



# The East Valley Kicker

“The right way is not always the popular and easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character.”  
-Margaret Chase Smith

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

## NOVEMBER 2016

**WELCOME!** Our Little Dragons are well on their way in training:

- Dylan
- Ezra
- Jaxon
- Marques
- Pierson

## DOJO HOLIDAY PARTY

Save the date! Our annual Dojo Holiday Party will be on Saturday, Dec. 10th, at 6:00 p.m. This year, it will be a potluck. As always, the whole family is invited and encouraged to attend!

## GUEST PASSES

Ask a Renshi if you'd like to invite a friend to try a free class in November!

*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

## SAKUGAWA: FATHER OF KARATE

From the United Ryukyu Kempo Alliance

[Kanga “Tode”] Sakugawa lived from 1733 to 1815.

Tode Sakugawa was known in his youth as Kanga Sakugawa. He was an Okinawan martial artist and greatly contributed to the evolution of karate, or “Tode,” as it was known at the time. He studied under at least two separate masters: Takahara Peichin and Kusanku.

Oral tradition describes Sakugawa as a mischievous youth. One story relates that he was walking near a river one day when he saw an older Chinese gentleman gazing in the water. As a prank,

he went to push the gentleman into the river and instead was grabbed by that man in an iron grip. The man turned out to be the Chinese martial artist Kusanku. Kusanku chastised the youth but then offered to instruct him further in the martial arts. Sakugawa consulted with his instructor at the time, Takahara, who encouraged him to learn from the Chinese master.

Sakugawa's dedication and expertise led to his nickname: “Tode” Sakugawa. “Tode” is the term used to describe the art of karate prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The Japanese characters (kanji) used to spell “tode” indicate its Chinese influences. [They were slightly modified later to be pronounced as “karate.”]

Tode Sakugawa was an instructor of Sokon Matsumura.

The Dojo Kun used by our Alliance originated with Sakugawa. Several of our kobudo [weapons] forms also bear his name. After his instructor Kusanku passed away, Sakugawa created the “Kusanku” kata in his honor. This is the Kusanku kata that we practice in the Alliance [and at our dojo] today!

[Tode Sakagawa has also been credited as being the first Karate master on Okinawa to teach students who were not his family members. He opened the art up to willing participants in his community who seemed able to maturely handle the materials. It has been said that that is part of why he created the Dojo Kun. He also wanted to give students something they could use every day to further their training and not cause harm.]





Nov. WEAPON: **Kama, Tan Bo**  
 (for Dec.: bo, jo)  
 FOCUS: **MORAL CHARACTER**

# November 2016



RENSHIS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px dashed orange; padding: 5px;"> <p>New <b>BO</b> or <b>JO</b></p>  <p><b>10% off</b></p> <p>In-stock or order by Thurs. 11/10.</p> </div>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 BBC 6:10 pm. No ground fighting today. Last day to place orders (best time for Xmas orders!)	11 Dojo Closed, no classes  <i>Veterans Day</i>	12 Dojo Closed, no classes
13	14	15	16 Teen Meeting 7:30 pm to plan for Dojo Holiday Party Potluck. No Yoga.	17	18	19 Certificate Ceremony & Test* 10:10am.
20	21	22	23	24 Dojo Closed, no classes  <i>Thanksgiving</i>	25 Dojo Closed, no classes	26 Dojo Closed, no classes
27	28	29	30		<b>Certificate Ceremony &amp; Testing</b> schedule is amended during the holidays. See dojo calendars for dates. To receive your certificate, attend a ceremony at least a month after your test.	

\* = Wear full formal gi / uniform.