

The East Valley Kicker

“Our strength grows out of our weaknesses.” -Ralph Waldo Emerson

2401 E. Baseline Rd. Ste. 98, Gilbert, AZ 85234 www.EVMA.net Dojo Ph: (480) 892-4240, Shihans' Cell: (480) 330-8886

AUGUST 2011 Welcome

- Margaret Anger (Adults)
- Alyssa Fernandez (Kids)

Purchases

When you make a purchase on location at the dojo, remember to have a check (made out to “Ryukyu Karate”) or cash (exact change preferred). We no longer accept credit cards directly. Our billing company, MSI, continues to take all credit cards for tuition payments.

Jackie Chan Says

A big supporter of the martial arts, Jackie Chan recommends it as part of every child’s education. “The children right now, the young children, everybody should go to a martial arts school. Why? Because as soon as they go to a martial arts school, they learn discipline. They learn respect. You can tell the children [of the] same age—six years old—one in martial arts, one without martial arts. You know the difference.”



A MOTHER’S VIEW OF YOUR DOJO

Pamela Tull

I recall my first visit to see the new location of the East Valley Martial Arts dojo. Its home was in the World Gym at Baseline & Val Vista. I visited as a guest of my daughter Jenifer (a student). Newland Renshi was the Sensei and the dojo shared space with the Jazzercise classes. I remember the floor was wood with padding under it. Most of the walls were covered in mirrors so you could see anyone and everyone who was behind you, and there were chairs along one wall to sit on to observe the floor activities and/or to watch the Karate students test.

When I moved to Arizona in 2005, Gauger Shihan (Kirk) was installing the mat in the new dojo location. He and Tull-Gauger Shihan (Jenifer) had “received ownership” of the dojo and its students and they were preparing the new dojo home - - the World Gym location was closed.

My daughter (Jenifer) did not grow up with Karate nor had she even considered doing Karate as a child. But it had become a very important part of her and her husband Kirk’s and their young son Griffin’s life. They had found Karate after a little research. They decided on Newland Renshi as a fitting instructor and after a very short time, they found

that Traditional Okinawan Karate was also a good fit for them.

Why Traditional Okinawan Karate? They were searching for a new, wholesome life path, one they soon realized was something that is not followed for a day, a week or a year, but as a lifetime commitment. That sounds like an awfully hard and strict homage, but as I think about it, it is not any harder than committing to eating healthy food for your lifetime or obeying the “rules of the road” when you are out driving anywhere in your 4,000 pounds of metal and plastic on wheels, etc. Just like the damage an improperly steered car can cause, a person’s lifepath can suffer much more damage in the flash of a minute it takes to make and follow a wrong decision.

This is one of the primary, mostly unidentified/unspoken benefits that comes to a student who joins the Kenshin Kan dojo. It is the encouragement and support of a lifestyle that benefit them for their entire remaining life - - healthy exercise, social connections, individual confidence (constructiveness, strength of validity, clarity of thinking, optimism, helpfulness, cheerfulness . . . did you know that the Okinawa Centenarians are the only people who openly say

that being cheerful is the way to long life?).

So why commit to karate for your lifetime? Because it improves your life; your well-being as a developing child/teen/adult, your physical and mental development and functioning, and your safety in daily life. As long as we are living, we need all of these things to develop who we are and to improve who we are to the ultimate potential placed inside of us.

Each time a student leaves the Kenshin Kan Dojo family, it tears at the heartstrings of both the Shihans. They seem to see the change as some sort of failure on their part and it forces them to go through a grieving. They know the importance of the lifetime commitment to karate that is needed and individually beneficial for the student. However, they do their best to send the student on their way with love and acceptance. They take some comfort in the knowledge that even a short time spent in karate will help a person.

Now go, enjoy your lifetime commitment to karate because consistent and regular practice works like magic! And examine thoroughly your commitment at any instant you believe you must discontinue following the path.



August 2011

SHIHANS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NEW Bo's & Jo's 10% off (order by 8/20, mention discount)</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6 Last Samurai Training 9:55am, bring your friends & family. Dojo Pool Party Potluck 5-8pm.
7	8 Autumn Schedule begins (Mon. 5:10 Kids, 6:10 Adults)	9 (Tues. same)	10 (Wed. same)	11 T-G Shihan @ 9:10am (Thurs. 5:30 Lil' Dragons, 6:10 Black Belts, 7:10 Mix All Ranks)	12 (Fri. 6:10 Mix All Ranks, 7:10 Weapons)	13 (Sat. am 8:10 MMA, 9:10 Black Belts, 10:10 Weapons, 11:10 Mix All Ranks.)
14	15	16	17	18 Black Belt Club for members 6:10pm-7pm (Third Thursday of the Month)	19	20 Instructor's Meet 9:10am (ch. 16, paying the price). Last day to place orders.
21	22	23 T-G Shihan @ 9:10am	24	25	26	27 Certificates & Test 10:10am* (no 10:10 Weapons, no 11:10 Mixed class today.)
28	29	30	31	<p>Testing will take place the last Saturday of each month, except holidays. There will be no 10:10 Weapons or 11:10 Mixed Class on the last Sat. of each month. Black Belt Club Will be on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:10pm, joining Black Belts.</p>		<p>Sept. No Classes, Dojo Closed Sept 3rd-5th Labor Day Weekend</p>