

INTERNATIONAL KARATE
CONNECTION ASSOCIATION
NEWS



NEWSLETTER #50

1st QUARTER 2007

IKCA SEMINAR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH
Seaport Marina Hotel
Long Beach, California

Last year's Seminar was held in Las Vegas, and while everyone who attended agreed that it was fantastic, there were many complaints that it was just too far and too expensive for many of our local people to be able to attend and they felt left out. So, this year we have brought it back to the home base, the Seaport Marina Hotel in Long Beach. Because the facilities are more expensive in Las Vegas, we were forced to charge more for the Seminar than we do when it's held here. So, whereas the fee was One Hundred and Fifty Dollars last year, this year the fee will be returned to the usual One Hundred and Twenty Dollars, with the dinner afterwards included in that price, which was not the case in Las Vegas.

We will have the usual Kenpo Mixer on the night before in the room downstairs. That's where we all get together and catch up on what's happened since we've seen one another over this past year. There are usually some excellent activities that take place there as well, such as an impromptu running the line and doing the semi-circle or whatever other drills that have developed over the past year. It can be a workout or a social event, whichever you want. The young Kenpo Turks usually wind up breaking a good sweat while the more sedate among us are generally happy to observe, at a distance. Make your seminar and hotel reservations early because the hotel is a popular one and has a tendency to fill up on the summer weekends.

Seaport Marina Hotel 6400 E. Pacific Coast Hwy Long Beach, CA
For Hotel Reservations call (562) 434-8451

If you have any questions please give us a call at 1-714-229-0372

WHY DO WE STUDY A MARTIAL ART?

This is a subject that I haven't thought about for quite some time, but a recent incident brought it to mind and I began thinking about all of *the* people in the arts and why they sought out the martial sciences to study.

I would imagine the reasons are almost as varied as the number of people there are in the combined arts, although I would also think that there are a number of similarities as well.

In my own case it was simply a matter of wanting to get back into some semblance of physical condition after five years of civilian life following my discharge from the USMC. My time in the Marine Corps was not exactly spent in the field but they did manage to keep us in good physical condition in the event we would be transferred to a combat unit and then on to the action in Korea, where the fighting was hot and heavy at the time.

After five years on a civilian job, school and starting a family I found myself in what I considered, at the time, miserable physical condition. My cardio was gone and my muscle tone was shot. I was growing old at the age of twenty-seven and getting ready for a rocking chair. Then along came Kenpo. That was in February of 1959. At that time the word *Kenpo* meant nothing in the English language, as a matter of fact neither did the word *Karate*. It was still unknown to the average man on the street because it had not yet even been introduced to the movie or television industries and therefore to the public at large.

Beyond wanting to get some physical conditioning back, there was also the fact that I would be learning something that might, in the future, save me from perhaps getting injured in a physical confrontation, even though I had not engaged in any such activity since about the age of fourteen, nor did I intend to in the future. But life holds many unfortunate surprises and it's not a bad thing to anticipate them before they happen and do something to protect yourself in case they come at you one dark and deadly night. So, between the two it was enough incentive for me personally to become involved. And once involved I quickly fell in love with the art and could easily see myself doing it for the rest of my life, which to this point is exactly what has happened.

The book "The Journey" written by Tom Bleecker is the study of twenty-four of the top modern day Kenpo practitioners. The stories in that book range from dramatic to comical but all are motivating and many very heartrending. But what most don't tell is what inspired those people in the first place. What was their motivation? I'm sure every person had a reason just as interesting as the journeys that followed.



AN OLD, NEW STUDENT

About a year ago I met a man who had an extensive background in the martial arts but jumped from one dojo to another and one style or system to another, not staying long enough with any in particular in order to attain the rank of Black Belt. After several years of life getting in the way, he had all but forgotten about the commitment he had made to himself, way back then, and settled into a life of higher education, business, marriage and family.

Just at the end of last year, at a party held the day before New Year's Eve at a mutual friend's house, we ran into each other again and over the course of the evening he began telling me of his lifelong desire to complete that commitment he made to himself so long ago and so long forgotten.

Dennis is not a kid anymore or even a younger man by most standards and the thought of getting back into a martial art, while appealing, is still somewhat intimidating. How are these old muscles going to react after all these years? It had been almost a quarter of a century since he had last worn a gi. Would he even remember how to tie the knot in his belt, which was Brown at his last promotion? Brown is close but no cigar, and yes, he remembered how to tie his belt.

In a long phone conversation the following week I discovered just how much he wanted to go *the rest of the way* and I volunteered to evaluate his basics and told him that if they met with our standards he could come to our regular Monday night classes. I also told him at that time that he would essentially be starting back at the beginning and that he would need to go through our entire system, from Basics to Orange Belt and all the rest, to Black Belt. I let him know that in order to become a Karate Connection Kenpo Black Belt there was no other way in which I could help him. I made him aware of what that entailed and the commitment he would be making. I also let him know that no one would think any less of him if he tried and didn't succeed. We know the odds and willingly accept them. As hard as some people try and as much as they want to, going *all the way* isn't for everyone and the statistics prove it.

Dennis needed to do a lot of soul searching. Would he be able to make the time to commit to this effort? Would he have the physical stamina and a number of other considerations?

In thinking about his future in Kenpo he consulted an old friend and teacher of his from *back in the day*, Mr. Tom Bleeker. I have asked for and been granted permission to reprint their email correspondence here. I think you'll find these emails more than interesting, I certainly did.

Dennis begins:

Tom,

You know, to learn boxing one spends a whole lot of time on footwork, balance, twisting, hitting with and from the shoulder, bobbing and weaving off a low center low line changing from side to side, slipping punches with small taps and once inside using a tucked-in chin and shoulders as protection. The punches are few, simple, and difficult to perfect in

proper smooth combinations when fighting. At the next level conditioning, footwork, timing, speed, fakes, power and good body motion are necessary tools to advance in the art of boxing. In addition, a boxer hits numerous bags to perfect his fighting ability.

In Kenpo, a student learns to offensively attack with five to ten moves off an opponent's strike and then must remember every one of the moves to advance. The one-step fighting techniques are numerous and technical as are the forms which involve exact movement against numerous attackers. The number of strikes are endless and so very technical with angles, power blocks, grabs, parries, snakes, pull downs to counter strikes, eye pokes, claws, hammer fist, ridge hands, back hands, foot positions, body twists out of various bows, on and on. After learning all this, the martial artist, in an effort to be effective in fighting, must then train like the boxer to perfect his conditioning and skills.

So, based on all this effort to perfect the art, my wife asks the logical question: If you are taking the time to learn all these skills with an already challenging "to do list" and the objective is to never fight, then why learn martial arts? The answer to this question is clear to me but having to explain it took a little thought. Besides, I wonder will I ever really be able to remember and perfect the Kenpo moves while at the same time balancing my life with a wife, three kids (5 and under) with many sleep interrupted nights, painting, golf lessons, a business to run and perfect, travel, social and financial demands? My thought is; one step at a time I'll see what develops. I am not into perfection, certainly do not want to be a tough guy but I am interested in health, self-defense and a lifetime of good body range and motion.

Sidebar, guys like you and Chuck should receive money lifetime grants from some group for your PhD in Kenpo. What a whole lot of work and knowledge for no to low monetary return. Even the ability to express your accomplishments is limited. It's not like you can go to a country club and express all these martial art skills on a golf course with an abundance of new fellows, who's who members to share the art.

So again, the question from my wife is then, why do I want to do it? Well, the martial arts are one of the things that have always held my interests. I was never good at remembering forms but I enjoyed moving, learning, conditioning and development of timing and rhythm. In addition, the challenges of Kenpo improves my thinking process and logic, and I think calms me down, making me a better husband, dad and business person. None of this has anything to do with fighting, however having the self-confidence that I can be in shape enough to move without pulling muscles and ligaments is a great thing at my age. By the way, my first day at Chuck's I pulled a hamstring muscle when banging a back kick. My fault, I didn't warm up prior to working with him.

Who knows, in a couple of years, my discipline in Kenpo may help me be at a good weight, start playing tennis again, better golf and develop a new business. In addition, I am looking forward to training my children and possibly others, in the art of Kenpo.

As for now, I just hope to have the mental capacity and ability to remember all this data for testing and future processing. What a journey. But I know it is something I want to do even if I am just an older guy having a little fun.

Dennis

The following are Tom Bleeker's answers. He fast copied Dennis' comments and then made his observations.

In Kenpo, a student learns to offensively attack with five to ten moves off an opponent's strike and then must remember every one of the moves to advance. The one-step fighting techniques are numerous and technical as are the forms which involve exact movement against numerous attackers. The number of strikes are endless and so very technical with angles, power blocks, grabs, parries, snakes, pull downs to counter strikes, eye pokes, claws, hammer fist, ridge hands, back hands, foot positions, body twists out of various bows, on and on. After learning all this, the martial artist, in an effort to be effective in fighting, must then train like the boxer to perfect his conditioning and skills.

To me, this isn't the way it works. Years ago I wrote a piece of dialogue for a main character in a martial arts script. His name was Professor Gojen, a Judan, who said to his gathered students, "If to enjoy the beauty of a single petal from a flower, the eye had to interpret the blendings of color...classify each shade to its respective primary ... we would have time for nothing else. Instead, the eye perceives this assortment of colors as a single experience. So it is with our skills and disciplines. When fused, blended and subtly harmonized with one another, they become a single experience. The mind **must not** be encouraged to interpret or classify, for then it will have time for nothing else. And so it becomes appropriate, then, to allow the mind to arrive at decisions spontaneously. We must let it alone ... trust it to work by itself. If the centipede walking with its hundred legs had to think out the sequence of moves - which leg after which - it would tremble where it stood, too distracted to continue. So it is with you. While you achieve great skills and disciplines, always remember that they are implements ... accessories to be used by your creative ingenuity, to be employed without burden or deliberation. At the highest plane, your response to attack would give the appearance of a random, almost accidental selection of skills - superior in execution, yet so removed from conscious thought that you, an instant later, might not remember exactly what you had done."

Years later I began using a writer's storyboarding software called DramaticPro, which, in *one* of its building steps it draws a clear distinction between a character in the story who is "becoming" from one who is "being." After 45 years studying and teaching the martial arts, I have come to recognize the truth of this distinction. There are many martial artists, including black belts, who remain in the process of "becoming" a martial artist and will in all likelihood never move to "being" a martial artist.

An easier example is that of learning how to type. When you first learned the art of typing, you had to learn the location of each key, and for a long time you typed by mentally thinking where each letter on the page you were typing existed on the typewriter or keyboard. Yet, you reached a point where you no longer had to think this through. You simply "type" Alternatively, many who have been taught how to type will spend the rest of their lives "hunting and pecking."

So, based on all this effort to perfect the art, my wife asks the logical question: If you are taking the time to learn all these skills with an already challenging "to do list" and the objective is to never fight, then why learn martial arts?

The answer is that the actual art of fighting is only a small component of the art. I've often said that if learning how to defend myself in a fight was the main reason I've studied the martial art for all these years, then I've wasted a tremendous amount of my time. The truth is, if this continued to be my main goal, I achieved that many years ago. And if I didn't, then I would have been far better off getting my ass kicked once every ten years and spending all that time perfecting some other skill that would have paid off (not financially) far more handsomely.

The answer to this question is clear to me but having to explain it took a little thought. Besides, I wonder will I ever really be able to remember and perfect the Kenpo moves while at the same time balancing my life with a wife, three kids (5 and under) with many steep interrupted nights, painting, golf lessons, a business to run and perfect, travel, social and financial demands?

Well, again, in my view the art isn't about learning the perfect moves. Rather, it's about reaching a state of internalizing the art within you, which is something most martial artists I've met haven't achieved and most likely never will. This doesn't mean they're not capable martial artists. Many are - both as practitioners as well as teachers. Much like the study of spirituality, many learn a great deal about spirituality without ever becoming spiritual. Or, as I wrote in Unsettled Matters, "It is much easier to have a philosophy than to live one." As you read the KenpoNet, you'll come upon the phrase, which is often mentioned, "the paralysis of analysis" Many martial artists (Larry Tatum's students are famous for this) spend the majority of their time trying to analyze Kenpo to the point of becoming paralyzed (Professor Gojen's point).

My thought is, one step at a time I'll see what develops. I am not into perfection, certainly do not want to be a tough guy but I am interested in health, self-defense and a lifetime of good body range and motion.

Hmmm? Well, my first thought in reading the above is that there are a lot of ways to achieve these physical goals with a lot less time and effort other than the martial arts.

Sidebar, guys like you and Chuck should receive money lifetime grants from some group for your PhD in Kenpo. What a whole lot of work and knowledge for no to low monetary return.

Financial reward has never been a motivator for me with regard to the martial arts.

Even the ability to express your accomplishments is limited. It's not like you can go to a country club and express all these martial arts skills on a gold course with an abundance of new fellow, who's who members to share the art.

And again, you're viewing "martial arts skills" as being physical in nature. To me, most aren't physical. As an aside, I wouldn't be the writer I am today had I not studied the martial arts, yet the physical moves I was taught have little to do with my writing.

So again, the question from my wife is then, why do I want to do it? Well, martial arts is one of the things that has always held my interests. I was never good at remembering form, but I enjoyed moving, learning, conditioning and development of timing and rhythm. In addition, the challenges of

Kenpo improves my thinking process and logic, and I think calms me down, making me a better husband, dad and business person. None of this has anything to do with fighting however having the self-confidence that I can be in shape enough to move without pulling muscles and ligaments is a great thing at my age. By the way, my first day at Chuck's I pulled a hamstring muscle when banging a back kick. My fault, I didn't warm up prior to working with him. A few days ago, or perhaps on the phone, you said something like, "I can remember when Ed Parker walked in a room. You could just feel his presence."

Ed Parker was able to create this feeling in you, and many others, without ever demonstrating a single move. The reason is that he had internalized his martial art. The same could be said of Bruce Lee and others. Master Bong Soo Han, who passed away last week, had this same internalization. It's about energy and about grounding and centering one's life and becoming empowered. It's not about learning physical moves, at least not to me, although I recognize it and it is this way for others.

Who knows, in a couple of years, my discipline in Kenpo may help me be at a good weight, start playing tennis again, better golf and develop a new business. In addition, I am looking forward to training my children and possibly others, in the art of Kenpo.

As for now, I just hope to have the mental capacity and ability to remember all this data for testing and future processing. What a journey. But I know it is something I want to do even if I am just an older guy having a little fun.

Yes, well this really boils down to two things. One, what is it you're trying to accomplish? And, two, how much time are you willing to devote to accomplishing your goal? Anthony Robbins wisely wrote in his book *Unlimited Power*, "If you want to see what's important to someone, watch where they spend their time"

Martial arts mean a number of different things to many people. And their goals, as well as their desires and the energy that fuels them, are different. True greatness and true accomplishment isn't achieved through *anything* less than a total commitment and a burning desire, even an obsession, to acquire whatever the goal may be. As a writer, I meet scores of people every year who either tell me they are writers or say they want to be writers. As is with the martial arts, there are many levels of writing. Many of these people probably will one day make good editors and may even turn out a good magazine article or even a book. But to become a true writer, one who devotes their life to writing and eventually turns out a great work, or at least dies with the burning desire to do so, well, these writers are the true masters.

Cheers, Tom

The above of course, is only one of the tons of stories out there. The following is another, from quite a different perspective. In fact, it couldn't be further away.

SGM Sullivan & GM LeRoux

I have attached a picture of my 8-year-old daughter who is learning the IKCA system from Mr. James Parson in Lompoc, CA. She has been training from him for 2 years now and what she has become as a person and an athlete is inspiring and also serves as a testament to what a disabled person can learn from a patient and knowledgeable instructor. You see, my daughter is legally blind and since before she started Kindergarten, she has been told by doctors and vision specialists that she CANNOT do things that others are able to do. We had enrolled her in every sport known to man to give her exposure to things, but she was just unable to get, a handle because her range of vision prevented it.

That all changed when we brought her to Mr. Parson's studio. From day one she was hooked and it was not just because of the excitement of learning Kenpo, but because Mr. Parson treated her like she was just like the rest of the kids, while yet giving her the extra attention she needed to learn the finer details required to master her moves and forms.

If you knew Samantha before she met Mr. James and the Samantha who earned her blue belt this past Saturday, you would swear it is a different child. She has coordination, stamina, confidence and above all she now has a passion. That passion is Kenpo! She knows somehow that the studying of this art has empowered her both mentally and physically. As a parent, it is great to walk into a room and find her practicing Clashing Hammers or her Master Form instead of playing video games or just moping around without any confidence. Thank you for making this system available to us all.

It is also worth noting that my daughter has inspired me to also learn Kenpo and I got my Purple Belt this weekend. My youngest daughter is also now a student of Mr. Parson's.

I don't know if it is out of line to send you this message or not, but my wife and I felt that it would be proper for the Grand Masters to know about the positive influence one of their instructors have in his respective community.

Thanks,

Robert and Marcy Barnes, Lompoc CA



These are but two of the multitude of stories that we are part of and I'm sure that if I were to inquire into the many reasons for studying a martial art I would come up with enough to fill several volumes. How many of these people will eventually go on to Black Belt is anyone's guess. I quit trying to outguess the odds a long time ago. I wouldn't have given many of the people who are Black Belts today the chance a snowball has in hell of making it, and many who I figured for a short stay went all the way and then some, so that tells you what I know about it after all these years. There were many who I had a gut feeling could make it but it didn't work out and some I thought probably didn't have the ability that proved me wrong.

So what's your story? Why are you doing it? Not that the why matters, just the fact that you are doing it is what counts. Will you make it or not? I surely hope you do, because it's an accomplishment that will stay with you forever, not just for the rest of your life, but FOREVER.

"Once a Black Belt, always a Black Belt"

It's something that can't be taken from you. As you advance in years you might not be able to continue your involvement at the level you would like to, or progress through the ranks to Grand Master, but just the fact that you did what you did will take on a life of its own. And as the art progresses, you'll find people to compare your progress or even continued involvement against. There will always be someone ten years your senior who's still doing it and making it look easy. And then, in time, you'll be that someone who's an inspiration to those who follow.

Whatever else you do or don't do in your lifetime, you'll be a Black Belt and that's something, that when it's all said and done, only a very small percentage of the people of the world can lay claim to. Your name will go on the IKCA Family Tree and it will remain there into time immemorial. Centuries from now your name will appear on that tree, and for many of us that might be the only thing of historical significance we will ever have accomplished, but we'll be there because we were Kenpo Black Belts.

So, once again, **congratulations** to all past and present Kenpo Black Belts, and all those to come. We are an exclusive brotherhood, the best one that it has ever been my privilege to be a part of.



A RESPONSE TO LAST NEWSLETTER'S ARTICLE ON STRATEGY

The article on Strategy which appeared in the last Newsletter drew a lot of comment. The most instructive and informative came from our favorite fiction writer Professor Joe Lansdale. If you'll recall from previous IKCA Newsletter articles, Prof. Lansdale is a renowned and award-winning American novelist, who also is the head of the Shen Chuan system which is headquartered in Nacogdoches, Texas.

I've been there and have seen what they do and was genuinely impressed. If I had the time and resources I would certainly enhance my Kenpo with Shen Chuan under Professor Lansdale. But without further delay, here's what Joe had to say about the article:

Great newsletter, great comments. One thing that strikes me from my own experience is how much people in martial arts train against back fist, side kicks, etc., and then on the street, what they get is different. The theory is since we are defending against sophisticated techniques we can handle unsophisticated techniques easily. Not true. It's good, important, even more vital, I think, to train against wild punches, crummy kicks, and lots of grabs and attempted take downs; we want to make sure, if possible, they don't get past the attempted stage. Also, training to attack first is good, as is counter attacking, of course. Since I was good at counter attacking, a lot of that has found its way into Shen Chuan, but I also believe in the first attack above all. Hit him first, my dad always said. Hit him first and with the mostest. I still adhere to that. But, we don't always get what we want.

When younger, having been in too many fights for not such good reasons, I've tried to turn my experience and stupidity into something better, a martial art that works. One thing I remember is when newbies come in, first thing the sparring crowd used to complain about was that they kicked low and they were always getting nailed in the legs when they sparred with the new guys. Reason for this is that it is the best they can do, and here's another little point: It works. It's hard to block, and it's very painful. While the Black Belt is trying to make that pretty kick waist to head high, this guy is nailing the hell out of them, and the Black Belt thinks it's because they can't do things right. Ugly. Crummy. If it works, it works. In our sparring classes we kick low and take out legs, and I'm not saying you don't do that or others don't do that, just saying it's important. Stuff you get hit with is working for some reason, and if it's low kicks, analyze it.

Used to, in old sparring matches, a guy would run in and grab a guy's arm, holding it down and punch him in the ribs or head a half dozen quick shots with the same hand. This goes with what the guy was saying that what works for him is grabbing and punching. Used to be a common sparring technique, it worked, but wasn't flashy, and the rules don't allow it much anymore, but it was effective. When you hold the arm down, you can turn him at an angle that puts one leg and one arm away from you, traps the other arm, and if you push down just right, it grounds the leg closest to you and he can't strike back. If you're pushing, punching and pursuing, the opponent has to use his balance to escape, to move back, and this also makes it hard for them to respond.

Just thoughts that jumped out at me, Chuck.



PROMOTIONS



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.

Anthony Helbig	Australia	GREEN BELT
Hanna Alicia Eneby	Denmark	ORANGE BELT
William Ambrose	Long Beach, CA, USA	BROWN BELT
Emily Pair	Northport, AL, USA	1st Degree Black Belt
Sharon Lee Keto	Tustin, CA, USA	2nd Degree Black Belt
Steve Zalazowski	Salinas, CA, USA	3rd Degree Black Belt
Jean Averette	Northport, AL, USA	BROWN BELT
Todd Lubash	Napa, CA, USA	GREEN BELT
Richard Barry	Napa, CA, USA	GREEN BELT
Arturo Alfam Jr.	Falfurrias, TX, USA	BLUE BELT
Petra Alfaro	Falfurrias, TX, USA	BLUE BELT
Michael A. Lieber, Jr.	Woodgate, NY, USA	ORANGE BELT
David Brancato	Louisville, KY, USA	BROWN BELT
Mike Pendergrass	Pittsburg, KS, USA	PURPLE BELT
Shelby Robinson	Pittsburg, KS, USA	GREEN BELT
Brandon Kirsch	Pittsburg, KS, USA	ORANGE BELT
Sidantha V. Lonngi Reyna	Mexico	GREEN BELT
Garret Murphy	Napa, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
A.J. Gracy	Napa, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Renee Mawell	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Amber Alvarez	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Amanda Alvarez	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Danielle Smith	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Elizabeth McIntyre	Henderson, NV, USA	PURPLE BELT
Jeffrey Capili	Henderson, NV, USA	ORANGE BELT
Joshua Capili	Henderson, NV, USA	ORANGE BELT
Marco Rodriguez	Henderson, NV, USA	ORANGE BELT
Steven Parker	Bonneville, NY, USA	BLUE BELT
Eileen Herford	Pittsburg, KS, USA	PURPLE BELT
Mike Pendergrass	Pittsburg, KS, USA	BLUE BELT
Patricia Miller	Northport, AL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Bill Reeves	Bellflower, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Roman Morxdragon	Bellflower, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Robert Ray	Warner Robins, GA, USA	PURPLE BELT

Timothy Silva	Carollton, VA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Brianna Silva	Carollton, VA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Kevin Mathews	Fort Worth, TX, USA	Junior Black Belt
Lewis Lopez	Bellflower, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Evangelina Morales	Bellflower, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Carl Johnson	Bakersfield, CA, USA	BLUE BELT
Ashley Allard	Bakersfield, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Nick Ouellette	APO-AE 09354	ORANGE BELT
Kade Lloyd	Canada	GREEN BELT
Gregory Johnston	Hermosa Beach, CA, USA	BROWN BELT
Rob Rurka	Fritz Creek, AK, USA	BLUE BELT
Donna Vito	Liverpool. NY, USA	ORANGE BELT
Josh Verbryke	Millbury, OH, USA	ORANGE BELT
Randal Seyler	Prairie Grove, AR, USA	BLUE BELT
Jon Medeiros	Orland, ME, USA	BLUE BELT
Keegan Donovan	Pittsburg, KS, USA	ORANGE BELT
Devin Swallow	Pittsburg, KS, USA	ORANGE BELT
Tyrel Leitzell	Salinas, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
No Linsen	The Netherlands	BLUE BELT
Danny Myers	Macon, GA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Jeremiah Mobley	Macon, GA, USA	ORANGE BELT
George Cruz	Benicia, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Samantha Cruz	Benicia, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
William "Belly" Cruz	Benicia, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Leonard Mushtuk	Alberta, Canada	5th Degree Black Belt
Kevin Lloyd	Alberta, Canada	3rd Degree Black Belt
James A. Ellis	Corpus Christi, TX, USA	ORANGE BELT
Nathan Mellor	Corpus Christi, TX, USA	PURPLE BELT
Scott Montgomery	Bismark, MO, USA	ORANGE BELT
Micheal Crawford	Sterling, OK, USA	ORANGE BELT
Ross Ridge	Marlow, OK, USA	ORANGE BELT
Joshua Pestaner	Bowie, MD, USA	PURPLE BELT
Joseph Pestaner	Bowie, MD, USA	ORANGE BELT
James Howard	Bowie, MD, USA	ORANGE BELT
Eric Luke	Vallejo, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Jamie Luk	Vallejo, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Gustavo Akosta	Vallejo, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Niko Leon Guerrero	Vallejo, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Brandon "BJ" Nocon	Vallejo, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Mary P. Holms	Helena, MT, USA	5th Degree Black Belt
Rudy Corrales	Rialto, CA, USA	2nd Degree Black Belt
Patrick K. Stenberg	Seal Beach, CA, USA	PURPLE BELT
Adam Traugott	Fritz Creek, AK, USA	PURPLE BELT
Sam Traugott	Fritz Creek, AK, USA	PURPLE BELT
John Paul Traugott	Fritz Creek, AK, USA	PURPLE BELT

Nathan Traugott
Joseph Cardoza
Matthew Wren
Jeff Smith
Blake W. Marshall
Joseph Johns
Walter Heckman IV
Jeff Jones
Thomas E. Carpenter, Jr.
Mark A. Williams

Fritz Creek, AK, USA
Fritz Creek, AK, USA
Grovetown, GA, USA
Grovetown, GA, USA
Pittsburg, KS, USA
Pittsburg, KS, USA
Raleigh, NC, USA
Raleigh, NC, USA
Raleigh, NC, USA
Rockville, MD, USA

ORANGE BELT
YELLOW BELT
YELLOW BELT
YELLOW BELT
PURPLE BELT
YELLOW BELT
GREEN BELT
ORANGE BELT
PURPLE BELT
1st Degree Black Belt

