

The T.K.D. Flash

A Publication of the Association of Academies of Martial Arts

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On December 1 the **University of North Carolina** club moved to its brand new facility.

It's renewal time. Renewals of your subscription to the **T.K.D. Flash** will cost \$5.00 for 2004. Send your check, made out to the A.A.M.A. to 752 Lake Shore Road, Grafton WI 53024.

It's also time to renew your memberships in the **United States TaeKwon-Do Federation**. Renewal for 2004 is \$25.00. Support those who support our Art and who support you. Send your check, made out to the A.A.M.A. to 752 Lake Shore Road, Grafton WI 53024. (Renewals or new memberships later than October 1, 2003 will count for 2004.)

Attention deficit test: The Flash is usually published either without a box or with a red box surrounding the masthead. One copy, sent at random in December, had a green box surrounding the masthead, and the person who received that copy will receive a check for \$25.00. Check next month to see if anyone notices this issue and is consequently \$25.00 richer.

A test was held at the new UNCC location on Dec. 6.

On December 6 Mr. VH taught a seminar in Step Sparring at the Academy of Martial Arts in **Sheboygan**. We had fun.

On January 25 the Association will head a **regional Black Belt test** at Grafton Wisconsin. To be held at John Long Middle School's new gymnasium, the U.S.T.F. sanctioned test will be presided over by Master Earl Weiss. Testees are expected from at least 3 states. A banquet will be held in the evening. For information contact Mr. VH 414-963-8990.

Master Earl Weiss has resigned as Region V Director and been moved "upstairs" to national prominence with the United States TaeKwon-Do Federation. At the inception of his term of leadership, Master Weiss took over a Region frayed at the seams in a battle of egos. How ironic, given that there are few humbler men of such intelligence and accomplishment known to this editor. Under Master Weiss's leadership, the course was steady and his aim true. State Directors and school masters found in him a friend, someone who could recognize the worth of effort and whose approach was indefatigably collegial rather than authoritarian. As a result, the Region prospered at a time many did not, and there is a greater number of U.S.T.F. schools now in the Region than when he began his work. We thank him for what he has done for the General's TaeKwon-Do, and wish our good friend and mentor God speed.

Good things do continue to happen in our TaeKwon-Do family. In this case, one of the best. We are most happy to relate that Yidan Paul Schneider has had the very great fortune to have the offer of his hand in marriage accepted by Chodan Teresa Brandt. These are two great people and we all wish them the very best together.

Grand Master Charles E. Sereff has appointed Mr. **Kevin McDaniel** to the post of Wisconsin State Director for the United States TaeKwon-Do Federation. This post was formerly held by Mr. VH. A copy of Mr. VH's nomination of Mr. McDaniel follows:

*Grand Master Charles E. Sereff
United States TaeKwon-Do Federation
Dear Grand Master Sereff:*

*[Introductory portion omitted.]
I would like to nominate as State Director for Wisconsin a loyal student, Mr. Kevin McDaniel of Waunakee, Wisconsin. Mr. McDaniel is currently a Fourth Dan and displays to me both technical proficiency in our Art and organizational skill.*

Mr. McDaniel's origins in the Art were other than with U.S.T.F., and he has had the opportunity to deal with both "W.T.F." and quasi-"I.T.F." people and organizations. This was a matter of raw geography and not of preference. He has expressed to me his delight with his current involvement with U.S.T.F. here in Wisconsin and is entirely "sold" on what I believe the "better course" of loyalty to U.S.T.F. He has the advantage of being able to compare and the maturity and insight to have made the correct decision, for us.

Master Earl Weiss, who I consulted on this matter, believes that Mr. McDaniel would be a positive addition.

Recently Mr. McDaniel met both Masters Sereff and Steadman in Colorado for a Referee's course, and I believe he has been assessed as a great potential contributor.

Mr. McDaniel runs a successful

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school in Middleton, WI (Madison area).

He has been active in my own Association and brings an organized and sophisticated perspective to problem-solving. He is well known in martial arts circles in Wisconsin and will enhance our prestige.

I think Mr. McDaniel can continue to help Wisconsin "grow" for U.S.T.F., and I would not nominate him for State Director if there were the least doubt in my mind that he would as doggedly pursue this goal as I have.

I would therefore respectfully request your appointment of Mr. Kevin McDaniel as a new Wisconsin State Director.

Thank you for your most kind attention.

Very truly yours,
F.M. Van Hecke

Our congratulations and best wishes to Mr. McDaniel in his new role as Wisconsin State Director.

On December 10 a test was held in Grafton presided over by Mssrs. Van Pietersom, Thursten, Mattias, Nusslock and VH and Mms. Lubner & Graff, assisted by Mssrs. Pals and Ms. Soriano. At the Corner were Mssrs. Dondero, H. AbuLughod, and Wagner. 24 students tested, 11 to Decided grades. A second contingent of 3 tested the next night successfully as well.

A test was held in Middleton at American Martial Arts Center on December 14. Mr. McDaniel, Mrs. Karpinsky & Mr. VH presided for a total of 17 students. Corners were Mrs. Hunsberger & Mr. Martin assisted by Mssrs. Love & Keller.

A Final Message from Your Former State Director:

A great deal was accomplished in Wisconsin through U.S.T.F. in the past, and we've gone from very little to much, including the first U.S.T.F.-format tournaments in the Great Lakes region in years. We have forged stronger ties throughout the Midwest. This year we can look forward to yet another U.S.T.F.-sanctioned testing (this month) and a visit from Eighth Dan Mike Winegar to teach two special Instructor courses. Mr. Kevin McDaniel is our new Wisconsin State Director for U.S.T.F. I will be helping Mr. McDaniel with the membership campaign for 2004, and whenever funds are sent either of us, or a response given to either of us, it will be shared with the other. This is for your convenience and the betterment of true TaeKwon-Do in Wisconsin. I would sincerely hope that you extend to Mr. McDaniel all the cooperation and aid that you extended to me over my term in office, and appreciate the gracious support that you extended me.

Mr. VH

HELP WANTED: On Saturday January 17 there will be a test at the Academy of Martial Arts, West Bend, commencing at 10:00. Upon completion of the Gup level test, Mr. Paul DuKatz will present Part One of his own school's Black Belt Test (this is in conjunction with the Regional Testing January 25). He needs people interested in submission wrestling and sparring to help out. If you'd like to volunteer and be an important part of this occasion, call Mr. DuKatz at 262-335-8020.

Set aside Saturday March 6 for the A.A.M.A. Spring Tournament to be hosted by American Martial Arts Center. The tournament will be held in Waunakee WI and will feature: Continuous Free Sparring, Head to Head Bracketed Chang-Hon Patterns Competition, Team Patterns Competition, and Team Free Sparring events.

The Grafton Special Needs Academy of Martial Arts held a testing on December 23. Mr. Luke Mattias produced two students and Mr. James Pals and Mr. VH presided.

S Korea Taekwondo chief held

--BBC News, UK Edition, 5
December 2003

The head of South Korea's Taekwondo Association has been arrested on charges of rigging his election in February last year, and bribing fellow officials.

Prosecutors have indicted Koo Chun-seo, accusing him of using 300 "gangsters and taekwondo experts" to stop rivals attending the vote.

Mr Koo was unanimously elected chairman of the martial arts association by the 17 delegates who were able to attend.

He was also accused of paying over \$20,000 to two association officials ahead of the vote.

Mr Koo was arrested and charged along with Lee Seng-wan, an adviser to the association, who was once in prison for organising the disruption of an opposition political rally in 1987.

The South Korean Taekwondo Association has been dogged by scandal in recent years.

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Mr Koo, a former South Korean MP [Ed. note: "Member of Parliament"], took over after his predecessor, Kim Un-yong, was forced out after three decades in the job, over allegations of corruption.

Taekwondo is an Olympic sport which originated on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean army uses it to train soldiers, and parents send their children to classes, believing that it is a character-building exercise which teaches discipline and patriotism.

[Ed. Note: Following in the footsteps, eh? Vide prior articles in this publication concerning Un Young Kim, founder and former W.T.F. President. How excellent it is that we are able to make our own judgments as to who best represents TaeKwon-Do. Our thanks to Mr. Kevin McDaniel who called this item to our attention.]

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My Experience in TaeKwon-Do

By Harley Pals

In December of 1999, I was having a problem raising my arms. Thinking I may be getting old or needing more exercise, I talked with my two boys. I asked them, "What do you think that I should do?" Some ideas were to join the YMCA, exercise on machines at the mall, or use the swimming pool at the school.

Our son Jim suggested TaeKwon-Do. It sounded interesting, so I tried it. I later found out prescribed medication

was the problem with my arms. The problem has since been worked out with the doctor, but I continue with my classes in TaeKwon-Do.

My arms work much better. I have since broken my number two toe on the left foot, kicking the bag. Pulling the toes back when kicking avoids this problem. When sparring with an opponent, the instructors would quite frequently holler at me, saying, "Harley, breathe!: I would realize then that I was holding my breath. Since then I have gotten better, but still have more room for improvement. Recently (in 2003) while sparring, I delivered a middle target punch with my right hand which hit a raised knee. It caused a bone to chip in my knuckle. A possible cause of this was an improperly closed fist.

I feel as though I am in better health and condition, and have become more talkative. At my 59th high school class reunion in September of 2001, I stood up and told a short story. Later, one of my classmates, named Elna, said she was surprised I spoke because I was always so quiet.

My son Jim asked me to come help in his class one evening. He said, "Teach Benny the low block." After awhile, little Benny looked up at me and asked, "How old are you?"

"How old do you think I am?" I replied. Benny's guess was, "100." I said, "No, guess again."

Benny answered, "105." I said, "No, I am only 79. How old

are you?" Benny answered, "I am five and a half." I enjoyed working with Benny, a very nice young boy, and I still enjoy it.

I was in the audience on August 31, 2003 of a black belt test. My name was called to come before the Board. I was totally surprised when I was offered the opportunity to take the oath for Deacon. Although, the thought of becoming a Deacon had entered my mind, I did not expect to actually receive it for a few more months.

There are so many things I have to do. I sometime shirk my TaeKwon-Do. My physical and mental condition seem better to me, even though I always walked to class until recently. I now drive because I seem to have a catch in my right hip. However, once in class I forget that I should be limping.

I enjoy being in class with all the other friendly students. Also, I try to keep up with them during the workouts. I'm glad that the decision for exercise I made was TaeKwon-Do. Since I have started TaeKwon-Do my health has improved greatly and my mind is running a mile per minute to keep up with my forms.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Harley Pals, a Black Belt candidate, is not 105 years old. Quite yet.]

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Mr. VH has been appointed U.S.T.F. Region Five Director. The Region consists of Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Indiana.