



ALONG THE WAY

River Valley Martial Arts Newsletter
July, 2007



www.rivervalley martial arts.com

WORDS OF WISDOM

"I will mediate on thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. I will delight myself in thy statutes; I will not forget thy word."

Psalms 119:15.16

Following the rules of the dojo is important, both for everyone's safety and to assure that everyone is able to enjoy and benefit from training. Even more essential is following the rules God has laid down in the Bible in our daily lives. But you must know those rules before you can apply them, and that only comes through a regular and consistent study of Scripture. So, read "The Book" so you can be "The Book".

Kyle Bennett
Instructor

John Terry
Instructor

THEME OF THE MONTH

Teamwork (Together Everyone Achieves More)

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor". Ecclesiastes 4:9

1. Coordinated effort of persons acting together as a team for a common cause
2. Cooperative effort by a group or team to achieve a common goal
3. Cooperative work done by a team to effectively achieve a desired outcome

Why is Teamwork Important?

1. Being part of a team motivates you as an individual
2. Being part of a team motivates you to work harder
3. Being part of a team challenges you to excel
4. When a team works together, the results are multiplied

CLASS UPDATES

Lil' Dragons: We continue to study "Health/Hygiene" during the month of July. New students will begin to learn their first kata (form) while the upper-ranked students will learn their second kata. We will also review basic self-defense techniques

Kick'n Kids & Teens / Adults: We welcome several new students into our Kick'n Kids class, and some returning students as well. This month will focus on team building, as we pair new students with some of our long-time students as we review basic techniques and forms with new students.

Women's Self-Defense: July 9 is the starting date of our next Women's self-defense class. This is a 12-week class, meeting each Monday from 6:30-7:30pm. Please let your friends and family know about this class, as it could literally save a woman's life.

New Class Being Considered: We're considering starting a "Cardio/Self-defense" class that would meet twice weekly, focusing on fitness coupled with a belt-ranked self-defense system. Your input & comments are both welcome and encouraged.

CHRISTIAN KARATE CAMP

Summer Camp – July 27-29 (Alba MO)

SWAT will host its 11th annual Christian Karate Camp at Camp Cyokamo (10 miles north of Joplin MO) from July 27-29, 2007. RVMA will be participating in this fun and exciting event. All seminars (youth and adult) and activities are conducted in a positive, Christian atmosphere. Great fun and fellowship.

- Air-conditioned dorms, cafeteria, and chapel
- Two large swimming pools & recreation hall
- Outdoor tennis, basketball, Frisbee golf, playground, fishing pond

\$100 Registration Fee (\$90 if pre-registered) covers all seminars, meals, camp T-shirt, and participation the camp tournament following Sunday morning worship (2-Star SWAT Rated).

Start saving now and make plans to attend this fun-filled event. It's a great family "get-away" weekend. If you can't go, consider sponsoring a student who may need financial assistance.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL / OPEN HOUSE

We are starting now to plan for our Fall "Back to School" Open House, to be held on Saturday, August 25th from 9AM to 12 Noon. Tentative plans include an Aikido demonstration by Shihan Rooks, a performance by the Spirit Plus Martial Arts demonstration team, and a Kick-A-Thon to raise money for our "Kid-Safe" elementary school outreach program.

Testing will follow after lunch for eligible students.

Details will follow as we finalize our plans, but we wanted to get this date to you early so you could start talking to friends who you might want to bring to this event.

KARATE FOR CHRIST CERTIFIED

Our school received its official credentials as a certified Karate for Christ International member school on July 2nd, 2007. John Terry was also recognized as a KFCI-certified instructor.

We join an international organization with more than 20,000 members and thousands of KFCI member & certified schools worldwide. RVMA has been a member KFCI school since our inception; however, we have taken the next step to officially certify our school with KFCI, allowing our student rankings to be recognized by the organization.

Karate for Christ International is a martial arts ministry, actively incorporating faith and Bible teaching as an integral part of a martial arts school's curriculum. Students of RVMA may (and are encouraged to) apply for individual KFCI membership.

There is no fee to join KFCI; however, patches are \$10.00 and a membership certificate is \$10.00 if desired. See one of the school instructors for an application, or visit www.karateforchrist.com. Membership certificates can be ordered online; however, patches must be purchased through the school.

Shammah: An Example of the Warrior Spirit

Dr. Daryl Covington – President, Karate for Christ International

Dr. Covington holds a B.S. in Biology, a Masters in Pastoral Ministry, a Doctorate in Ministry, and a PhD in Asian Studies. He currently serves as the President of Karate for Christ International, as well as the Korean representative for Asia Reach Ministries. He and his wife Brenda, along with their two daughters (Mikayla and Mlriah) are currently residing in Seoul, South Korea, where they minister among the North Korean refugees. He also holds a 7th degree black belt in Shines Hapkido. He has co-authored three other books: Encounter the Warrior's Heart, the Warrior's Heart Revealed, and About My Father's Business.

II Samuel 23:11-12: *And after him was Shammah, the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentils; and the people fled from the Philistines. But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines; and the Lord wrought a great victory.*

There is a crisis in our country in our spiritual manner. 3 of 4 Americans do not believe in absolute truth. We teach evolution and wonder why our kids act like wild animals. The crisis is deeper than these examples, for it runs deep into the heart of American Christianity.

Within the Southern Baptist Convention alone, 70% of the churches are plateaued or declining. Only 4% of all Baptists have ever shared faith. Last year, in the Southern Baptist Convention, 10,000 churches saw no baptisms. That is 1,040,000 sermons, 520,000 prayer meetings, 4,000,000 hymns, and well over 200 million in offerings and not one soul was reached. These statistics exist in a nation where we have 45 million teens, of which 44 ½ million do not attend church.

Yes, there is a crisis in Christianity in the God Blessed USA. Passive Christianity is the cause. The great need in this country is to instill a little "warrior spirit" in the youth of our community so they will not bend, bow, or budge to the system of this world and can stand firm on the principles of God's word. This is what Christian martial arts can be used to do, build the X Generation to be warriors of Christ.

The interesting thing about Shammah was "why he stood". He was not defending all of Israel, the Holy City, the Ark of the Covenant, or the King. He was fighting to defend a "field full of lentils"; a pea patch! Fighting by himself, when the whole army fled, Shammah defeated the whole Philistine army, over a pea patch! Why? Because they were God's peas. We learn from Shammah the biblical concept of the warrior spirit, "If it is God's, it is worth fighting for."

In today's society, many companies spend as much as 75% of their advertising budgets to sell their goods to the youth of our country. The average church spends less than 1% of its total budget trying to reach the nation's youth for the sake of Christ. I believe our youth are worth fighting for. In my years of ministry, I have been able to reach more kids with the gospel through martial arts ministry than I have through Sunday School. Without exception, the kids that have been reached through the martial arts ministry, and adults, have become radical Christians that turned the community upside down for Jesus. Why? The warrior spirit.

SAFETY / SECURITY PRODUCTS



Personal Alarm with Safety Light

130-decibels of ear-piercing sound, plus an emergency light, and strap. A great defensive tool for women, seniors, and mature children.

Retail: \$12.95 + shipping RVMA Price: **\$8.50** each (incl. shipping)



Multi-Purpose Alarm System

130-decibels of ear-piercing sound, plus an emergency light, and strap. Also includes a door and window sensor so you can use at home, hotel room, or college dorm.

Retail: \$15.95 + shipping RVMA Price: **\$11.50** each (incl. shipping)



Self-Defense Keychain

Created by Takayuki Kubota, this 5-1/2" metal baton (known as the kubotan) is an excellent self-defense weapon. Great for men and women.

Retail: \$4.95 + shipping RVMA Price: **\$3.95** (incl. shipping)

Remember our liability coverage requires that all equipment be purchased through our school. See your instructor for equipment needs or sizing.

MARTIAL ARTS EQUIPMENT



Tournament Cut Uniform

Medium weight, 100% cotton, 10 oz. canvas uniform, tournament (competition) cut. A great uniform for tournaments, yet light enough for regular workout use.

\$50.00 Uniform Only *
\$55.00 Uniform + White Belt *
* Includes shipping



Sparring Gear Sets

A complete set of sparring gear. Includes foam-dipped head, hand, and foot gear and a mouthpiece. Colors include black, blue, pink, silver, and red.

\$70.00 Double Padded Gear Set *
* Includes shipping

\$55.00 Single Padded Gear Set *
* Includes shipping



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