



FRONT KICKS

The Newsletter for the American Karate Academy

AKA Staff

Shihan Danny Chapman
8th Dan, Chief Instructor

Master Mike Hoyal
5th Dan, Senior Instructor

Sensei Tim Bowles
3rd Dan, Senior Instructor

Sensei Matt Stonerock
2nd Dan, Instructor, Lil'
Dragon Instructor

Sensei Cam Chapman
2nd Dan, Assist Instructor

Sensei Michael Culbreth
2nd Dan Assist Instructor

Sensei Lindsey Grant
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

**Sensei Lori Lynn
Chapman**
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

Sensei Jessica Grant
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

Sensei Jennifer Grant
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

Sensei Tressia Grant
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

Sensei Michael Ford
1st Dan, Assist Instructor

Lenny Ramirez
Publisher of Front Kicks

Trainee Instructors/ Junior Assistant Instructors

Charles Williams
Lenny Ramirez
Saad Rehman
David Grant
Jake Forczek
Brandon Wen

Students of the Year

Master Chapman recently announced the 2006 AKA Student of the Year for the children and the adult class.

The recipient of the award for 2006 in the children's was **Brandon Wen**. Brandon attended Karate College, Camp Sidekick, and the IKSA National Training Seminar in 2006. He also participated in two tournaments. Brandon, an advanced green belt, assists in the Lil' Dragons class.

The winner in the adult class was **Jennifer Grant**. Jennifer, 15, also attended Karate College, Camp Sidekick, and the IKSA National Training Seminar. She competed in tournaments in Chattanooga and Spring Hill.

Jennifer earned her black belt in 2006 and had an excellent attendance record throughout the year. She serves as an assistant instructor in the children's and adult class. "I am very proud of these students," said Master Chapman. "Both are very dedicated to the martial arts and our school." Brandon and Jennifer were chosen by the Black Belt staff of the AKA.



Camp Sidekick

On April 21 the AKA will once again host Camp Side Kick. The camp will have classes for children and adults. The guest instructor is Grand Master

Floyd Burk of San Diego, CA. Look for a handout on the camp in March.

AKA Students Attend Camp Bunkai

Seventeen members of the American Karate Academy attended Camp Bunkai on Jan 20th. The camp, held in Trenton, GA, was hosted by IKSA instructor Master Doug Welsh. The featured instructor was Grand Master Floyd Burk of San Diego. Master Burk taught classes on self defense techniques and the kata, "Hangetsu". Each of the camp's 50 participants received a certificate from Master Welsh. "Master Welsh put on a first class event", said Master Chapman. "And it is always an honor to have the opportunity to train with Master Burk."

In the Spotlight...

This edition of Front Kicks features **Kyle Starr** of the children's class as well as **Jeff Morrison** of the adult class. Kyle is an 11 year old Green belt with 2 stripes. He is a 5th grader at Lipscomb Elementary School. He started training in karate in July of 2004. Kyle really enjoys sparring and jump-the-pad. When not training he enjoys playing baseball, riding his bike, and reading. Kyle's younger brother trains as well. Kyle says he tries to set a good example for Brett to follow. Kyle greatly admires Bill "Superfoot" Wallace and hopes some day to earn his own black belt.

Jeff Morrison was born and raised in Athens, TN. He attended McMinn Co. High where he spent three years on the wrestling team. Jeff then attended the University of Tennessee where he earned a Bachelor of Architecture Degree. He is employed by Turner Logistics where he is a Senior Projects Manager. He currently has projects going on in various states including GA, CA, and PA. In his free time he is writing a book on the venues of the modern Olympic Games. Jeff enjoys the camaraderie of the karate classes and enjoys the exercise it provides. He is a great admirer of Bill Wallace

and Chuck Norris. He also admires the Black Belts of the AKA for their dedication to the martial arts. Jeff began his martial arts training several years ago with Master Chapman at the Franklin dojo. After earning his brown belt he was forced to stop training because of a very demanding job schedule. Then in 2004 he returned to continue training. Jeff is a member of the Black Belt Club and is determined to earn his black belt.



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Ford Awarded Black Belt

Michael Ford received his black belt on January 13, 2006.

His test was administered by the black belt staff of the AKA. Although it was strenuous Michael did extremely well on the day-long test. Michael began his training with Master Chapman as a 15-year old. During times his training was interrupted by activities such as college and work but he doggedly continued his martial arts journey despite the interruptions.

Michael is an English teacher at Ravenwood High School.

Michael has been a Trainee Instructor for two years working with the children's classes. He has attended numerous martial arts events such as seminars and tournaments. Michael will continue to train and will serve as an Assistant Instructor for the AKA.



Student of the Month

Our student of the month for November was **Emmie Schmidt** and for December it was Weston Sharp. In January, **Christy McClary** won the award.

Congratulations to these fine, young students!!!



Black Belt Club

Our latest edition to the AKA Black Belt Club is **Charles Williams**. Charles is a brown belt in the adult class who has been training for several years. "I am proud Charles has made this commitment," said Master Chapman.

"I have no doubt he will succeed in making it to black belt."



David Grant Earns Black Belt

David Grant, 11, tested successfully on December 9, 2006 for his black belt. David's test, which lasted 6 1/2 hours, was administered by the black belts of the AKA. The test consisted of a written test, sparring, self-defense, katas, and various endurance activities.

David has been training in karate since June of 2003. He has attended numerous karate seminars and tournaments.

He was the AKA Child Student of the Year in 2005. David assists with the Lil' Dragon class on a regular basis. "David has showed a tremendous amount of dedication to karate since he was a white belt," said Master Chapman. "I am proud to welcome him to the staff as a Junior Black Belt Assistant Instructor." David's three sisters and mother are all AKA black belts

New Students!

We are proud to recognize the following additions to our karate "family"

Christy McClary	Jasmin Zandieh
Bridget Kazay	Nassim Zahrir
Brendan Kazay	Jake Lewis
Sara Crace	Christopher
Megan McMillan	Moore
Parsa Zandieh	Austin Moore

Recent Promotions

Sara Winters-Adv BI
Lenny Ramirez-P
Brian Lu-YI

Forrest Graham-YI
Weston Sharpe-YI
Michael Aguon-BI
Myah Pollard-P

Annie Roberson-BI
Michelle Freetly-YI

Ivanna Kelley-YI
Jake Allen-YI George
Harrington-YI

Emmie Schmidt-P
Christy McClary-YI
Bridgett Kazay-YI
Brendan Kazay-YI

Sara Crace-YI
Drake Allen-YI
Rita Wells-Br Emily
Winters-Adv BI
Megan McMillan-YI

Congratulations!

Demo Night

On Thursday, March 29 we will be having our annual Martial Arts Demonstration Night. Each member of our program, from Lil' Dragon to adult, will be participating. Invite your friends and family to this exciting event. The evening will feature group katas, weapons demonstrations, self defense techniques, board breaking, and more.

The demo will start at 7:30.
Please make every effort to attend.