

TANG SOO TIMES

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PAL CHE TANG SOO DO

229 SOUTH CHESTER PIKE

GLENOLDEN, PA 19036

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 7 - Gup test at dojang. No adult class.
- May 12 - East Coast Championships.
- May 26 - Memorial Day weekend. No classes.
- May 28 - Memorial Day. No classes.

MONDAY NIGHT ADULT CLASS SCHEDULE

- May 7 - Gup test at dojang. No adult class.
- May 14 - Regular adult class.
- May 21 - Black Belt class. Red belts and higher.
- May 28 - Memorial Day. No classes.
- Jun 4 - Gup test at dojang. No adult class.

MASTER'S CORNER

Other than springtime, do you know what time it is? It's Black Belt time. We will be honoring the students who tested in the Fall cycle by presenting them with their stripes and/or certificates for fulfilling their mandatory 6-month probationary period. This will be done at the May 7 test. This is an extremely emotional time for these students as well as for the instructors. It is the 'passing of the baton' to a new generation - the master instructors of tomorrow. In addition, Region 8 of the WTSDA just held their spring Dan testing. Matt Byrne from Pal Che tested for Cho Dan. I couldn't watch his test since I was on the grading panel for a different group. However, several of our instructors who were in attendance said that Matt appeared to successfully fulfill the testing requirements. We must now just wait for the results to be reported from headquarters. We are also making plans for the Region 8 Youth and Adult Black Belt clinics to be held in June.

Our Demo team, under the guidance of Allen Anders, has held several practices and will be putting on their first performance at the Gup test/Black Belt promotion on May 7. They are having and will continue to have fund raising activities for miscellaneous expenses.

And finally, we will be having a kick-a-thon to raise much needed money for a 6-month old girl who has serious medical problems. Every student at Pal Che will be asked to participate in this fund-raiser. Flyers have been posted and all students will be given literature and forms for the event. The actual kick-a-thon will be held on Thursday May 24th.

NEW STUDENTS

We would like to welcome the following new students to our Dojang and to the worldwide family of Tang Soo Do:

BRIAN HENEKS

MATTHEW SHEPPECK

We also welcome ALICIA SALKOF to our dojang. She transferred to us from another WTSDA studio. Alicia is a Cho Dan - Dan No. 29093.

Train often and train hard. You are on the steep portion of the classic learning curve and every class should reveal something new and exciting to you. If you ever have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a senior student.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Five Codes of Tang Soo Do, written some fifteen centuries ago, are still a succinct statement of Hwarang ideals. It is necessary to understand the original meanings of them in order to fully appreciate the role they played in the life of the Hwarang.

The first: To serve the king with loyalty - is the most important in that one's primary duty and the greatest honor in fulfillment is found in the service of one's legitimate sovereign or government. The character, which means loyalty, is composed of two elements, one meaning center and the other heart. Loyalty, and thus patriotism, is an emotion very close to the human heart and must be linked to moral life.

The second code: Filial Piety is represented by the character **Hsiao** and is one of the Confucian cardinal virtues. This character is also made up of two elements, one signifying old and the other child. As such, it implies the relationship between young and old, the very basis of the entire social order. Filial piety is a recognition of responsibility and the most fundamental perception of the social relationship nature of man.

The third code: Trustworthiness toward friends - stems from the character which shows a man standing beside his word. This recognizes that the ultimate cement for deep and long lasting relationships must rest on personal honesty and trust. Trustworthiness toward friends is intimately tied to the understanding of honor, and honor is the beginning of character.

The fourth code: No retreat in battle - implies that one must make a total commitment and not hesitate to give one's all for a just cause. The character is for approaching but for which there is no English phrase to be able to capture its meaning. The connotation refers to the spirit of doing what is right and is associated with the concepts of valor, fortitude, bravery, fearlessness, and courage.

The fifth and final commandment: Selective killing of all living things - is intimately connected to the honor of a warrior and is also a major theme of philosophical speculation. If one must take a life it is important to use discrimination. This further implies a calmness of behavior, a composure of mind undisturbed by passion, what one might call restraint or self-control. This sense of the fitness of things is the ultimate

honor of the warrior.

The statement of Won Kwang's code of ethics reveals concern with all three areas in which man can perceive the sacred: the individual, society, and the cosmos. Loyalty reflects the natural love which is the consciousness of many; in filial piety the natural human heart is displayed; in honesty is found the measure of a man, his sense of shame; in courage is found his strength of will and bearing; and in discrimination is displayed compassion and humility. These codes have immortalized the Hwarang in countless ways, their deeds and lives still shine as models which few men in history have achieved, combining courage with honor, bravery with rectitude, wisdom with compassion, and above all, a code by which to guide their lives.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

WHEN ONE STUDIES KARATE, HE SHOULD NOT JUST STUDY WITH THE EYES IN HIS HEAD, BUT ALSO WITH THE EYES OF HIS SOUL.

GICHIN FUNAKOSHI