



The East Valley Kicker

“The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack in will.” - Vince Lombardi Jr.

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

SEPTEMBER 2016

Welcome

- Jon Hanna (Adults)
- Ethan Searcy (Kids)

DOJO SWIM PARTY POTLUCK

The Leura family is hosting this year's Swim Party & Potluck at their neighborhood pool on Saturday, Sept. 17th. We will meet there at 6:30 pm, each family bringing a dish to share for dinner when we arrive. Wear your swim suit and sun block, and bring towels. Then, after a little digestion, the swimming is on! Bring the whole family!! See invitation for location.



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 AT GILA RIVER RESERVATION

By Jenifer Tull-Gauger

We had a special guest come to our dojo for the August test. Tavaris, a karate student at the Gila River Reservation, was the only one testing, and he did great! He earned his yellow belt.

I started teaching Ryukyu Kempo to the kids at Gila River in January. There have been dozens of students who have tried out the “Little Dragons” and “Ninja Warriors” classes. Many, including Tavaris, have made it a consistent part of their regular week. They have gained many of the same benefits that students at our Mesa dojo see: learning to follow the Dojo Kuns, to protect oneself and others, and improving fitness.

In the beginning, it was just me teaching, and that was a challenge, trying to impart the discipline and etiquette, along with the curriculum, to groups of beginner kids who largely had no exposure to karate. Several weeks in, I had a class of about 13 kids, about four were there for their first class, and more than half were under six years old.

Shortly after that, it was decided that the program would make allowance for another instructor. Siemon Sensei helped a couple times, and Tull-Gauger Sensei became a regular teacher there.

Over time, we have had a few young adults attend. Many students have learned their white belt materials. Tavaris is the pioneer, being the first from the program to participate in a formal test. Hopefully we will have more of the students follow in his footsteps. The program has been building slowly but surely. Last week, many of the more consistent students were provided with used uniforms. As funds become available, new uniforms will be ordered for the others who still need them.

As I commit two evenings a week to teaching at the Reservation, I have made it a priority to make sure that our Mesa

dojo is being served, and that we provide continuity of classes and excellent instruction from our team of black belt instructors. I have had help at Gila River recently from Jay Gandee Shihan, a black belt in the United Ryukyu Kempo Alliance. Since we re-started after a summer break, the classes have grown steadily.

We could use your help in supporting this program. Last week, we ran out of white belts to present to new students. If you have your old white belt laying around, and you do not plan to use or display it, a kid from the reservation would be proud to have it and add their spirit. We can cut off names and re-use any size. If you would like to purchase a uniform for one of these students, or contribute to the gi fund, all donations are appreciated!

A Little Dragons class at Gila River.



Sept. WEAPON: **Nunchaku, Chizi**

(for Oct.: sai, tonfa)

FOCUS: **GOOD ATTITUDE**

September 2016



KENSHIN KAN

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

10% off

In-stock or order by Sat. 9/17.

RENSHIS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>Certificate Ceremony & Testing takes place the last Saturday of the month at 10:10am, but not on holidays. To receive your certificate, attend a ceremony at least a month after your test.</p>			1	2 Dojo Closed, no classes	3 Dojo Closed, no classes	
4	5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6	7 Little Dragons Kick-off: 6:00p, Karate for age 6 to adult 6:45-7:35. No Yoga	8	9 No 7:10 p Adults class.	10
11	12	13	14 New Schedule Begins: Karate for age 6 to adult 6:35 pm, Yoga 7:30 pm.	15 New Schedule: Groundfighting at 6:10pm (instead of Weapons)	16 New: Karate for age 6 to adult 6:35 pm, Karate for adults 7:30 pm to 8:20 pm.	17 Last day to place orders. Swim Party 6:30 pm @ Leura's neighborhood pool.
18	19	20	21	22	23 Karate for age 6 to adult 6:35 pm, BBC 7:30 p to 8:20 p. (No 7:30 p Adults)	24 Certificate Ceremony & Test* 10:10 am..
25	26	27	28	29	30	

* = Wear full formal gi / uniform.