your system? How do you know you can actually apply the techniques and skills that lie within the system?

A great place to begin is to review all the drills that Grandmasters Chuck Sullivan and Vic LeRoux outline and demonstrate in the original video tapes, beginning with contact Drills such as the "Yes/No" pad work drills, the semi-circles drill, running the line, the escape line drill and borrowing and blending drill. Each drill re-enforces IKCA's emphasis on spontaneity, acquisition of targets and application of weapons; as well as applying the concepts of distance, power, body mechanics, penetration vs. dissipation and much more. These drills are the starting point for the Kenpoist to learn how to remain calm within the chaos of an assault while at the same time accurately countering the attack.

The above skill building drills are a great way to introduce students to the early stages of "Pressure Testing" their skills. But one major training method that separates IKCA from many other Kenpo systems, as far as pressure testing goes, is its emphasis on Sparring.

Sparring takes your Kenpo skills to a whole new level. It's the bridge that we all must cross in order to understand if our Kenpo fully works. Unfortunately, many Kenpo schools refuse to take this route, opting to emphasize numerous techniques, sets and forms over sparring. We in the IKCA are so fortunate to have Grandmasters who understand the importance of sparring as a training method towards reality. Sparring has always been the ultimate "Pressure Test".

### A Little IKCA History

Back in the day, it was a well known fact that Chuck Sullivan schools were the places to go if you wanted to learn how to fight. Not tag fighting mind you but STREET FIGHTING. Sparring was commonplace at Vic's Original Karate Connection School in Hawthorne, California. Fearsome street fighters came out of those dojos.

I can remember the Black Belts proudly showing off the number of patches they "torn off" their opponent's gi or sleeve during a training session. Vic was a feared tough, mean fighter. His rolling kiai would make you wish you could fight someone else that night. Even in his 50s Chuck Sullivan was the fastest man in the school. Cat like movements, quick kick attacks... Sparring was the staple for "Pressure Testing" Kenpo.

#### Sparring

So, what is Sparring? Well, here is my definition of it. Sparring is any kind of training where your partner resists, denies and/or tries to counter what you are doing. They do not cooperate and most important they do not stand there and let you hit them 5-6 times.

Sparring comes in all forms and should be progressive and enjoyable. Below are examples of what IKCA offers.

1. Point Sparring. Not just for tournaments. With its emphasis of accuracy, speed and explosive footwork, point sparring is a very good training method for drilling many Kenpo Concepts: point of origin, accuracy, and lead with the weapon just to name a few. It is limited sparring where you can isolate a skill and build from there. The very best way to introduce beginners to sparring is to start them off with point fighting.

2. Continuous Sparring - Conditioning is extremely important here. Emphasis on defensive skills, counter attacks as well as applying good offensive combinations. Concepts of feinting, faking, distance and footwork are vital. Students can begin to get their all around game up to speed here.

3. Randori - Strength, explosiveness, balance and application of the "Theory of 55" are tested in randori. Attackers continuously grab, push, hold, strike and/or try to lock you up. Forward pressure is applied and you must try to escape using the right technique for each situation. This type of sparring is mentally and physically exhausting. But it is a good measuring stick for personal understanding of IKCA's techniques and the concept of borrowing and blending.

4. Street Sparring - This is the ultimate training method in regards to "Pressure Testing" your personal Kenpo. This is what it's all about. Street Sparring is a combination of all the above. On the USE OF FORCE SCALE this is at the top of the pyramid. Apply your techniques to save your life or the life of a loved one. Use punches, kicks, sweeps, take downs, head butts, elbows, knees, groin shots, eye rakes, claws, weapons, multiple attackers, environment etc. This kind of sparring is extremely difficult to train because of the possibility of injury BUT it can and should be done. Use proper protective gear and ease up on the head butts, knees and elbows.

#### Not Full Contact.

One of the misnomers regarding "Pressure Testing/Sparring" is the notion that the training must be full force/full contact all the time. That notion is nonsense. As you can see from the list above, Pressure Testing comes in various forms. The most important aspect of the training is that your partners must be non-compliant. Resistance can be slight to moderate, to hard. It all depends on what the goals are of the training session and the skill level of the students. The instructor should set the pace and the goals.

#### Conclusion

Most all IKCA affiliate schools are fighting schools. Some specialize in tournament competition while others focus on street survival. If your club needs assistance in developing a "Pressure Testing Program" IKCA is here to help. Grandmasters Vic and Chuck offer great personal instruction on various methods of sparring. As well as offering a series on the subject. If you do not already have a copy, purchase the IKCA DVDs on Kenpo Sparring. There are literally hundreds of tips, skills and drills that will expand your "Pressure Testing" portfolio.



Back in late 1989 when we were videotaping the various segments for the Orange Belt Video, which is the first of the six tape series that comprise the heart of the Karate Connection Video Training Home Study Course, I made a statement and then asked a question. It went something like this: "The best defense is a good offense, is that right?" Then I followed it up with, "That's right, the best defense *is* a good offense, but what if you're not ready with that good offense when you need a defense?" The answer is, "You better know how to block." And I might add, you better know how to block EFFECTIVELY.

It's been over sixteen years since I made those statements and asked those questions on video and nothing has changed since that time. Not a thing! That's why we have never even considered updating those tapes. So very little has changed since we made them; we don't feel the need to change anything. And those few things that have been updated are passed on to the students when they take their video tests. No one gets through the system without getting them. It's for that reason and several others that we say, "If you're studying the videos, but not taking the video tests, you're only getting half of the system, and good luck".

A little while back, something happened at one of our regular Monday night classes that I found very interesting. A young Kenpo Blackbelt who had just gotten back from Baghdad joined our class, and on this particular evening we had a couple of relative beginners so I was going over blocking in depth. As part of a demonstration on just how effective the Kenpo blocks are, I put on one of our arm blocking pads, pictured below.





Then I had one of the attending Underbelts just "set the block", meaning place the arm in the position it would be in when the block is fully deployed, at the moment of impact. He didn't even need to put any of his own force into the block, just **set** it. Then I swung a round house punch, the kind most people throw on the street and bashed into his arm. The man happened to be smaller than I am and relatively inexperienced and yet there was no way I could power through that block. Then I asked someone in the class who is much larger than I to repeat what I had done. He did and with the same results, nothing, zilch, nada, he wasn't able to get past the block either.

It was at that point that the young Blackbelt just back from Baghdad said, "You know, I'm just a low ranking Blackbelt, but I've never seen that demonstration before, how come? That's the best validation of the Kenpo block I've ever seen. If that doesn't let the student know what it's all about, nothing will." He shouldn't feel too badly. I had never done that before, using students, so my students hadn't seen it either. They have since. I did it in Vegas and it opened some eyes. Even people who know the effectiveness of the blocks were impressed by it. It

works! If you have the proper equipment you should try it for yourself, either as a demonstration for your students or if you are a student to prove the effectiveness for yourself. If the block is done properly, even the biggest person in the class can't get through the block of the smallest person in the class, even, in most cases, if that person turns out to be a woman. If done improperly, watch out, you could get hurt. But that applies to the street as well. As I said at the beginning of the article, you had better know how to block, EFFECTIVELY! And that's the key word here, EFFECTIVELY. Unfortunately, not every martial artist knows how to block EFFECTIVELY. (From now on, effectively, will be in lower case, I think you got the message by now.) We cringe every time we get a video test by someone who has been trained in another system, who gets our Orange Belt Tape, *looks* at our blocks and says to himself, "Oh yeah, I know how to do those dudes." Then he sends in a test with all of the blocks going 90 degrees across his face, ending up only a few inches from his face. I did say, "He *looked* at the blocks" didn't I? Well, he had to have just looked at them, because he surely didn't *study* them.

There's no mystery to blocking, but there is a formula, and the formula is simple. The blocks are all 45 degree angles, 45 degrees out and 45 degrees over. This puts the angle of the block at its maximum distance from the body or head, when fully deployed, and as solid as it can be. Any lesser angle puts the arm closer to the body or head, and at the same time decreases its strength and puts you in danger of being struck. One of the worse violations we see is with the Inward Block, with what we call windshield wiper action, where the arm wipes across the face at too close a proximity, ending up only a few inches from the face. Or what's just as bad is when they go from "point of origin", which is wherever the hand happens to be when the block is needed, to wherever the block needs to end up for protection, without covering the proper zone on the way.

One of the things that most people don't think about is the arm itself. The rule of thumb is that if you are blocking on the inside of your opponent's arm, such as would be the case of a Right Inward Block, against a right round house punch, you would be blocking between the wrist and the elbow, because to block between the elbow and the shoulder would give your opponent's arm the opportunity to hook around the block and for the punch to get to you. Remember, your entire arm is longer than his arm is from fist to elbow, so use it. If you are blocking on the outside of the arm, the block must be between the elbow and the shoulder, because if it's between the elbow and the wrist your opponent could collapse the arm and use his forearm against you.

If you haven't watched the Orange Belt Video for a while, why don't you stick it into the machine and take another look. If you do, I'll bet you will watch it all the way through. That one Video has most all of the basics and is without a doubt the most informative video in the series. It has been called the Bible of the Karate Connection Video Program.

A quick story about the Orange Belt Video to finish this article off. One of our very early students came down with a killer flu and was laid up for over a week. He told us that he got really bored with daytime TV, so he started watching our Orange Belt video and said that he came to know it by heart, until one day when he was watching it for about the fifteenth time, and he heard something he never heard before. He said, "I couldn't believe my ears, I had to back it up and listen to it again." He was astounded that he had watched that video that many times and missed it every time. But he said he figured it out later on. He told us the only answer was that we were sneaking into his bedroom and putting things on that tape that wasn't there before. I got a real big kick out of that. He also said that there was more information on that tape than all the others put together, and he might be right. Take another look and see what you think.



We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your promotion. We know what kind of dedication and perseverance it requires to earn rank in the Martial Arts and we wish to pay our sincerest respects to you for having shown what it takes to appear on this list.

Raudel S. Villarreal Glen Russell Bernie McPherson Shane W. Vogt Patricia Brennan Rob Rurka Nathan Traugott Adam Traugott John Paul Traugott Martin Seck Anthony J. Bosoni Scott Sumner Jerry Brooksher Mike Moss William E. Melendez Douglas C. Pilcher M. Jean Averette Octavio Melo Jon Medeiros Joseph J. Keene Aaron Chambers Barbara Fear Julie Luna Josh Clements Philip Chircop Ivo Linsen Ivo Linsen **Timothy Michael Silva** Fernando Gomez, Jr. Elizabeth McIntyre Kyle Sigmon Lyle Johnston Richard "Chip" Pike **Gregory Johnston** 

Edinburg, TX, USA Louisville, KY, USA Honolulu, HI, USA Redondo Beach, CA, USA Fritz Creek, AK, USA Indian Trail, NC, USA Richmond, VA, USA Severn, MD, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Bakersfield, CA, USA Bakersfield, CA, USA California City, CA, USA Northport, AL, USA Northport, AL, USA Orland, ME, USA Orland, ME, USA Orland, ME, USA Woodgate, NY, USA Falfurrias, TX, USA Huffman, TX, USA Malta, Europe Netherlands Netherlands Prattville, AL Oxnard, CA, USA Henderson, NV, USA Henderson, NV, USA Henderson, NV, USA Marietta, GA, USA Hermosa Beach, CA, USA

**1st Degree Black Belt 3rd Degree Black Belt BROWN BELT GREEN BELT ORANGE BELT** PURPLE BELT **YELLOW BELT YELLOW BELT YELLOW BELT PURPLE BELT ORANGE BELT 1st Degree Black Belt 3rd Degree Black Belt 3rd Degree Black Belt** 2nd Degree Black Belt **1st Degree Black Belt BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT PURPLE BELT PURPLE BELT GREEN BELT ORANGE BELT BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT BLUE BELT PURPLE BELT** 

Roy Seely Shaun Bowen Sidartha V. Lonngi Reyna Jason L. Platner Mark Williams Alex Henkel-Risher Hunter Honeycutt **Eileen Herford** Kimber Robinson **Bralyn Wilson Kieran Wilson** Anthony Thomas Zach Thomas Jeffrey Capili **Taylor Smithson** Kevin Mathews **Kevin Mathews** Tamara D. Munro John Lowe Christopher Wiley Mia Lyborg Alva Pope Daniel C. Pace Joel Taylor Phil Aldsworth Andrew Leckey Richard Leidel Richard Leidel Anthony J. Bosoni Barbara M. Bosoni Samuel Wilkinson Jon Medeiros James Havden **Bill Parsons** Monica Pasquini Matt Johnson Phyllip Parsons Walt Heckman Wayne Wrath Steven Patterson Andrew Stevenson **Mike Pendergrass** Mark Herford Joshua Pestaner Joseph Pestaner

Centerville, OH, USA Henderson, NV, USA Mexico Girard, KS, USA Rockville, MD, USA Durham, NC, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Henderson, NV, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Whitesettlement, TX, USA Whitesettlement, TX, USA Redondo Beach, CA, USA Seven Point, TX, USA Clarksville, TN, USA Denmark Northport, AL, USA Vass, NC, USA Vass, NC, USA Napa, CA, USA Napa, CA, USA Holland Holland Richmond, VA, USA Richmond, VA, USA Premont, TX, USA Bangor, ME, USA Redondo Beach, CA, USA Raleigh, NC, USA Napa, CA, USA Corpus Christi, TX, USA Raleigh, NC, USA Raleigh, NC, USA Henderson, NV, USA Vass, NC, USA Bakersfield, CA, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Germantown, MD, USA Germantown, MD, USA

**PURPLE BELT PURPLE BELT BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT BROWN BELT BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT YELLOW BELT ORANGE BELT BLUE BELT GREEN BELT BROWN BELT BLUE BELT BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT** PURPLE BELT **ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT** 2nd Degree Black Belt **1st Degree Black Belt ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT PURPLE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT ORANGE BELT 3rd Degree Black Belt** 2nd Degree Black Belt **GREEN BELT BLUE BELT BLUE BELT BROWN BELT BLUE BELT BLUE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT** 

Lucas Gorentz **Chad Garrett** Casey Moss Hannah Moss Paul Garrison Robert Ray **Gregory Johnston** Joseph Moore Joshua Capili **Richard Stillwagon** Robert Stillwagon Nadine Johnston Brian Zdrojewski Chloe Guillen Carson Odneal **Enrique Guillen** Stacia Brown Carl Johnson Jim Brown Eboni Gibson Cynthia Woodburn Will Koehler Kathy Campbell Amy Brooksher Amanda Mitchell-Carrier Jose Gonzalez Dalton Taylor York

Girard, KS, USA Centerville, GA, USA Hermosa Beach, CA, USA Henderson, NV, USA Milwaukee, WI, USA Bakersfield, CA, USA Pittsburg, KS, USA Santa Clara, CA, USA Gun Barrel City, TX, USA

**ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT BLUE BELT YELLOW BELT YELLOW BELT YELLOW BELT** YELLOW BELT **YELLOW BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT ORANGE BELT PURPLE BELT PURPLE BELT BLUE BELT** YELLOW BELT **BROWN BELT BROWN BELT GREEN BELT GREEN BELT BLUE BELT GREEN BELT ORANGE BELT** 

