

The T.K.D. Flash

A Publication of the Association of Academies of Martial Arts
The National Newsletter of the United States Taekwon-Do Federation

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Master Ricky Todd and Axe Taekwon-Do are sponsoring the **Second Annual Axe Taekwon-Do Tournament** at Bellevue, Nebraska, on May 9. Master Tom Cope is the Tournament Director.

Grand Master Sereff, Master Renee' Sereff and Master Kirk Steadman traveled a very snowy road in Wyoming April 4th to attend the celebration for Master Stan Martin's promotion to 8th Dan. Many tried to attend but the roads were closed from the Colorado border to Wheatland or the Utah border to Casper. Over 100 family members, friends and Taekwon Do students did make it to attend the promotion hosted by Carol Martin. The real guest of honor was Master and Mrs. Martin's dog, Louie. Louie isn't well but was eager to greet every guest and of course got a few snacks at dinner. Grand Master Sereff presented Master Martin with some artifacts in honor the promotion. Master Martin has taught in Wyoming from the time he was a I Dan and is truly a Pioneer of Taekwon Do.

In NewZealand at World Camp, Australia, at Sereff World Camp, Maui, Hawaii, SLC, Utah, Colorado, he has taught and been a driving force to further the study of Taekwon Do. As the USTF Regional Director of Region 2, Master Martin has been one of the unifying forces that as kept the USTF a strong organization.

Sir:

We recently had a gup level test at our school. Our students are justly proud of their accomplishments. Can their names, and maybe a photo, be published in the Flash?



Master Stan Martin, on right, is presented with a plaque recognizing his contributions to Taekwon-Do on April 4 in Casper, WY. Master Martin is formally promoted to Eighth Dan effective March 28, 2009.

The Flash and all of USTF congratulate Master Martin on a job well done!

The Editor:

What else are we in USTF about, but the advancement of our students? Just send us the information you'd like published (like date, place, Board Members). Even better, send us the names of students and levels achieved. And even better yet, send photos of the group assembled, or of a particularly interesting nature, such as that flying kick five feet off the floor, or that board caught in mid-splinter. Some send group photos with the names of all shown in the photo ("From left, first row..."). No matter how you choose to communicate, send us the information, we'll do our

best to make it a part of the *Flash*. See masthead for restrictions and cautions.

A Black Belt testing was held at Sereff Taekwon Do on March 28, with Mr. Keith Rose testing for VI Dan, Gahlen Bell, Louise Fox, Charles Ruby and Cameo Zugschwert grading to V Dan, 7 students to II Dan and 4 for I Dan. (Picture on page 3) At this event, Grand Master Sereff announced the promotion of Master Dale Burkhart to USTF 8th Dan. Master Burkhart was one of the original USA Team members that represented the USA in Greece at the ITF World Championships when they took the Gold Medal for breaking. Master Burkhart was also part of the USA team of the USTF invited to participate in the South Pacific Championships in 1985. The USTF Team took first place and received the Grand Championship award.. Grand Master Sereff presented Master Burkhart the trophy from that event, a Maori hand carved war ship. This has been sitting in Grand Master Sereff's office since 1985. Master Burkhart has taught continually either at Foothills Taekwon Do or for a group home Shiloh House, for troubled youth.

The Utah Cup Tournament will be held on May 16.

A Black Belt test was conducted in Fairbanks, Alaska on April 3. Congratulations to Ms. Susan Hicks on her promotion to First Dan! (Picture on page 5)

A Black Belt test will be held in Utah on May 30.

The Concord School of TKD will host a Black Belt test on May 31.

The Region 5 Black Belt Regional Test for 2009 will be held on July 18 in Madison, WI. Master Renee Sereff will preside.

The United States Taekwon-Do Federation's **National Championships** for 2009 will be held on June 26

Below: Master Dale Burkhart is presented a symbol of the affection in which he is held by Grand Master Charles E. Sereff on announcing Master Burkhart's promotion to Eighth Dan, which took place on March 28. Congratulations, Master Burkhart, on your well-deserved recognition and your promotion.



through 28th in Kelso, WA. The Tournament Director is Washington State Director David Mason, who can be contacted at 360-601-7713. Check out tournament materials at www.mountainview.cmasdirect.com

The Utah State Championship Tournament will be held November 7.

A Gup level test will be held at American Martial Arts Center, Madison WI, on May 9.

Grand Master Mike Winegar instructed a Class B USTF Instructor Seminar on April 25 & 26. In attendance were instructors from Alaska, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Utah, Wyoming, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado. (Picture, Page 6)

[Editor's Note: the following review was originally published in the TKD Flash, Vol. 13 #3 (2001) and is here reprinted for the benefit of our newly national readership.]

Black Medicine: The Dark Art of Death,

by N. Mashiro: A Review

by F.M. Van Hecke

Black Medicine: The Dark Art of Death, by N. Mashiro (Paladin Press, 1978) has been around a long time. Companion works by Dr. Mashiro (Black Medicine II: Weapons at Hand, Black Medicine III: Low Blow, and Black Medicine IV: Equalizers) have not been around as long, or at least I don't recall them so being, so this reviewer will wait a decade or two to see if they have "legs" before addressing them.

We all see these relatively "little" works on the shelves from time to time and say to ourselves, "Hey, jazzy title! If I had money to blow I'd read that one." Often, however, the content does not measure up to the interesting title.

Not so, here.

Dr. Mashiro does an excellent job of doing what he sets out to do, to make simple and illustrate clearly 170 targets on the human body which have the potential to reward the martial artist with a disabling blow to an opponent or even a kill. He does a good job because he avoids the typical flaws of most books attempting to do the same.

Many works simply revel in complexity and are indigestible. Arcane medical terminology (the reviewer grew up around autopsies and tries homicide cases, so he's not daunted by medical terminology) unconnected to a common-sense understanding of their functions, common names and locations is the biggest flaw of most such works. Mashiro provides reasonably clear diagrams, explanations of locations relative to adjacent structures, and doesn't hesitate to use popular names (like "funny bone") where doing so helps tie things together.

The book is also structured logically. By breaking the sectors of the body up into separate discussions, the book avoids being pedantic or "too much at once".

I found the book an easy read and a compact

(continued on page six)



Students and Instructors at a Black Belt Testing, Broomfield CO, March 28.

At the Class B Instructor's Course recently held in Broomfield CO Grand Master Charles E. Sereff announced the promotion of Master Earl Weiss to Eighth Dan. Master Weiss, Master Dale Burkhardt, and Master Stan Martin were all promoted effective the same date. Master Weiss is well known to the readers of the TKD Flash, having been a frequent contributor to these pages and a staunch supporter of our mission. Master Weiss's career in Taekwon-Do has featured persistent and loyal service to USTF throughout the years. Master Weiss has been a prolific author on Taekwon-Do-related topics, having published



Grand Master C.E. Sereff congratulates Master Earl Weiss on Master Weiss's promotion to Eighth Dan.

in The TKD Flash, the Tae Kwon Do Times, in Human Weapon, and most recently in Totally Tae Kwon Do, to name but a few. Master Weiss is headmaster of National Taekwon-Do in Skokie/DesPlaines IL. Master Weiss has taught at numerous seminars and was at one time Region 5 Director. He is a certified USTF Ho Sin Sool Instructor. Master Weiss is held in the highest affection by all in Region 5 as leader and mentor.

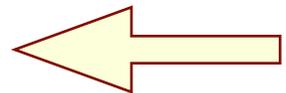
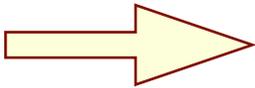


Marquette Taekwon-Do holds promotions on April 20.
Front row kneeling from left to right are: Chuck Giotto school director, Frankie Bailey promoted to high white belt, Heidi Spiessl instructor, Eva Wisuri to high yellow belt, second row Jessica Wisuri to high yellow, Steve Snow to high white belt, Levi Wisuri to high yellow belt, Maureen Spiessl Assistance instructor, Back row Beth Snow to yellow belt Brooke Wisuri to high yellow, Nick Rintamaki green belt, Sara Wisuri high yellow and Amanda Wisuri to high yellow belt.



As does West Marquette on March 11.
Pictured are instructor Mr. Chuck Giotto and Nathan Wisuri and Trent Holmgren, both promoted to youth high white belt.

Master Stan Martin presents his senior students, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Sisco, Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Johnson, with a set of artifact knives, April 4, at Casper. Each Instructor was given one of the set in hopes that when Master Martin retires, the group will stay together just like the set of knives.



Meanwhile, way up north, in Alaska, Fairbanks Taekwon-Do held its Black Belt test on April 3, and is pleased to introduce to the ranks of USTF Black Belts new First Dan Ms. **Susan Hicks**, pictured here dead center with Mr. **Guy Williams**, Sixth Dan, and her many proud supporters.

(Continued from page 3)

review of things I had gleaned down through the years.

On occasion Dr. Mashiro explains the practical “why” something will or will not work. For example, he correctly points out that the instinctive blow to the temple will generally not be effective because of the thickness of the skull in the vicinity. He then helpfully provides the information as to the vulnerability of the adjacent sphenoid.

The author also explodes some pervasive myths against which I have cautioned my students. No clearer example exists of the phony “martial arts instructor” who asserts there is a solid bone in the nose that, hit correctly, will result in a lethal invasion of the frontal lobe. Mashiro knows his stuff (it’s not clear in the book what his Ph.D. is in).

It is a puzzle, then, why Dr. Mashiro concludes with a section on ballistic injuries. The entire section can be summarized as follows: We all know people are trained to fire (handguns) at center of mass, but center of mass is not necessarily as sure and sudden a stopper as a shot to the narrow centerline above the navel, the head, or the thighs. Gunshot wounds may be interesting, especially to the forensic pathologist, but it’s as though Mashiro had a need to flesh out his work to make his publisher happy.

Much of what Mashiro has to say can be derived from other works, but his is an organized and simply-approached discussion. Don’t be put off by the title.



Eighth Dans all, these gentlemen gather to reflect on an exciting month in USTF and in Taekwon-Do, the Way it’s Meant to Be. From left, Master Stan Martin, Master Earl Weiss, Master Dale Burkhardt.

Sir:

My upcoming event needs publicity. What do you need to publish it in the Flash?

The Editor:

Date, place, nature of the event, name of event (“The Third Annual Bull-baiting Tournament”), contact name and e-mail or phone or both. And anything else you want us to mention.



Instructors gathered for the Class B Instructors Course at Broomfield CO on April 25 and 26.