

The T.K.D. Flash

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The National Newsletter of the United States Taekwon-Do Federation

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COMING EVENTS

Senior Master **Louis Reyes** will offer a First Dan Patterns Seminar on Sunday January 4th at **Concord Taekwon-Do**, followed on Sunday January 25th by a Second Dans Patterns Seminar. On February 8th, SM Reyes will teach a Sparring Seminar for all ranks at the same location.

The Concord School of Taekwon-Do will host the **USTF National and International Invitational 2015** at Brandeis University on July 25 & 26, 2015 in Boston. Information packages will be going out shortly, questions or requests for more information can be sent to can be sent to; John Murphy at the Concord School of Taekwon-Do, 77 Powder Mill Rd., Acton MA, 01720 or to j.murphy@concorditfkd.com

Message for 2015

I want to personally thank each student, instructor and their families for continuing to support the USTF. This last year saw our 40th anniversary, and we can all be proud.

2014 has not been an easy year for martial artists as a whole and especially with the Traditional martial arts programs. The competition is much greater than when we started and it is up to us to make Taekwon Do the number one activity to join!

We have to put more trust in our instructors, especially the junior instructors, and nurture them so they will be able to carry the USTF forward. Many of our senior instructors are at the age of retirement and it is time for us to prepare our juniors so they will be successful in continuing the legacy of General Choi and me! The love of the art has kept us all in a very physical traditional art. Now is the time to help our youth through our guidance achieve more than we ever dreamed of.

I look forward to meeting all of you at the USTF National and International Invitational to be held in July of 2015 near Boston, Massachusetts. We hope your Holiday season was a happy one and lets make this 2015 New Year happy by doing what we love, Taekwon Do.



Sr. Grand Master Charles Sereff

Fourth Annual
"STARS OF TOMORROW"

Presented by the

KIWANIS CLUB OF BOULDER



HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1955

8:00 P. M.

FRED and FAYE of KFEL TV Channel 2, Denver
 are Masters of Ceremonies

**FROM THE
 EDITOR**

As we enter our 27th year of publication, the TKD Flash extends its sincere thanks to its readers, its contributors, and its staff.

And, speaking of our gallant and talented Contributing Staff, the January issue always honors the **Stringer of the Year**.

What may have been a "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue" tap-dancer in 1955 may have been a "Star of Tomorrow" back then, but is our star reporter today.

What, don't recognize her?
 See page 6.



Manera's Taekwon-Do in Kennesaw, Georgia welcomes two new black belts at a Dan testing on November 8, 2014. Testing for their 1st Dans were Miss **Reily Pilcher** and Miss **Jessica Campbell**. Also testing for his 2nd Dan was Mr. **Omar Welch**. Head examiner was USTF Region 9 Director, 7th Dan Master **Denise Moormeier**, with USTF Georgia State Director 3rd Dan Mr. **Mario Manera** also on the exam board. Corner was 2nd Dan Miss **Leilani Manera**. Immediately after the Dan testing there were 2-hours of excellent Taekwon-Do training for all students under guest master instructor, Master Moormeier. The great Taekwon-Do day

ended later in the evening, when students and their families celebrated the testing and training at a seafood dinner outing at nearby Joe's Crab Shack. Left to right: Mr. Mario Manera, Mr. Omar Welch, Miss Reily Pilcher, Miss Jessica Campbell, Miss Leilani Manera, and Master Denise Moormeier.

The **Fifteenth Maestas School Challenge** will be held at Arvada, Colorado on March 21. Great competition, competent officiating, and always a lot of fun.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Fairbanks Taekwon-Do, Alaska, had a color belt testing on December 6, 2014.

On December 9 the Harrisburg, Missouri, Black Belt testing was held.

On December 19 there was a Black Belt test at **Hannon Taekwon-Do**, Leavenworth, Kansas.

ON THE MILITARY BEAT

Sir:

As part of my current duties in the Air Force, I have the opportunity to travel all over the world. This allows me to be able to help in the spread of Taekwon-Do. While I was in Korea, I

started up MTM Taekwon-Do, and had the pleasure of teaching over 20 students during the year I was there. I have taught classes in Al Udeid, Qatar on my two most recent trips there. I try to make every effort to help spread my knowledge of Taekwon-Do.

On my last trip, I was able to reconnect with a former Axe Taekwon-Do student, Mr. (Capt, USAF) Glen DeMars. (Both pictured at right.) We both arrived within a week of each other, but we had drastically different schedules. We set up a time that was "convenient" for both of us, 5 am. I say it like that as it was before he normally got up and shortly before I went to sleep. As my schedule changed, so did our class times and locations. We worked out at 9 pm, 11 am; I even had a class at 2 am. We would meet wherever we could find space, the basketball court in the Coalition Compound, the day room



in Mr. DeMars' dormitory, the walkway between dorms, and the racquetball court in the BPC gym. It didn't matter where or when we met, as long as we had a small area to move around. Unfortunately, my schedule changed quite often, decreasing the amount of time we were able to meet, but we put forth an effort to keep with it.

I also had the opportunity to meet with Mr. (SSgt, USAF) Kenneth Rogers, a former student of Master Hannon, who is interested in starting up his own school. He had been out of

Taekwon-Do for several years, and I worked with both he and Mr. DeMars to get them back up to speed. Even though time was limited, we met as much as possible and were still able to accomplish quite a bit.

It was great working with old friends and creating new ones half way around the world, while imparting knowledge of Taekwon-Do to help improve others. TAEKWON!

Patrick Finan, IV Dan

USTF Armed Forces Director

Lt Col. USAF



On Thursday November 20th, **Axe Taekwon-Do** at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue, Nebraska hosted its final quarterly testing for 2014. This testing was a little smaller than usual but the quality was great. Fifteen students tested for various ranks from 9th gup, White Belt Yellow Stripe through 2nd gup, Red Belt Black Stripe. The testing board was composed of Sr. Master **Ricky Todd** 8th Dan, USTF Region 3 Director, Mr. **Kevin Bushor**, 6th Dan, USTF Nebraska State Director, Ms. **April Bowling**, 5th Dan and Mr. **Patrick Finan**, 4th Dan, USTF Armed Forces Director.

Promoted to Red Belt Black Stripe: **Sheila Duralia**. Blue Belt: **Evaine Mansfield**. Green Belt Blue Stripe: **Lizzie Chamberlin** and **Sophia Carter**. Green Belt: **Maria Carter** and **Ryan Chamberlin**. Yellow Belt Green Stripe: **Helen Fleming**, **Kathleen Fleming**, **Kevin Fleming**, **Carlee Swan**, **Lizzy Wagstaff** and **Cate Wagstaff**. Yellow Belt: **Luke Blasey** and **John Fleming**. White Belt Yellow Stripe: **Ava Florez**.

The students were tested on all physical and mental aspects of Taekwon-Do in accordance with the USTF testing syllabus. While this ends the testing for 2014, we have experienced a great year and have a couple holiday parties to go! Since 1988, USTF Taekwon-Do has been taught to both military and non-military students at the Offutt Air Force Base Youth Center. For further information, please visit our website at <http://www.axetkd.com> or facebook at AXE Taekwon-Do.

--Sr. Master Ricky J. Todd, D.F.S.

Concord TKD hosted its annual Invitational Tournament on Saturday, November 8th. Competitors participated in Team Breaking and individual sparring and patterns events. The day was structured to provide a large group of new Class C Referees with opportunities to judge patterns and act as corner Referees. Enthusiastic junior Gups served as Timekeepers and Runners, learning the basics of tournament protocol. And of course the competitors had a great time!

Photos: Lower left, **John Albano** is victorious; upper right, **Stephanie Hellman** and **Katie Kelly**, new Class C Referees, have learned that when in doubt, check the rulebook; lower right, **Michael** and **Jonathan Zhang** pose with medals (suspect they're related?)

--Submitted by **Roselyn Romberg, DFS**



“Stringer of the Year, 2014”

[O.K., you were wondering who that little girl on page 2 was, and the answer was clear. As a Star of Tomorrow back then in '55, how could she NOT have been the Stringer of the Year for 2014?]



Gen. Choi called her “Lady General.”

An excited but hushed assembly of the corporate, contributing and editorial staffs of the TKD Flash took place in the main assembly hall of the Flash Building in downtown Manhattan on December 14. Addressing the group was the Editor, F.M. Van Hecke.

“We’re all just honored to count her among our staunchest supporters and greatest contributors, not just from 2014 but from the very adoption of this publication as the USTF National Newsletter. Not a lot of us know the history as I do, but our adoption by USTF was proposed by me years before it actually took place, several times, and was actively

resisted by

some. Grand Master Sereff was the driving force in getting us approved and defending us from the concerns of others. So in that sense, we wouldn’t be where we are without her foresight.

“In addition, Grand Master Sereff proved to be of invaluable aid to me personally. Frankly, I’ve never been a part of the Denver nexus. I came to USTF after being part of other associations and as a Third Degree. The people I knew socially in Taekwon-Do lived either on the East Coast, the South, Korea, or in the Midwest. I never met Sr. Grand Master until 1992! I’ve had 47 years in Taekwon-Do, but my ignorance of the protocols, preferences and personalities associated with USTF was a big minus. I had to be guided, and she provided that guidance, never critically but always in a spirit of helpfulness. She’s almost a ‘mini-editor,’ catching something in almost every issue that I botch or misstate.

“Because she’s located at Headquarters, through which much of the news flows, she occupies the ‘hot seat,’ reporting directly or indirectly on most of the national events of importance.

“Finally, she writes great articles, sends great pictures, and has strong ideas as to why communication of the good work we do is a central value of USTF. It is with great pride that the third Stringer of the Year Award is presented to Grand Master Renee Sereff.”



A fierce competitor.

Grand Master Sereff joins First Dan **Roselyn Romberg** and Sr. Master **Ricky Todd** as a recipient of the award and henceforth GM Sereff will bear the title “Distinguished Flash Stringer.”



Athlete.

In addition to a background as a tap dancer (no kidding, she was Boulder Show Wagon winner in 1955), she was Broomfield High's Homecoming Queen (1962-63), Head Cheerleader in '63, and a mean gymnast.

She plays the piano, rides Harleys, and is a porcelain doll maker of note. While professionally she is a realtor of 40 years' experience and is involved in property management, she's also owned a saloon and taken a hand in historic preservation projects.

Grand Master Sereff is mom to **Wendy Klob** and **Gary Bouska** and grandma to **Bret, Bobby** and **Thomas**.

In Taekwon-Do, the resume' doesn't quit. She's been at it since 1971 and was the first woman on the ITF Board of Directors as of March 1986. She has worked international Games as an “A” Referee, is an “A” Instructor, and has organized World Camps and USTF National Tournaments for many,

many years. She has taught around the world (New Zealand, Australia, New Guinea, many others) and demonstrated in many more countries. She is the “Iron Lady” at Headquarters, answering questions, putting out fires, and keeping our potential chaos somehow looking smooth. She has given Taekwon-Do her time, skill, grit, intelligence, and love.



Leadership: it IS about service.

In characteristic self-effacing fashion, her remarks upon receiving the award were modest and to the

point. “I'm honored, thank you, but I want you all to know that giving to Taekwon-Do is not hard when you think of all Taekwon-Do has done for us. There is satisfaction in telling the story, and each of you has one and should consider sharing the news, again and again.”

Congratulations, Grand Master Renee' Sereff, **Stringer of the Year** and **Distinguished Flash Stringer**.



All in the family.

Dear Sir,

Maestas Taekwon-Do held our 23rd Black Belt testing on Sunday, November 23rd since we began hosting them in 2002. This was only the second time that all candidates were under the age of 18. Three tested for 1st Dan Black Belt and one tested for 2nd Dan Black Belt.

It was an exciting day to watch these young people perform. Master **Robert Pettijohn** had pushed them very hard over the past year and they rose to the challenge. The three 1st Dan candidates (Ms. **Brooklynn Duerst**, Mr. **Brandon Willoughby**, and Mr. **Nathan Ruppert**) had very good tests all the way around. Patterns, kicks, step sparring, ho sin sul, and breaking we very well done.

The day was captured by Mr. **Collin Meyers**, 2nd Dan candidate. While voting was close he ended up taking all the awards for the day: Best Patterns, Best Sparring, Best Breaking, Best Ho Sin Sul, and overall High Test Score.

The three new 1st Dans represent the 53rd to 55th youngster less than 18 years of age to have earned their black belts in the past 12 years. Mr. Meyers is the 23rd youngster to earn a 2nd Dan.

Master Robert Martin, Flash Stringer

Photo: the test board and testing candidates, back row, from left to right, Mr. **David Martin** (Testing Director), Master Robert Martin, Mr. **Daniel Nelson**, Ms. **Fran Buschkoetter**, Ms. **Ka-Yi Moriarty**, Mr. **Ben Pemble**, and Master Pettijohn. Front row from left to right: Mr. **Scott Honas** (testing coordinator), Ms. Brooklynn Duerst, Mr. Collin Meyers, Mr. Brandon Willoughby, and Mr. Nathan Ruppert.



On Sunday, November 23rd Senior Master **Louis Reyes** presided over a Black Belt test for twenty candidates from the New England region. Successfully testing for III Dan were **Adelle Goetemann** and **Oliver Fox**. Candidates for II Dan included **Sanjit Bhat**, **Anna Glasberg**, father-and-son pair **Hiroshi** and **Kent Mashimo**, **Abby Schwab**, **Susan Steele**, **Lior Dahan**, and **Alex Useloff**. New I Dans include **Robert Gough**, **Alwin Pei Jin**, **Joshua Jones**, **Mike** and **Tara Kent**, **Ranen Leung**, **Jacqueline Martone**, **Yegor Osadchiy**, **Daniel Smith**, and **David Song**. Photo below.



On December 6 Master **Paul White** brought his three students, Mr. **Fred Mitchell** and Mrs. **Cynthia Mitchell** and Mr. **Kenneth Burley** to Sereff Taekwon-Do, along with a student from Master Montano's school, **Jessica Trujillo**. This small but mighty test set the stage for celebrating Sr. GM **Charles E. Sereff's** 81st birthday too! The test board consisted of Grand Master **Renee' Sereff**, Sr. Master **Kirk Steadman**, Sr. Master **Dan Griffin** and Ms. **Louise Fox**. Special thanks to Ms. **Cameo Zugschwert** for leading the testing. Mr. Mitchell



received the High Test Score for this test. Photos: above right, Mr. and Mrs. exchange roses in acknowledgement of their achieving this goal with each other's support. And left, of course, the group.



The Group

Sequim, Washington's infamous "Blue Hole" held true on November 22, 2014 for the Level 1 Ho Sin Sul course taught by Mr. **Brandon Stoppani**, 6th Dan, National Ho Sin Sul Instructor and Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Defensive Tactics Instructor.

Although blue skies and sun welcomed students from both **Bodystrong Taekwon-Do** and **Mountain View Martial Arts** there was too much hands-on Ho Sin Sul training going on the entire day for anyone to notice. Mr. Stoppani went through all Ho Sin Sul requirements from 10th gup to 1st gup. In addition, a few additional techniques were demonstrated that us students got a chance to try.

Master **David Mason** accompanied his students from Mountain View and participated in not only helping us students but participated in having several techniques demonstrated on him! Always a treat, Master Mason shared a few "USTF/ITF teaching moment" stories. His stories help reiterate just how fortunate we are to be part of such a great organization that does not compromise. This only serves to make each one of us a better student, teacher and ultimately human being!

As is true for any USTF event, the teaching was THE BEST, but getting to spend an entire day with your fellow TKD brothers and sisters makes the event just that much better. We students at Bodystrong were honored to host this event and know how fortunate we are to have such an awesome instructor in Mr. Stoppani.

--Mrs. Linda Allen 7th Dan

"Now, if I can just get this darned thing to pop..."



Kirksville Taekwon-Do hosted its 4th annual In-House Tournament on December 13th. Senior Master **Dustin Stephenson**, one of the club's owners, said, "This is a great little tournament that we do just for the benefit of the students here. This is all about getting students some ring experience in a way that is less stressful for them. We want them to learn, gain some confidence, and have some fun at the same time." Twenty-eight competitors worked hard to impress the judges with their prowess and competed in pattern and sparring divisions.

Rings were staffed with a mixture of seasoned black belts and Class B and Class C referees. Master **Lenard Graham**, Tournament Coordinator, promotes this event with the idea that referees who need more experience can get it here. "Kirksville Taekwon-Do is trying hard to turn out quality referees that are equipped to handle any situation that comes up. This tournament gives the younger, less-experienced referees extra ring-time while they are being mentored by more experienced refs. This comes out as a win for the students competing and those who are working."

Proceeds from the tournament will be used to support the Kirksville Taekwon-Do team as they head to the USTF International Competition in July 2015.

Submitted by Lisa Eastin, Fourth Dan



Eric Amini-Rad (II Dan) slips behind a hook kick thrown by **Matt Mattheney, Jr.**, (III Dan); right, front row (from left) are Mr. **James Rolston**, Mrs. **Lisa Eastin**, Master **Lenard Graham**, Mr. **Phil Ordonio**, Mr. **Bill Byrn**, and Mr. **Faren Lindsey**.



LATE BREAKING

A USTF Referee Course will be held at Rock Springs, Wyoming, January 31.

The **16th Annual Wyoming Invitational** will be at Casper Wyoming on September 19.

SPECIAL

from Roselyn Romberg, D.F.S.

On Sunday, December 14th, **Concord TKD** hosted a **New England Regional Interschool Tournament**. These "practice" events allows competitors ages 5 to 15 to gain experience in ring protocol and competition prior to the "big and scary" larger tournaments. Newly minted referees hone their patterns judging and cornering skills, and learn how to keep time and score. And every Interschool ends with "fun rounds," where Junior Gups pick the sparring partner of his or her choice for two minutes in the ring. Congratulations to all who participated, and we look forward to seeing every one in the rings at Nationals!



Top, **Oliver Fox** unleashed a kick while sparring; middle, **Anna Glasberg** breaks; bottom, **Adelle Goetemann** uses her downward kick.