



NEWSLETTER #69

4th QUARTER 2011

No IKCA Seminar for 2012

That's right, there will be no IKCA Seminar in 2012.

We make that announcement with great regret but there is a really good reason for our decision. The reason is the hip surgery that Vic has recently gone through.

A surgery of this nature requires a lot of planning especially for someone as active as Vic. It took a lot of soul searching for him to come to the realization that it was a necessary procedure. For a lot of people this sort of surgery is a life altering event. It can limit the range of motion and the amount of activity one is able to participate in once it's done. On the other hand it eliminates a lot of constant pain that one has to live with if the procedure isn't done.

In Vic's case, a little less activity might be a blessing. If you know him to any degree you already know that he's the sort of person that goes at a whirlwind pace 24-7 and while you can get a lot done at that rate it also takes its toll on the body after sixty-plus years. And if this is what it's going to take to slow him down to a normal pace, so be it.

I think I'm safe in saying that we are all going to miss the Seminar but Vic and I will miss it the most. We so look forward to seeing ya'll each year and it's going to leave a gaping hole in our lives this year. But I'd rather have that than the possibility of Vic doing something he shouldn't be doing and having a physical setback. By 2013 he'll be so ready there won't be any holding him back and we'll once again have a hell of a Seminar.

Through our experimentation over the past twelve years we have put together a great combination which has finally become our standard bill of fare. We began by

trying to incorporate everything anyone could possibly want into one event, teaching, reviewing, and even competition all in the same day and what days they were. Unfortunately, we tried to do too much with too little time and after a couple of years of that we came to the realization that if we were going to actually accomplish anything at all we were going to need to refine our goals and concentrate on what it was we hoped to achieve.

In the beginning this was strictly an IKCA event where we hoped to bring our distance students up to their belt levels and beyond by providing hands on training, but even with this more limited program it seemed that we were still trying to do too much with the time we had available to us. So we kept searching for the right balance and in time found it.

In trying to satisfy the needs of our Blackbelts we introduced other elements into our Kenpo Training such as a familiarity with ground fighting, which was provided by IKCA people who had delved into that element in depth and had become highly skilled, people who now were qualified to bring back to their roots what they had learned and teach it to others. But once again the ugly head of the *trying to do too much with too little time* monster rose up and spewed his fire upon us. We found that our distance learning under-belts simply weren't getting the proper amount of time to accomplish what we wanted for them. So, what to do?

First and foremost, for a lot of reasons, the competition had to be eliminated. First of all, it took up too much of the day, but mostly because with the ability to only meet once a year, it became paramount to us to service our distance students first and foremost.

There are tournaments taking place all over the country, so if it's competition that you're interested in, there are plenty of opportunities for that, so we decided to let that part of the day go.

Once that decision had been made and we went for a day of teaching we still had to figure out the best way to go about it.

It took a while but eventually we hit upon the solution. Instead of having classes that were open to all belt levels where the Instructors needed to divide themselves into small fractions in order to cover the wide ranges of experience we decided to divide the attendees into two distinct and clear-cut divisions – Black Belts and Under Belts (white belt through brown belt) and that made all the difference in the world.

There was however, still one small problem and it was with the Brown Belts, but we solved that by allowing the student's Instructor to make the decision. If an Instructor felt it would be more beneficial for one or more of his or her Brown Belt students to participate in the Black Belt activities we allowed that person to come into those classes, if on the other hand the Instructor felt it would be better for that student to stay with the Underbelt's then that's the way it would be.

Now, and for the past few years, we have been able to concentrate on these two groups and give each exactly what it needs. Our Kenpo Blackbelts already have their Kenpo, They are Blackbelts and don't need any more Kenpo. Most of them are already teaching Kenpo, but we know that they have an insatiable appetite for knowledge other than Kenpo as well, so now we are bringing in people who excel in other elements of the Martial Arts, for them to spend the day with, instead of them needing to travel the country or possibly even the world in search of these people. They get to spend their day exploring and expanding their knowledge in other Arts and sub-arts, and deciding which part of the Martial Arts world they would like to spend more time learning about.

In most schools of Martial Arts they hate it when their students leave them to explore other Arts. We don't, we welcome it because our people don't actually leave us, they just go and see what's out there and then when they have acquired enough knowledge they most often bring it back home and teach it to others who would like to know more about it. It is rapidly getting to where we don't need to go outside the IKCA to find expert talent with the necessary experience to teach whatever the membership feels they would like to explore and learn.

This didn't just happen all by itself, it happened because we are receptive to this sort of thing, we encourage it, we promote it. And because of that amenable attitude we are blessed with something other organizations don't have. Talent. Talent that stays with us and is ready and willing to teach and share because of that our way of thinking.

The Underbelts are another story. These people come from far and wide and have been taught by far flung teachers or through the distance learning Video Correspondence that we have with them, and now we get the chance to get our hands on them for some up close and personal training.

The Video Correspondence medium is one of the most amazing concepts ever. We had no idea of how successful it might be or if there would be any success at all when we initially decided to try it. There had been other Correspondence Courses on a huge array of subjects offered the world over probably since the Pony Express days and as correspondence grew more accessible so did Correspondence Courses. But by video? Who knew that something like physical movement could be taught and corrected so successfully by this medium? We surely weren't positive, but at least it seemed logical, so we were willing to give it a try. And work it has, to an extent that still amazes us but there's nothing like seeing our students in person and being able to make the necessary corrections in real time and that's precisely what we get to do at the Seminars.

We have instructors that can spot an error or a weak spot in a student from across the room and who know how to solve problems with, in most cases, just a short explanation or demonstration. These people have been doing this with students for so long it's now second nature with them and they love doing it. We have some of the finest teaching talent I've ever seen in Kenpo. The sadist thing I can think of is a

practitioner who is a wonderful fighter and physically fantastic Martial Artist who doesn't have the ability to teach what he knows. We have a few of those too but we just don't ask them to participate at our Seminars. We also have an abundance of individuals who are physically incredible that are also great Instructors and that's just as good as it gets.

I hope to get a lot of photos when we get to New York and just in case you missed them on Facebook or wherever they put these things, here's a couple of group photos from some recent events here in Southern California.



This one was at Bryan Hawkins Kenpo Tournament out in the San Fernando Valley on Feb. 19th.

The photographer placed the highest ranking Black Belts in the front row and then filled in the rest of the group behind us. Just in case you don't know who's who in the zoo, five out of the nine in the front row are IKCA people. Those five are; Robert Temple on the extreme left. I'm sitting next to Bryan Hawkins and next to me is Vic. Next to him is Howard Singer and on the extreme right is Doug Wheeler.

And the next one...



This photo was taken at Bob White's Charity Invitational Tournament in Huntington Beach on March 25th of this year. This was a really kick-ass group back in the day. How many of these guys can you identify? (Answer in the next newsletter!)

Normally, the IKCA Newsletter is much longer than this one but because of a computer failure – my hard drive went belly-up on me and I lost the second half of this issue – this is it for this time.

If I can recover the part I wrote for this issue I'll include it in the next one but I doubt that's going to happen. They said the needle broke in my hard drive and it would take about twelve hundred bucks to recover what's on that drive so you can imagine just how anxious I am to get that done. I think I'd rather rewrite the material, if I can remember what it was I had on my mind at that time.

Until then, keep kickin' and punchin' and we'll do the same, Vic too just as soon as he's again able.



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.

Derek Mangiaterra	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Ryan Corman	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Derek Mangiaterra	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Brianna Silva	Edmond, OK, USA	GREEN BELT
Brett Correia	Tyger Valley, Cape Town, SA	PURPLE BELT
Lawrence Black	Cibolo, TX, USA	YELLOW BELT
Jorge I. Rivera	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Isaac A. Ortiz	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Sebastian A. Rivera	Moca, PR	BROWN BELT
Carl (C.J.) Schalyo	Cypress, TX, USA	GREEN BELT
Carl (C.J.) Schalyo	Cypress, TX, USA	BROWN BELT
Chris Miller	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Marisa Miller	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Aidan Miller	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	YELLOW BELT
Susan Schneider	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	ORANGE BELT
Alessia Vittone	Redondo Beach, CA, USA	GREEN BELT
Tracy Wooffidin	Sherburn, ENG, UK	ORANGE BELT
Leonard Hensley	Spring Hill, FL, USA	PURPLE BELT
Eric Burburan	Spring Hill, FL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Mike Fox	Spring Hill, FL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Timothy G. Devine	Spring Hill, FL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Anthony Anile	Spring Hill, FL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Arianna C. Lopez	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Mirelys T. Quinones	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Jeremys T. Quinones	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Victor R. Velez Mendez	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Melanie J. Perez Hernandez	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Angel D. Morales Soto	Moca, PR	YELLOW BELT
Mario R. Soto	Moca, PR	ORANGE BELT
Alexander R. Vale	Moca, PR	ORANGE BELT
Jomar U. Hernandez	Moca, PR	ORANGE BELT
Maria R. Curbelo	Moca, PR	BLUE BELT
Amy May	Arkansas, USA	ORANGE BELT
Mark Chapman	Casper, WY, USA	PURPLE BELT

Gavin Logan	Maryland, USA	ORANGE BELT
Norm Mathers	Vass, NC, USA	PURPLE BELT
Sever Saenz	Edinburg, TX, USA	BLUE BELT
Dawson Green	Woodgate, NY, USA	GREEN BELT
Dave Sill	Woodgate, NY, USA	BLUE BELT
Brett Correia	Tygervalley, Cape Town, SA	PURPLE BELT
Timothy Lotter	Tygervalley, Cape Town, SA	PURPLE BELT
Carl (C.J.) Schalyo	Cypress, TX, USA	BLUE BELT
J.P. Stevens	Ashville, AL, USA	ORANGE BELT
Reed O'Neal	Paoli, IN, USA	ORANGE BELT
James Parson	Lompoc, CA, USA	6th Degree Black Belt
Cedric Adams	Lompoc, CA, USA	6th Degree Black Belt
Sky Parsons	Lompoc, CA, USA	1st Degree Black Belt
Damion Linke	Nuriootpa, S, Australia, AUS	5th Degree Black Belt
Tim Silva	Edmond, OK, USA	Junior Black Belt
Guierlmo Silva	Edmond OK, USA	3rd Degree Black Belt
Daniel T. Maher	Boonville, NY, USA	7th Degree Black Belt

