



August, 1, 2007

Bushishin Budo Renmei Martial Arts **Assn.**

Shihan Harold Hicks, Director B.B.R

From the desk of **Shihan Harold Hicks:**

There has been a lot happening within the “Academy” this past year. The early class, lead by Sensei David Capell, and the late class continue to grow in the number of students. Even through the summer months, enrollment continued to increase. The “Academy” has added a Men’s Tactical Take-Downs class to our training schedule.

I want to thank all ten of the instructors for their effort, attitude, and work that they do to help make this school the success that it is. The “Academy” won the ITEM’S Reader’s Choice Award for “Best Martial Arts Facility” in 2006 and again in 2007 due to the excellent instructors and their tireless work ethic. To our business director, many thanks for handling the books and keeping the doors open. This has been a great year and I only see our future getting brighter.

Our organization name has changed in an effort to more closely reflect our history and style. Bushishin Budo translates into “Warrior Spirit Martial Way”, while Renmei means organization. Our style is Kamishin Kempo Karate, which translates into “Godly Heart Fist Way China Hand”. Thanks to our historian, Shihan Ray Mohalick.

Academy of Martial Arts, Sumter, S.C.

Shihan Harold Hicks and Shihan Ray Mohalick

Women’s Self-Defense:

The Academy had five Women’s Self-Defense classes this year with an average of 15 women present. These women learned how to defend themselves from a variety of attacks. They were taught simple to learn techniques that implement leverage and not brute force.

A special self-defense class was taught for the Criminal Justice students from Central Carolina Technical College. This is expected to be an on-going event each semester.

Belt Test:

There have been six belt test dates this past year. Many students met the time and training requirements and were promoted. In all, around 40 students achieved a new belt level. Each test required students to demonstrate their knowledge before a Black-belt panel.

In fact, there is an increase in the material students must know before promoting to upper belt ranks. The 30 Jukendo techniques have been added to requirements for the three levels of brown and to achieve Shodon(black-belt).

Sumter Cut-Rate Drug Store

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Men's Tactical Take-Downs:

A "self-defense class on steroids" was started when a group of Constables asked for training. It was supposed to be a two-session class; that was six months ago. Several adult karate students have also joined this class. A wide variety of attack defenses are taught; including weapons and ground fighting. This class implements many Jukendo techniques and has attracted a lot of positive attention.

USC-Sumter Classes:

Word of the Women's Self-Defense and Men's Tactical Take-Downs classes got to USC-Sumter and they contacted the Academy about doing some classes for them. These two classes will be offered in USC-Sumter's Fall Course catalog. This publication goes out to over 1200 homes. These classes will also be advertised in the Sumter ITEM. The quality and integrity of our leadership continues to shine in Sumter.

Karate Kamps:

One of our adult students, Bob Flury, suggested we do a karate kamp. After some planning, our first kamp was scheduled for early June. It was such a huge success that a second week had to be planned for the very next week. Between the two kamps, 33 children participated. Several of those children then enrolled in our regular karate classes. A third kamp is scheduled for Monday, July 30th. Kamp staff included Todd Gainey, director, Jamie Ayers, Tim Martin, Kendall Painter, and Chris Hatfield.

Physicians Weight Loss

652 Bultman Dr.

Community Demonstrations:

The black belts have performed several demonstrations this past year at churches, senior centers, and an African-American festival. Shihan Ray and Shihan Harold have lead the way and set the example of giving back to our community.

Re-establishing our roots:

The Nippon Kobudo Rengokai organization of Dr, Albert C. Church has been rejuvenated under Soke Darrell Collins with the help of Soke Harold Martin. This continues the direct lineage from Dr. Church.

Shihan Harold Hicks and Shihan Ray Mohalick of our Bushishin Budo Renmei organization have rejoined Soke Collins' organization and are continuing their training in Shorinji Tetsuken Kamishin Ryu.

MusicGator 844 Broad St.
Owner Phil Sports trained under
Dr. Church

C.A. Harler Trophy 703 Bultman Dr.

Awards:

The Academy was presented a flag that flew in an F-15E Strike Eagle during a combat mission over Iraq. It was given in honor of the Academy's support of American troops and our dedication to teaching respect for America. Lt. Dave Pontious, an Academy student, presented the flag.

Biography Spotlight:

Shihan Harold Hicks, instructor of Kamishin Kempo Karate, was born January 20, 1956, the second oldest of two brothers and one sister, in Manning, S.C. He resided in Manning throughout his childhood and graduated from Manning High School in 1974. He continued his education by earning his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice at Sumter Area Technical College, in 1982. After graduation, he joined the Marine Corps and served for 3½ years as a radio operator in the Communications Division. Hicks joined the National Guard Armory Reserves after completing his term in the Marines and served for a total of 21 years between both military branches.

Hicks has had the opportunity to train in several different styles of karate since 1977 with 30 years of experience. He was first introduced to Issinhyu Karate in 1977, when he was stationed in Camp Lejeune, N.C., under the direction of Sensei John Best. In 1981, he started Nippon Kamishin Ryu Karate in Sumter, S.C. under the direction of Sensei John Kelley at the Sumter Boys Club and continued his studies under the direction of Sensei Frank Jones from 1983 until 1990. From 1990 until 2004 he trained in Kempo Karate under Sensei Ray Mohalick.

Shihan Harold Hicks is a 6th Degree Black Belt with extensive knowledge, training, and experience in self-defense, kata, and the use of the long staff(bo). He has competed and won first place awards in numerous tournaments over the years.

Currently, Hicks is the director of the Bushishin Budo Renmei Martial Arts Association and the training director for the Academy of Martial Arts in Sumter. He is employed at Sumter Metal Product as a Shipping/Receiving Coordinator with 15 years of service. He resides in Sumter, S.C. with his wife and is an active member of Cypress Fork AME Church.

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Academy of Martial Arts, Tigerville, S.C.

Sensei Todd Gainey

The TAMA is considered a franchise of the Academy of Martial Arts in Sumter, and is run by Sensei Todd Gainey, first degree black belt from the Sumter School. The training criteria is approved through Shihan Harold Hicks. The Tigerville School meets on the campus of North Greenville University where Sensei Todd is a student, and meets four times a week. The school is treated like a class: Students have a choice of a Monday/Wednesday class, or a Tuesday/Thursday class, and are allowed two absences per month. The TAMA holds one belt test at the end of every semester before

the students leave for their break; the belt test is something like a Final Exam. Recently, 3 students (Steven Carter, David Jackson, and Daniel Spearman) tested for - and received - their yellow belts. The TAMA is preparing to wrap up the school year at the end of April and will restart the school year in August with a women's self-defense course open to all female University students and professors. Sensei Todd is also the Karate Kamp Director.

Stanley Welch Clothiers

434 N Guignard

Sensei Darryl Vestal, 5th degree, Yadkinville, N.C.

Shihan Ray Mohalick has reported that Sensei Vestal has recently promoted some of his younger students to the blue belt level and his school is doing well. However, Nathan, Darryl's young son has been having some problems. He was hospitalized for a week earlier this year with some severe infections. He is on anti-rejection drugs which hurt his immune system. The 30th of July he will have tubes put in his ears, have his adenoids removed, and under go other tests. We ask that all in the Bushishin Budo Renmei family keep the Vestal family, especially Nathan, in their prayers.

Shihan Larry Barnes, Mammoth, Pa

Shihan Barnes and his family are doing well. Per a phone conversation with him, he was brought up to date with the progress of the Academy. He was very instrumental in helping us establish the new association name. Shihan Barnes has been a great influence and source of knowledge for our dojo. He had extensive training under Dr. Albert Church and has continued to instruct his students in the same manner taught him.

St Francis Xavier H.S.

Sensei Charles Roberts, Ballston Spa, N.Y.

Sensei Roberts is doing well from what I gather from our e-mails. We have discussed reuniting our affiliation with Shihan Darrell Collins' Nippons Kobudo Rengokai and he believes it will only improve our association. This affiliation would move us closer to the teachings of Master Kim Chi Koo and Dr. Albert Church.

Sensei Linwood Gamble, Savannah, Ga.

Sensei Gamble's school hosted a tournament in May. Over 60 students competed in kata and kumite. Trophies were awarded for first, second, and third place in several divisions. This tournament was good experience for all the students and instructors. Thank you to Sensei Gamble and his school for hosting this fine event.

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