

The East Valley Kicker

“No legacy is so rich as honesty.” -William Shakespeare

1829 S. Horne Ave. Ste. 8, Mesa, AZ 85204 www.EVMA.net Dojo Ph: (480) 892-4240, Shihans' Cell: (480) 330-8886

DECEMBER 2012

Welcome

- Randall Cardona (Kids)

SPECIAL CLASSES

Join us for our special all-ages classes for New Year's.

We will send out the old year with **The Last Class of the Year** Sat.. Dec. 29 at 9:30am for all students. Little Dragons will bow out at 10, and Kids and Adults will finish at 10:20am. Then in the Japanese New Year tradition we will do a major cleaning of the dojo (Last great *souji*) starting at 10:30am. Kids need an adult partner to supervise & help them get the dojo ready for the new year.

The First Class of the Year is Sat. Jan. 5th. It is an open-floor format so drop in between 9:30am and 12 noon. Kick-off the New Year with fun, informative training, followed by a **Dojo Family Potluck lunch** at 12:45pm. **Families** are invited to join us for lunch!

GOOD PERSON? OR STRONG MARTIAL ARTIST?

by Jenifer Tull-Gauger Shihan, 4th Dan

If you look at the Dojo Kun in Japanese writing, you might notice that each of the five precepts starts with the number 1 (the horizontal dash). This is because each of the concepts is just as important as the other four. We are supposed to take each one to heart and also *koto* - do it, put it into action.

Doing this, following the Dojo Kun, will help make you a good person. Many people have good moral character even without knowing the Dojo Kun, but if they learn the Dojo Kun, it can help them in their endeavors. Being a good person, or having a good heart and showing it, is crucial to being a good martial artist as we teach the martial arts. Good moral character can be learned, and it can always be improved upon.

Over the years, we have seen

people who are talented martial artists, but who lack in the area of good moral character. These people may have natural physical ability or pick up on and learn techniques easily. They are good fighters, people whose physical power you would want backing you up in a battle. This kind of physical prowess does not have to come naturally, it can be learned, and it can always be improved upon.

We are blessed to have many good students who are naturally kind, honest, respectful and thoughtful and who strive to do the right thing. We also have good students who work hard with strong stances, powerful katas, great hand techniques, and fighting spirit. The truly excellent martial artist will be strong in both of these areas. Their good moral character will complement their obvious strong physical martial arts

abilities, and vice versa.

This is not something that comes easily. Being a good person is something that must be worked on daily, with thought and perseverance despite mistakes. Having strong physical technique is another trait that only becomes apparent with daily practice, more strong practice, and practicing yet again (*keiko keiko keikokoru*).

Being a good person or a strong martial artist is not an either-or thing for us. As *karateka*, we are charged with going above and beyond in both of these areas. We are to strive for excellence, despite difficulties. When we have setbacks in either area, we must get back on track and keep going. Of course it won't be easy, we do not profess that anything in karate is easy. But it will be worth it.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS! GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!!

HOLIDAY START UP SPECIAL

>> 2 FOR \$220! <<

1st mo. of KARATE for two people, including friends, starting together.

Includes: reg. fee & one uniform per person

Must be paid in full by 12/29/12 & classes started by 1/31/13. Regular tuition after 1st month. New students only.

Value from \$265 (for 2 Little Dragon family members) to \$410 (for 2 Kid or Adult friends).



December 2012

SHIHANS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NEW Bo's 10% off (in stock or order by 12/12)</p>	<p>Testing will take place the <u>last Saturday of each month, except holidays.</u> Check the calendar for testing this month. We will be back to regular testing January 26th with class at 9:10 and testing at 10:10am.</p>					<p>1 Black Belt Training after classes. Dojo Holiday Party & Potluck 5-8:30pm +</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Teachers Meet 9:10am (Ch. 23 Rule of 5). Black Belt Training after classes.
9	10	11	12 Last Day to Place Century Orders.	13	14	15 BBC 9:10am. Black Belt Training after classes.
16	17	18	19 Today's All Ranks Class is 6:00 to 6:45pm. Certs.* & Test* 6:50pm.	20 (no Yoga) Regular Karate classes	21 Regular classes	22 Classes replaced by Open Floor for Kids & Adults, train any time between 9am & 11am.
23	24 Dojo closed, no classes <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 Dojo closed, no classes <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 One Class for All Kids & Adults 7:10-8pm	27 (no Yoga) Kids may join 9:30am class. PM: (no 5:30 or 6:10) Lil Dragons 6:30, All Ranks Kids/Adults 7:10	28 Regular classes	29 Last Class of the Year 9:30-10:20a (All Kids/Adults) (Lil Dragons 9:30-10). Dojo Clean-up 10:30 (see front)
30	31 Dojo closed, no classes <i>New Year's Eve</i>	1 st of Jan. Dojo closed, no classes <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 nd of Jan. Dojo closed, no classes	3 rd of Jan. Dojo closed, no classes	4 th of Jan. Dojo closed, no classes	5 th of Jan. First Class of the Year open floor 9:30am-12n. Family Potluck 12:15p

* = wear full formal uniform.