



The East Valley Kicker

"Honesty is more than not lying. It is truth telling, truth speaking, truth living, and truth loving." - James E. Faust

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

MAY 2016

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Bring a Mom to Karate Saturday, May 7 at 9:10am. Tell her to wear comfortable workout-type clothing and be prepared to go barefoot.

Any mom who signs up for our Intro Program in the Month of May will get one MONTH of karate for herself for only \$25!

SUMMER DOJO SLEEPOVER

We are kicking off the Summer again this year with a Dojo Sleepover for our students. It will go from Fri. May 6 at 7:30pm until Sat. May 7 at 9am. Dinner and breakfast will be provided, along with many opportunities for FUN! \$25 per kid (\$20 if pre-paid by Wed. May 4th.)

The East Valley Kicker is provided courtesy of East Valley Martial Arts—Kenshin Kan

Head Instructors:

Kirk Gauger,

Renshi, 5th Dan &

Jenifer Tull-Gauger,

Renshi, 5th Dan

KARATE SNOWBIRD

By Jenifer Tull-Gauger

Baby boomers are known for blazing trails and we have our own black belt baby boomer doing just that. Most of you have met Mr. Siemon, and many have had the opportunity to learn from him, or train with him.

Mr. Siemon holds two records at our dojo. He currently holds the record for being the oldest student at our dojo. He also was the oldest person to get to Shodan or the first black belt. He achieved that honor when he was 60 years old. If all goes as planned, and Mr. Siemon is promoted to Nidan next month (2nd level black belt, and the title of Sensei), he will break another dojo record. You may be able to guess that is being the oldest person to achieve Nidan.

Normally we would not put a black belt up for testing if they were here for six months, gone for six months, and then back to training again. But Mr. Siemon is on the other side of the country for half the year, because he is a snowbird. That is the lifestyle choice of many retir-

ees, so they can take advantage of the best weather, and better enjoy life.

Because of that lifestyle, it has taken Mr. Siemon longer than usual to get to where he is in his training, but when he is in the area, he is at the dojo regularly and training hard. Mr. Siemon also helps teach weekly when he's in Arizona, and he takes that black belt responsibility seriously. He makes sure he has brushed up on whatever he may be asked to teach. He also keeps up with the prescribed curriculum, practicing at home, whether that is in Arizona, or in Michigan.

You may have noticed that Mr. Siemon is a good samurai at the dojo because he is always aware of who is at the dojo and who is arriving. He respectfully greets young and old alike with a handshake. Another thing that makes him an indispensable asset is his dojo support. He stays informed about what is going on at the dojo, by reading this newsletter, listening to the instructor's announcements, and asking questions. When

he is in Michigan, he e-mails regularly, checks up on the dojo and students, and sometimes asks questions about a particular kata or exercise. When he is in Arizona, Mr. Siemon does his best to attend or support events, like participating in demonstrations, or Spring Camp.

Outside of the dojo, Mr. Siemon is a regular family man, with a grown son and daughter. His wife, Linda, gives moral support and encouragement in his karate. They get to spend time with their daughter when they are in Arizona, and Mr. Siemon's mother when they are in Michigan. He enjoys nature and the outdoors and spending time doing things like fishing. He likes golfing, and is a college sports fan.

Mr. Siemon is an asset to our dojo. We enjoy having him, even if it's only for half the year.



May WEAPON: **Nunchaku, Chizi**

(for Apr.: sai, tonfa)

FOCUS: **HONESTY**



May 2016

RENSHIS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

New **SAI** or **TONFA**

10% off

In-stock or order by Sat. 5/21.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Bring a Mom to Karate 9:10am, free.
8  Mothers Day	9	10	11	12	13 Black Belt Club for members 7:10 to 8pm. No 7:10 Adults class today.	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Last day to place Century orders for the Summer.
22	23 Summer Schedule begins.	24	25 Early Bird Deadline for Sleepover: \$20 if paid today, \$25 on the 26th.	26	27 Certificate Ceremony* & Test* 6:10p. Sleepover begins 7:30pm. No 6:10 or	28 No classes. Sleepover ends 9am. <i>Memorial Day weekend</i>
29	30 Dojo Closed, no classes <i>Memorial Day</i>	31				

* = Wear full formal gi / uniform.