

The East Valley Kicker

“It is curious - curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare.”
-Mark Twain

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MAY 2012

Welcome

- Isaiah Forbes (Lil' Dragons)

GRAND OPENING

On Fri. May 18th and Sat. May 19th we have plans for lots of activities and events to celebrate our new space! Detailed flyers will be available soon, if they are not yet out.

We need lots of help from our dojo students and family members!!! Please consider the following, sign up at the dojo & contact Tull-Gauger Shihan for more info...

-Karate demonstrators (our students, ALL ranks & ages!) needed 5/19, 10am.

-Refreshments needed for both days, all events.

-Volunteers needed to greet people & oversee refreshments. Also, set-up Saturday.

-Handy people needed for projects to prepare dojo.

-Volunteers needed to speak to local businesses about donating supplies.

-Help with: passing out flyers, posting flyers, e-mailing & Face-booking about events!

FRED MCCREADY LEARNS TO SAY YES

by Jenifer Tull-Gauger Shihan, 4th Dan

Fred, like you and me, wanted to be good and yet he was a flawed human. He had learned as a kid to just go along with things, to not rock the boat. When asked if he wanted a drink of water, he'd mumble a reply, "yeah" or "nah." Sometimes he'd be served the water, sometimes not. He just took what came to him. He didn't suffer... much.

One day his girlfriend asked, "Whadda ya think Fred, you wanna get married?"

Fred froze at the thought of commitment. He wanted to put marriage off into some future time. Then again, he really liked Mandy. He'd hate to lose her over this. Fred shrugged his shoulders, dipped his chin and mumbled his ambiguous reply. He meant, *I don't know Mandy, why don't we think this over more? Maybe in the future...*

Mandy took the dip of Fred's chin as a nod yes. The next day she had paperwork. She had an appointment with the Justice of the Peace.

Fred didn't want to hurt

Mandy's feelings and he didn't want to be alone. There was no gracious, comfortable way to get out of it. He went along and got married.

Marriage was okay. Fred seemed to get what he needed in life. He mumbled his way through his job as a cook. He didn't communicate clearly enough to work with customers. In the job interview, he had given unclear answers and he just seemed to fall into that position.

Fred took up Karate, with Mandy's support. He started standing up straighter.

One day while sparring, Fred's partner socked him good in the belly.

"Oooofff."

"*Maté!*" the sensei paused the match. "Was that too hard Fred?"

He mumbled through his mouthpiece, "Yeah."

But it sounded like, "Nah."

"*Hajime go!*" The instructor gave the go-ahead, and Fred

took some more hard punches.

By now Fred and Mandy had a daughter. By now Mandy noticed how ambiguous Fred was about their life together.

He was mumbly and shruggy, but Fred was no dummy. He slowly but surely learned from karate. He started speaking more clearly. His new confidence showed in his walk and his talk. Fred learned the habit of saying, "yes" and "no." It was difficult at first, but it became second nature.

With Mandy's help, Fred fell into an interview for a chef position. He made eye contact and spoke clearly. He stood out with his sure demeanor, and he got the job.

Mandy, after forming a theory, came to Fred one day. "I'm afraid I pushed you into marriage. Are you happy with our life together?"

Fred thought of their daughter, who meant more to him than life itself. He remembered all the times Mandy had helped him. He was happy. He sat up straight, looked her in the eye, and said, "Yes."

KARATE SUMMER CAMP IN MISSOURI

On June 8, 9 and 10, Kaicho is hosting Karate Summer Camp at HQ. Our students test for black belt there. This year our Shodan test candidates are Austin Tefft, Jessie Lindner, Charlie Estrada, and Marty Siemon. Adult Nidan candidates are Skylar Speiser and Griffin Tull-Gauger. William Speiser Sensei is our Sandan candidate. Wish them luck!



May 2012

SHIHANS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NEW Pants 10% off (order by 5/17, mention discount)</p>		1 T-G Shihan 9:30a.	2	3	4	5 Dojo Prepara- tion Work 1pm.
6	7	8 T-G Shihan 9:30a.	9	10	11	12 BBC 9:10am. Dojo Preparation Work 1pm.
13	14	15 T-G Shi- han 9:30a.	16	17 Last day to place Cen- tury orders.	18 Grand Opening: Cas- ual Friday 10a- 1p. & Safety Night 4:30- 8:30p (see flyer for details, RSVP)	19 Grand Opening: Back to the Tradition 8a-1:30p (demo. Potluck, see flyer for details, RSVP)
20	21	22 T-G Shi- han 9:30a.	23	24 One class for All Ages, All Ranks 6:10pm. Testing & Cer- tificates 7:10p*	25	26 No Classes, Dojo Closed for Me- morial Day Weekend
27 No Classes, Dojo Closed for Me- morial Day Weekend	28 No Classes, Dojo Closed <i>Memorial Day</i>	29 T-G Shi- han 9:30a.	30	31		Testing will take place the <u>last</u> <u>Saturday of</u> <u>each month</u> , <i>except</i> <i>holidays.</i> (Test schedule 5/24)

* = wear full formal gi.