

The East Valley Kicker

Nuchi du takara. / Life is a sacred treasure. –Okinawan saying

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

MAY 2009

Welcome

- Ben Blancas (Kids)

Okinawan Field Trip Committee

We plan to go to Okinawa some day. If we raise the funds we may go as soon as next year when Kaicho is planning to have a group trip there like he has in the past (for a week or more). We would like to open up our Okinawan Field trip to students and their families who are interested in this adventure. Kaicho estimated the cost at \$2,500-\$3,000 per person including air fare, room and board. We are seeking those like us who would really like to go but don't have that money saved up yet. We'll focus on brainstorming and having fundraisers to build the field trip funds. Kids under 16 should have a parent on the trip. We're meeting Wed. 5/20 for a movie and ideas.



The Care & Feeding of your Shihans

By Jenifer Tull-Gauger, Shihan, 3rd Dan

Have you ever heard the saying, "when Mama ain't happy ain't nobody happy"? The same is true of Shihans just as it is of Mama. Unlike some mamas, your Shihans really do try to be happy. You must remember though we are only human.

When you have Shihans, you see that they are different from other people in your life. They want you to grow and be safe, and they are committed to your best interest, but they are not your parents. Their main aim is to teach you and help you learn, but they are not like other teachers. They help you achieve your goals and be your best, but they are not coaches. Because a relationship with a Shihan is unique it can be hard to know how to care for your Shihan, I'm here to help.

Understand that your Shihans are professional experts in martial arts with over a decade of experience. They are passionate about what they do.

They have invested immeasur-

able energy, time and money into being karateka and instructors. When you have a problem or a question about your training or about the dojo, seek your Shihan directly. And don't just blast your Shihan with complaints. Think about your real issue and speak to your Shihan respectfully. They will be happy to return the favor. If you need to speak in private, let us know and be patient - this may have to be done over the phone. (Parents, this may need to be done without your karate child present; if they think you have a problem with their Shihan, their training will suffer.)

When you see your Shihan, such as when going to class, the proper thing to do is to seek them out, say hello, and bow. As you leave the dojo also say goodbye and thank you (if they taught you) and bow. This basic etiquette, carried over into other parts of your life, will make you stand out as a champion.

Especially when you are in

class, always do your best. We notice when you are trying hard and when you are just getting by. Do your best for you, and your Shihans will appreciate you for every drop of sweat.

Your Shihans make every effort to keep your dues affordable because they want as many people as possible to benefit from being a part of the dojo. Consequently we have no advertising budget. To make your Shihans happy, refer people to the dojo - go the extra mile and give them a card and brochure, tell them what a great place we have. We get a lot of new students from the web, so fill out one of the referral forms on the counter so you (and we) can encourage anyone who goes online to give the dojo a try.

As for feeding your Shihans, make sure you keep your commitment to your training agreement. Without your support we may be eating bread and water for a while.

MAY EVENTS

BRING A MOM TO KARATE SAT. 5/9, 11:20am

All students in the Kids and Adults programs are invited to bring their mom, aunt or any woman they respect to join us for a Mother's Day

celebration!! This year we are having a Tea Ceremony followed by some relaxing Yoga.

JAPAN'S CHILDREN'S DAY FRI. 5/15, 7-10PM

This is a Japanese-based fun

night where we have balloon-sword fighting, make origami samurai helmets, and learn to use chopsticks with rice and stir fry. \$15 per person or \$10 pre-paid by 5/14, keep your Asian bowl, chopsticks and crafts.

Weapon of the month: Sai, Tanbo, Tonfa (2-part, 2-handed weapons)



May 2009

KENSHIN KAN EVENTS

SHIHANS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Dojo Car-wash Fundraiser 9a-1p.
3	4	5	6	7 Josiah's B-Day	8 BBC 7:10p.	9 Bring a Mom to Karate for Tea & Yoga 11:20a
10	11	12	13 Braden's B-Day	14 Last day to place orders. Last day to pre-pay Children's day for \$10/ea.	15 Japan's Children's Day Celebration/Fun Friday, \$15 inc. goodies 7-10p.	16
17 Safety Team Meeting at Unity 11:45a +	18 Jessie's & Mr. Schiessl's B-Day	19	20 Movie on Okinawa & 1st Meeting of the Okinawan Field Trip Group 6p.	21	22 Test & Certificates 7:10p	23 Car Wash Fundraiser 9a-1p. No Classes for Memorial Day Weekend.
24	25 Dojo closed, no classes, Memorial Day Observed	26 Teachers Meeting 6:10p, No 6:20p adv. kids class today (join 5:20p)	27	28 Teen Meeting 6:35p (bring your fav. chips &/or candy) Lawrence's BDay	29	30 Swim Party Potluck 12:30-3:30 @ Baldi home.
31 LaBorde Sempai's B-Day					5 (June) Summer Camp in Missouri begins	6 (June) Summer Camp in Missouri thru Sunday.