

**Titles** *continued on page 12*

You have been assigned to represent Jesus in a specific place. The neighborhood you live in, the school you go to, the place where you work, the team you're on, or the store where you shop. But, above all else, the dojo which you attend or teach in. And mark my words, you and I will give an account for how well we did our job.

You are Christ's ambassador right where you are. Just as a country's ambassador is somewhere in the world, standing in for his president, you are assigned to your circle of influence to be there "on Christ's behalf." In essence, you know in your heart that "Jesus isn't physically here right now. He sent me to represent Him."

You may be an effective ambassador for Jesus or you may be a disastrous one—but you are Christ's ambassador. Someone's eternity may depend on what kind of ambassador you turn out to be. Reproduction is the name of the game. In the bookstore the other day, I saw a book entitled "Sex for Dummies." Why would someone want to teach dumb people how to reproduce? Good question. But, a better question is how are you doing at reproducing the life of Christ in others. You and I have no greater calling than evangelism and discipleship. So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to the Lord. ■

## Book Review

Have you read ***The Martial Arts Book of Physics?*** This book by Martina Sprague is put out by Pro-Action Publishing (PO Box 26657, Los Angeles, CA 90026). It is an excellent text book that we will be using for one of our Christian Martial Arts University courses (MAR4009 \_ Scientific Basis for the Martial Arts). This book is written for the layman, but also contains solid "physics" as relating to proper martial arts technique. Each principle is also reinforced with practical application and illustrations. Topics covered include: Center of Gravity, Momentum, Direction, Rotational Speed and Friction, Impulse, Conservation of Energy, Kinetic Energy and Physics & Strategy. An excellent addition to your bookshelf.

— *Reviewed by Dr. Kent Haralson*

**Gospel Martial Arts Union**  
8334 Cash Road  
Martinsville, IN 46151

# GMAU JOURNAL

Fall 2002



## A MEAL FOR THE MIND!

# TITLES

*Dr. Kent Haralson*

I was the Black River Falls, Wisconsin "Paperboy of the Month" once. Aren't you impressed? I held the title for a little while. That was soon forgotten, and then someone else held the title. I was the general of our backyard club for a couple of years. You know the kind of club, a bunch of little boys who love to hike and play cowboys and indians and have a great big sign over the door of the fort that reads, "No Girls Allowed." I've been chairman of some things, president of some things, but the titles come and go.

I've been a sensei for a long time. And have taken a lot of pride in my ability to teach and train others. We have a lot of titles represented in the GMAU: Sensei, Master Instructor, Professor, Doctor, Soke, Soke dai, Shidoshi, ' and on the list goes. And at times, we can get just a little puffed up and cheeky with our titles, can't we?

You can be "captain," "most valuable player," "director," "tournament champion," or "Woman of the Year." Nice titles, but they don't really have any lasting significance. But, there's one that does...and you're a candidate.

There is one title, conferred by God, that has incredible eternal significance. It's a title that forever enlarges the significance of the one who carries it. The title doesn't require a belt color, a degree, a vote, personal wealth, or friends in high places. It belongs to many people who have never held any other title in their lives. And if you belong to Jesus Christ, you have already been given this powerful title ' and the sobering responsibility that accompanies it.

The announcement of this important position is made in the Word of God in II Corinthians 5:18, "God

has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are, therefore, Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us... "Be reconciled to God."

Ambassador—there's the title that comes with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In presidential campaigns, people donate big money, hoping to be rewarded with that title. It is a high honor to be trusted by the government of your nation to be the face and

the voice of your nation somewhere in the world. By definition, an ambassador is a person assigned by the highest authority there is to represent him in a specific place.

The impression people in that place have of the ambassador's country depends on how the ambassador lives. Whether or not they understand

the mind and heart of the one who assigned them depends on how clearly they communicate it by their words, and their deeds.

And we are "Christ's ambassadors"! Appointed by the highest authority in the universe to represent Him! Talk about significance! In the Bible's words, "He has committed to us the message" of what He did on the cross. He is counting on you to represent what He is like by the way you live. He is counting on you to communicate clearly the message He gave His life for. How are you doing? Where you work? In your school? In your church? In your dojo?

**We can get just a little puffed up and cheeky with our titles, can't we?**



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**Advance in rank** within the GMAU's certified martial arts styles! The Gospel Martial Arts Union Style Review Boards are comprised of master-level martial arts instructors that are highly respected in their field of expertise. No longer will you be forced to submit yourself to a secular review board to advance to higher levels of black belt. **STYLES INCLUDE:**

- Korean Styles (Style Head – Dr. Charles Owens)
- Japanese/Okinawan Hard Styles (Style Head – Soke Stephen Jones)
- Japanese Soft Styles (Style Head – Sensei Mark Horton)
- Chinese Styles (Style Head – Dr. Michael McClure)
- Judo (Style Head – Senseis Allen and Karen Sapp)
- Freestyle/Ground & Full Contact (Style Head – Shidoshi Johnny Russell)

Examinations are comprised of spiritual, mental, physical, and academic requirements. Detailed and generalized ranking requirements are available in the new GMAU publication "Black Belt Ranking Guidelines." To order this publication please send your request along with \$6 (plus \$1 s/h) to:

GMAU Head Quarters  
8334 Cash Road  
Martinsville, IN 46151

## Lessons From History *by Larry W. Phillips*

We just passed the anniversary of 9-11. On some news broadcast I heard the most unbelievable logic and thought. Somehow the terrorist were not responsible for the attacks of 9-11 and that they were merely reacting to the actions of U.S.A. That the terrorist shouldn't be held accountable for their actions. I was shocked. In Genesis when Adam is called to account for his actions he replies "the woman whom thou gave me". Adam was blaming God for his sin. We live in a world in which no one wants to take responsibility for their own actions. The buck passing started a long time ago, may we realize that we all are accountable, to our Lord, period. ■

## NOTES

### GMAU Event

March 7 & 8, 2003 16th Annual Southeastern Regional Martial Arts Clinic - West Palm Beach, Florida, Contact: Larry Phillips - editor@gmau.org

### Do We Have Your E-Mail?

We send out a periodic e-mail update that contains news of interest to Christian martial artists. It also shares motivational efforts that are going on by GMAU members around the globe. If you are not getting that update (once ever two or three weeks), and would like to, please send your name and e-mail address to Dr. Kent Haralson (kharalson@gmau.org) who coordinates the GMAU Updates.

### Reading Good Material?

It is important that Christians do their "homework" and be very knowledgeable about their art and the martial arts in general. There is much more to the martial arts than the average class teaches and there is also a whole history of the martial arts that the world knows nothing about. The GMAU has scores of books and booklets available at a very reasonable cost that will help you understand the principles behind the arts, as well as the history. Check out a list of the available materials at our website and order a couple today: [www.gmau.org](http://www.gmau.org)

### ADVERTISE IN THE GMAU JOURNAL!

Do you have information you would like announced to the entire Gospel Martial Art Union membership and highlighted in our quarterly publication? Things such as:

- UPCOMING SEMINARS, CLINICS, OR CONFERENCES
- SPECIAL TRAINING CAMPS
- MARTIAL ARTS GEAR/EQUIPMENT FOR PURCHASE
- RESOURCE BOOKS & MATERIALS
- MARTIAL ARTS SUPPLIES FOR SALE
- PUBLICATIONS
- MARTIAL ARTS WEAPONRY
- REFERENCE MATERIALS

We are pleased to announce the GMAU is now accepting advertisements to be posted in upcoming GMAU Journals. Please email GMAU Headquarters: jrrussel@indiana.edu for complete details and advertisement forms.

## The View From Mt. FUJI

By John R. Himes

# Yankee Go Home!

Most Japanese are very gracious to us foreigners. Only one time have I ever heard the Japanese equivalent to "Yankee go home," and in this case the man was trying to do me a favor! I was walking the paths of a large park behind our home in Yokohama when I casually greeted a Japanese man who walked by me. He was friendly enough that when I later saw him fishing on the shore of the lagoon I sat down with him, hoping to witness about Christ. We were exchanging pleasantries and getting to know one another when I showed him a family picture. Seeing that we had a young son he said, "Leave Japan. Go back to America!"

Recovering from my shock, I waited for his explanation. He was a Japan Air Lines (JAL) pilot, an elite position in Japan. However, he had grown up in the home of a Buddhist priest. (Some sects allow priests to marry.) He thus knew what real Buddhism was, and he did not see it around him. He told me that though Buddhism teaches the casting away of all kinds of desire, he saw lust for money all around him. He told the story of an old woman he knew who was looked down on by all in the neighborhood until she received an inheritance and hit it rich. His point in telling me to leave Japan was that he didn't think I wanted to raise a son in such a lustful country!

The truth is that the Japanese may be the least spiritual of all the Asian peoples. (Please note that I speak of the Japanese culturally, not as a race.) By "least spiritual," I don't mean this in the sense we use in Christianity of one who longs to draw closer to God, but in the more common secular sense of having an interest in religion, faith and other things of the spirit. The Japanese people simply have very little interest in religion, doctrine and faith.

Space prohibits a scholarly examination of this. I'll just give one quote by Edwin O. Reischauer, an MK (Missionary Kid) from Japan who was later the US Ambassador in Tokyo and then a Harvard professor. "But religion occupies a more peripheral position in Japan. Before the seventeenth century it did play much the same role in Japan as in the West, but the trend toward secularism that has recently become marked in the West dates back at least

three centuries in Japan." (The Japanese, by Edwin O. Reischauer. Charles E. Tuttle Co., Tokyo: 1979. P. 213) Reischauer goes on to explain that the Confucianism espoused by the Tokugawa Shogunate of the seventeenth century marginalized religion.

This also applies in the world of the martial arts. The average samurai from Tokugawa's time on was only a nominal Buddhist. (For a detailed picture of this, see The Budoshinshu, by Daidoji Yuzan, or Hagakure, by Yamamoto Tsunetomo, both available in English translations. Bushido, by Inazo Nitobe, is more of a defense of the samurai way, and does not give the true picture.) Some traditional Kobudo arts (weapons) are still taught at Shinto shrines, but Shintoism has no real doctrine, only an animistic type of spirit worship. Thus, in spite of what you may have read about a karate kata being "moving Zen," about the only religion you will find in the typical martial arts dojo in Japan is an uneducated and un-religious brand of Zen Buddhist meditation or an idol which is bowed to before practice.

## The Japanese people simply have very little interest in religion, doctrine and faith.



One such idol is depicted in Okinawa Karate no Kenkyu ("Research in Okinawan Karate"), by Kanari, Nobuhisa. (Genshu Publishers, Tokyo: 1992. P. 86) According to the caption below the picture, "This is the 'God of War' statue in which Miyagi Chojun Sensei put his faith. It is currently in the Headquarters Dojo of the Okinawa Goju Ryu Karate Do Federation, where it is believed on by the Kaicho (federation head)." However, the typical Japanese martial artist doesn't give a fig about doctrine or spiritual truth after he bows to the dojo idol. Thus, his techniques, regardless of what you have heard or read,

have nothing to do with Buddhism or any other religion, but are either traditional or practical or both.

Here is where we Christian martial artists come in. We have a true faith that should fill our entire lives. Every day ought to be lived to the glory of God and not ourselves. (1 Cor. 10:31) We ought to base our every action on our love of God and our neighbors. (Luke 10:27) If we offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to our Savior (Rom. 12:1-2) and live that way, our martial art will be for good and not evil, for self-defense and not attack, for the salvation of souls and for the glory of God and not our own glory. ■

## LESSONS IN THE COVERED FIST

*"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."*

—Deuteronomy 30:19

**K**ung Fu and Kenpo Karate styles often perform a salute, or bow, which involves the presenting of the right fist covered by the left open palm. This is called the "Hidden Fist," or "Covered Fist." It is said to have various meanings such as: "power tempered by wisdom," "strength hidden, or clothed, in humility," and "life over death."

Another interesting element included in some salutes is a bringing of the covered fist back towards one's own abdomen at the end, turning the hands inward. This move is very similar to what a Samurai warrior would do with his short sword in a ritual suicide called "seppuku." The Samurai were devoted to their "master" to the point of giving their lives, even in suicide, if they thought it would honor this "master."

It is fascinating to think that the same covered fist which, thrust outward, could symbolize "life over death," could also signify a "death to self" when turned inward.

This is also the paradox of Christianity. In order to have Life, there must be death. Listen to the words of Jesus: "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."

(John 12:24,25) "...I lay down my life, that I might take it again." (John 10:17) "I am come that they might have life" (John 10:10). It was only through Jesus' death that we could experience Life. And for the Life of God to continue to flow in us and through us to others, there must be death to self.

When we die to self, i.e., our selfish ways and desires, and the natural "independent from God" attitudes, then Christ begins to be revealed in us, and through us. The apostle Paul stated: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Gal. 2:20)

In choosing the way of the Cross we choose the way of death. Death to Self. But by that very "death", there comes Life. For when our "Self" is put to death, then it is that Jesus can fill us with His Life—Life Everlasting, and Life Abundant. For we must not choose to be Self-sufficient, but "God-sufficient;" not Self-made, but "God-made;" not Self-conscious, but "God-conscious," not Self-reliant, but "God-reliant;" not Self-righteous, but God-righteous; not Self-ambitious, but "God-ambitious;" not Self-thinking, but "God-thinking."

Choose "Life over Death," and continue to put Self back on the Cross where it belongs. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matt. 16:24) ■

—Rev. Phil Lewis, 6th Dan, Missionary to Brazil

## Honors

### GMAU Promotions

John Himes, veteran missionary to Japan was promoted to 6th degree black belt level after his examination at the GMAU National Conference in Indianapolis in September. Sifu Himes is also the style head of Temple Chinese Boxing which was recognized as an official ryu at the conference. While in the states, he is conducting several mini-clinics, including ones for Sifu Rick Hennault in Connecticut and Sensei Stephen Jones in Vermont.

Dr. Johnny Russell was advanced to 7th degree black belt in Pachivas Pankration at the GMAU National Conference in September. Shidoshi Russell founded and operates a large network of dojos in the Indianapolis and is also the president of the Christian Martial Arts Fellowship. His examination board consisted of Kyoshi George Brich, Kyoshi Gordon Garland and Soke Kent Haralson, each 9th degree black belts. He was recognized for his ongoing responsibilities and contributions to the martial arts.

### New and Renewed Members

Austin Moore, Kent Haralson, Steve Patton, Corey Berardicurti, Stephen Jones, Dr. Bill Fanska, Johnny Russell, John Michael Baas, Larry Phillips, Ronald James Rysavy, Gary Brown, Keith Yates, Anthony Locchetto, Denise Pankratz, Scott Hoffer, Mike Bader, Chad Bartles, Clayton Burch, Bradley Burrick, Jessica

Carlton., Amber Cecil, Andrew Clark, Marc England, Luke Gamalinda, Daniel Griffith, Rhett Keiser, Tim Landrum, Joeseeph Medendorp, John Pawlicki, Mark Pawlicki, Micah Riggenbach, Jeff Rogers, Danielle Shipley, Raymond Sinclair, Richard Siri, Jim Wyss, Dianne Wyss, Mark Yates, Mary Elizabeth Yates, and Elizabeth Ann Yates

### Instructor Certifications

Berardicurti Corey 7/23/2002 Stephen Jones

### School Charters

United Christian 7/15/2002 Soke Steven T. Patton

### Kenpo Brotherhood

Christian Karate Plus 9/20/2002 Stephen Jones

### Black Belt Promotions

Sifu John Himes 6th Dan Sheng Dian  
Quan/Temple  
Chinese Boxing  
Shidoshi Johnny Russell 7th Dan Pachivas Pankration

### Ryu Recognitions

Soke Steve Patton Budoshin Kenpo Jitsu  
Sifu John Himes Sheng Dian Quan/Temple Chinese Boxing

## DOJO & EVANGELISTS UPDATE

### Christian Karate Plus, St. Johnsbury, VT

On July 26th and 27th, amid very pleasant weather in the low 70's, approximately 30 blackbelts and students assembled in Northern Vermont for the Seventh Annual Northeast Regional GMAU Martial Arts Clinic. Featured instructor, Soke John Wilcox set the tone for the clinic, offering classes in Aiki Jujitsu, knife defense, developing ki for everyone and basic sword for black belts. We also had sessions in Kung-Fu, Tai Chi, Arnis, and Taekwondo. During warm-ups, Mr. Jurentkuff utilized the infamous "hill" to push us to the limit of our endurance. Black belt Pastor Bill Mazey challenged us to unlock our prayer life. Several students were recognized in particular areas of martial arts character: Politeness - Shane Stoner; Determination - Taylor and Cassidy Henault; Control - Fred Pike; Commitment - Caroline Newhall. We were pleased to have with us several new Kung-Fu practitioners of the Wah Lum style. At the demonstration after the ham dinner, Mr. Louis Milanesi favored us with a Wushu form using a 9 section whip chain and his son, Jason presented a Shaolin ring form.

From my perspective the most gratifying thing about the clinic was the way it affected 4 teen boys involved with "The Fold" ministry. We do not know much about these boys except that they need what we all need—a loving "Rock" upon which to rest our lives. You could almost see them feeding on the strong yet gentle manliness exhibited by our instructors. Then, as honey on the cake, each instructor in their sessions affirmed their faith in God and backed up what the other had said in a previous session. I could be wrong about how the clinic affected them, but I believe that this is something God did. Time will tell. Meanwhile, we have a continuing ministry to them during our weekly classes.

In August we scheduled an early class followed by a cookout. Mr. Keafer led a devotional on the "Emperor's Wrestlers" with some of the students acting out the parts. As each one of the students completes the basic self defense class we seek to determine where they are spiritually and where we might best be able to help them. Recently a woman said she believed in what Christ had done for her but had not gone any further. When asked if she would like to be discipled she gladly agreed. Missionary and Sifu John Himes joined us October 11th and 12th for a mini-clinic. Afterward he and his wife participated in our annual missions conference here at Union Baptist Church.

### EBT Self Defense

The EBT Self Defense team has had a great summer with new students joining and some promotions. The following have recently been promoted: Denise Pankratz, Provisional 1st Black; Roman Ruby & Jeremy Christiansen, 1st Brown; Mathew Swenson, 2nd Brown; Kurt Smith, 3rd Blue; Kevin Steppan, 6th Green; Hope Vales & Joshus Willis, 8th Yellow. Plus, we have enrolled 4 new adult students.

Our Dojo Sensei, John Bennett, recently was defending some Sudanese children that were being attacked by thugs and got a black eye and was commended by the police for being a hero. He is an apartment complex manager and now the apartment dwellers hail him as their protector. John also serves in our church's International Ministry where many Sudanese people attend. The

door opened due to this incident that several wish to come to church. Praise the LORD when our training is used by the LORD for safety and a witness.

— Ron Tottingham, PhD Grandmaster

### Gospel Karate Team West Palm Beach FL

In July Parker and Clarley Blake, Scott, Megan, and Sierra Casteel, Krista King, and Franciscl Pastoriza earned their white belts. In September, Aaron Mondok earned his white belt. Taking the assistant sensei test and passing in September, was Jerry Bell. The elementary class meets each Thursday at 3:30 p.m. under the leadership of Sensei Erin Askew. The adult and teens meet each Thursday at 6:30 p.m. We have started a special time of instruction for the black belts each week at 6:30 p.m. On March 7th and 8th 2003 will be the 16th Annual South Eastern GMAU Clinic. For info contact Larry Phillips at philipswpb@aol.com.

### The Christian Martial Arts Academy

Grace and Peace to the Saint Scattered Abroad! It is always a joy to share what God is doing and especially being part of HIS work. As we head towards fall our prayers are turned toward Bro. Kent and their needs as they move into a new church. The Christian Martial Arts Academy has been steadily progressing and recently we held our end-of-summer testing seeing our students promoted. Pastor Jurna was promoted to Yondan-Shihan in Shorin-Ryu Seidokan Karate-Do (4th Dan). Dr. Cusack was promoted to sankyu (3rd brown); Becky and Kiko to 5th Kyu green, Katie to 6th Kyu green; Bertha, Debbie, Tim and Jake to white—2 green stripes. Heat and lack of air-conditioning in our cinder block fellowship hall has cut back our summer students. Pray for us as we install a new roof and a five ton HVAC unit this month. We had a great VBS with 83 kids and 7 salvations. Currently we are busy with discipleship and attempting to assimilate the new converts into the local church.

*Sensei Miguel Jurna*

*Pastor First Baptist Church of Olivehurst*

*Christian Martial Arts Academy Marysville CA*

### New GMAU School in the Midwest

We are please to announce that a new school has opened its dojo doors in Northern Wisconsin. Dr. Kent Haralson, the chairman of the board of the GMAU was called to assume the pastorate of First Baptist Church in Osceola, WI on August 1st of this year. Osceola, a town of 2,000, is fifty miles northeast of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area and nestled in the St. Croix River Valley. On September 26, The Master's Warriors Dojo opened its doors to new students, as Dr. Haralson began his fourth dojo. At each location where God has called him to ministry, he has made a Christian martial arts school a vital part of his local church ministries. The first was in Rochester, MN in the late 1970s. This was followed by a dojo in West Palm Beach, FL in 1987, which is currently under the leadership of Sensei Larry Phillips. Then in 1997, he started a ministry in Lewistown, MT, which is currently under the leadership of Sensei Sean Edwards.

1. Advertising in the GMAU Journal: Do you have a book, or video, or martial arts product, or seminar, etc. that you would like to advertise to the larger Christian Martial Arts audience. The GMAU Journal might just be the medium you have been looking for. The Board of Governor just recently authorized us to allow advertising in the quarterly journal which reaches hundreds of Christian instructors around the globe. Drop our executive director, Johnny Russell, an e-mail (jrrussel@iupui.edu) for more information, or to request a copy of the procedures and rates that are available. Reduced rates are available for those who have earned "GMAU Points" through GMAU membership activities.

2. 4th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Clinic: This clinic is now history, but what a blessed event it was. We were honored to have a group of seven very talented martial artists, who are actively involved in their own local churches to advance the cause of Christ, here to teach fourteen seminar topics. Many thanks to Chris Foley (Australia), Scott Hoffer and Sara VanDriest (Minnesota), Kendra (Killpatrick) Bolan (Colorado), Jim & Jesse Hernandez (Florida) and Sean Edwards (Montana) for your strong testimony and quality instruction. There were 16 students present, giving us a 2:1 ratio of instructors to students, which was a fantastic learning experience for our students. Sean Edwards was tested and advanced to his full 1st-Degree Black belt on the Friday of the clinic. Four students were recognized for contributions to the week: certificates for the weekend participants were issued in recognition of Diligence (Beverly Goold), Decorum (Kimberly McKennett), Perseverance (Tom Lashley), Determination (Cody Methvin). Bonni Watson received the Spirit of Bushido Trophy which is an annual trophy presented to the student who, over the past year exemplifies the testimony of a Christian Martial Artist. 46 attended the closing banquet with London Broil and a host of other delicacies, followed by a delightful demonstration of skills by all the students (thanks to the creativeness of the Sara/Kendra dynamic duo). Seminars were taught in Street Self-Defense, Muay Thai, Creative Kata, Ground Fighting, Sparring (Kumite), Jujitsu, Dim-Mak, and Aikido. There were also two excellent devotional sessions lead by Jim Hernandez and Chris Foley. Scott Hoffer was our featured speaker at the closing banquet.

3. New Member: We look forward to developing a relationship with 4th dan and Pastor Bill Fanska (bfanska@nirai.ne.jp), who has a martial arts ministry in association with his mission outreach church in Okinawa.

4. New Baby Sensei: We rejoice with Sensei Sean Edwards of Lewistown, MT (senseie@lewestown.net) and his wife Kamron in the arrival of their baby girl, Trinity Elise on Sunday, July 7.

5. New Baby Sensei (in the making): Congratulations to Shihan Scott Gilbert of Chesapeake, VA (shihan@karateforchrist.net) and his wife Stephanie on the expected new baby sensei due next January.

6. In Prayer: Please be in prayer for Master Instructor Steve Patton in Tennessee who is suffering from very advanced cancer. He is only in his 40's and the disease and chemo treatments are taking

a major toll on him. His spirits remain strong and he is working hard to pass the reins of leadership of his church based ministry into the hands of his capable students.

7. Joybells: There is a great hymn that reminds us that the angels burst out in song and ring the joybells every time someone comes to know the Lord and gets saved. The primary purpose of the GMAU (and every Christian) is to focus a love on the Lord and then bring others into the Kingdom. I call that the GC2 plan — the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. I rejoice every time I hear a report about one of our school or members presenting the Gospel and then leading someone to the Lord. Word just came that Bill Fanska (Okinawa - bfanska@nirai.ne.jp) lead a Bujinkan instructor to the Lord in mid July. Also, this month, I had the privilege of presenting the gospel to a young seeker and leading her to the Lord.

8. Promotion: Congratulations to Shidoshi Johnny Russell (jrrussel@iupui.edu), the GMAU Executive Director who has been awarded rokudan yudansha from the International Shuri Ryu Association (ISA) <http://www.shuri-ryu.com/> The ISA is the largest and most prestigious Okinawan Shuri Ryu governing body in the world. After a rigorous curriculum examination, etc., the Christian Martial Arts Fellowship has been chartered making them the very first Christian dojo to be officially recognized by the ISA.

9. Transplant: Many of you have been praying for 18 year old Regan, daughter of Keith Yates (kyates@dts.edu). Doctors have told the Yates family that the bone marrow transplant done on Regan, in August continues to respond well. Continue to pray for this family.

10. Also keep Rebecca Lewis in your prayers (daughter of Phil Lewis (lewisesbrasil@ig.com.br) in Brazil) who seems to have contracted hepatitis. She is also a valuable member of his martial arts ministry outreach. You might also keep Cathy Russell in your prayers.

11. Membership Question?: Do you have a question regarding your membership status or an address change .... Please contact our administrative assistant, Bridget Eaker at [gmau\\_mbrshp@hotmail.com](mailto:gmau_mbrshp@hotmail.com)

12. Starting a Ministry: Have you considered the option of starting a ministry within your own local church? The GMAU is here to help you in this important step. We have a four page MS Word document that provides you with a checklist, a sample letter to the pastor and a waiver form. Imagine the potential for expanding the Kingdom by having scores of Martial Arts Ministries reaching the unchurched for Christ and equipping the saints in the church. If you would like an electronic copy of this file, contact us.

13. GMAU under the Microscope: Several years ago, we wrote an article titled "Gideon the Black Belt" which was published in The Tae Kwon Do Times. Subsequently, we published that material as a GMAU Booklet. Recently, a professor from Wake Forest University did a review of that material and placed his thoughts on the following website: Our Pacific Rim-North Director, John Himes (yohane@eolas-net.ne.jp) spotted the material and passed it along. The author wrote "Perhaps more interesting, from the standpoint of the creation of a unique hermeneutic, are those organizations that seek to promote a Christianized version of the martial arts. While

## Of Mice and Men, Cheese and Change

Every fall, our law school holds a day-long retreat for faculty and staff, to discuss the status of the school and plan for the coming school year. This year, prior to coming to the retreat, we were asked to read WHO MOVED MY CHEESE? by Spencer Johnson. The book is an allegory about four inhabitants of a large maze — two mice named Sniff and Scurry, and two little people named Hem and Haw — and their reactions to change. Sniff sniffs out change in advance, and sees change coming. Scurry doesn't see it coming, but scurries to adapt when change occurs. Hem opposes change and fights against it. Haw is apprehensive about change, but ultimately adapts to it. Cheese is placed at various stations in the maze, and the object of life in the maze is to locate Cheese, feed upon it and survive.

Our four characters have discovered Cheese at Cheese Station C, have memorized the maze well enough to find that station regularly, and so life has become comfortable and satisfying. And our four characters develop an axiom of life: The More Important Your Cheese Is To You, The More You Want To Hold On To It. But one day they discover that the Cheese has been moved. Each of the characters reacts differently.

Sniffy had noticed that the Cheese was starting to get moldy and suspected that change was in the air. He was ready to look for Cheese in new locations. Scurry hadn't anticipated the change, but when he saw the Cheese was gone, he immediately began looking elsewhere. Hem refused to believe that the Cheese had been moved. After all, this was HIS Cheese and no one had a right to move it. He stubbornly hung around Cheese Station C, waiting for Cheese that never came. Haw was nervous and upset when he saw the Cheese was gone. Encouraged by Hem, he at first refused to accept it, but eventually accepted the fact that there was going to be no more Cheese at Station C, so he must go elsewhere if he were to survive.

The story is an allegory of life, and the Cheese represents your Job, or whatever is your security. The message is that change is inevitable, and those who anticipate change and adapt to it will survive and prosper. The characters develop several other axioms of life: Smell the Cheese Often So You Know When It Is Getting Old; in other words, see when old systems are no longer adequate, and anticipate that change is in the air. And, The Quicker You Let Go Of Old Cheese, The Sooner You Find New Cheese. In other words, if you are too set in your old comfortable ways, you won't adapt to change as well. And then, some dire words of warning: If You Do Not Change, You Can Become Extinct.

Finally, the moral of the whole story: Move With The Cheese And Enjoy It! So how did I react to the story? And how should we as Christian martial artists react to change? My reaction was mixed.

*John Eidsmoe, Lt. Colonel, USAFR (Ret.)*

Certainly many kinds of change are inevitable, and we must anticipate them and act accordingly. Technology changes the way we teach and practice law. I had become a master with a blackboard and chalk [For younger readers, chalk is a stick of white powder that is used to write on a dark board of slate.] But then came overhead projectors, and now power point. I could find my way around a law library blindfolded, and was a master at using the title, author and subject card files. But now legal research is fast becoming computerized, and unless you know how to use the new databases, you will fall hopelessly behind.

The same is true in other professions. Doctors need to keep abreast of the latest medical technology. Businesses need to anticipate changes in demographics and consumer habits. The armed forces must be trained in the latest weapons and detection systems. And the same is true of almost every field of life.

Martial artists follow an ancient tradition, but it is a changing tradition. New styles continually emerge, and the standard styles borrow and learn from each other. Teaching and marketing techniques also change with time.

But some things do not change. "For I am the Lord, I change not..." (Malachi 3:6a) "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8). God and His Word do not change, and Biblical standards of right and wrong are absolute and constant throughout all time. As ambassadors for an unchanging Lord in a changing world, we must use discernment. When we are asked to make changes, we need to consider whether this proposed change compromises our basic values as we learn them from God's Word. If they do, then we must resist that change. If not, then it may be wise to adopt to it.

But even when change is harmless, why should Christians just follow the trends of the world? Shouldn't Christians be trend setters, leaders in shaping the future. Instead of wondering whether your Christian dojo is up to date and following the current styles, why shouldn't other dojos model themselves after yours? And let us not ignore the value of tradition, for tradition represents the accumulated wisdom of the past. As G.K. Chesterton wrote, "Tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead. Tradition refuses to submit to the small and arrogant oligarchy of those who merely happen to be walking about. Respect for tradition involves humility. It involves the recognition that our ancestors may have known things that we have forgotten, and we should not let their ways be forgotten. Tradition, unsupported by the Word of God, is far from infallible. But it should be given some weight in shaping the future. We may know some things our ancestors did not, but they may have had some wisdom that we lack. Many generations, Chesterton said, have thought themselves the wisest generation in all history; but ours is the first generation to consider itself the wisest solely because it is the most recent. ■

several such organizations exists, none have articulated as coherent a position of being both dedicated to the martial arts and to an Evangelical/Fundamentalist frame of reference as the Gospel Martial Arts Union (GMAU).” You can order the booklet, which is an excellent text for your students from our headquarters by visiting our website [www.gmau.org](http://www.gmau.org)

14. Special Seminar in Okinawa. Pastor Bill Fanska (bfanska@nirai.ne.jp) has announced that W. Hock Hochheim, a Black Belt Magazine 2001 Hall of Fame inductee, will perform a 3 day Knife, Stick, and Hand to Hand Combat seminar in Okinawa, Japan on November 22nd, 23rd and 24th of this year. The cost is \$100.00 per person. GMAU, CMAF, KFC, KFMA and Eternal Fellowship members will be admitted free. This is a fund raiser to buy equipment for the his Dojo, the Lion of Judah.

15. New Baby. Congratulations to Sensei Steve Walker and his wife Terri on the birth of Brooklynne Paige Walker on August 21 at 6:03 a.m. She weighed in at 8 pounds and 5 ounces and everyone is healthy. Steve is in the process of organizing a Christian dojo at his church in Washington State.

16. Successful Clinic in Vermont: On July 26th and 27th, approximately 30 blackbelts and students assembled in Northern Vermont for the seventh annual Northeast Regional GMAU Martial Arts

Clinic. Featured instructor, Soke John Wilcox set the tone for the clinic, offering classes in Aiki Jujitsu, Knife Defends and Developing Ki for everyone and Basic Sword for blackbelts. They also had sessions in Kung-Fu, Tai Chi, Arnis, and Taekwondo. During warm-ups, Mr. Jurentkuff utilized the infamous “hill” to push students to the limit of their endurance. Blackbelt Pastor Bill Mazey challenged attendees to unlock their prayer life. Several students were recognized in particular areas of martial arts character: Politeness - Shane Stoner, Determination - Taylor and Cassidy Henault, Control - Fred Pike, Commitment - Caroline Newhall. They also had several new Kung-Fu practitioners of the Wah Lum style. One of the more gratifying aspects about the clinic was the way it affected 4 teen boys involved with “The Fold” ministry. You could almost see them feeding on the strong yet gentle manliness exhibited by the instructors. Then, as honey on the cake, each instructor in their sessions affirmed their faith in God and backed up what the others had said in a previous session. The GMAU received several notes from attending instructors indicating what a spiritually enriching experience the clinic was. Our thanks to Stephen Jones and Dwight Keaffer for praying down a blessing from heaven and allowing the Lord to use them in such a powerful way in conducting this clinic.

*In His Grip, Dr. Kent (Doc) Haralson Chairman - GMAU*

# GMAU MEETING OF THE MASTERS - Indianapolis, Indiana

by Dr. Kent Haralson, GMAU Chairman

I just returned from a fantastic four days at our Indianapolis conference. I know that you hear this all the time, but believe me, if you missed it, you really missed it!!!! These conferences are not just places to go and “learn new stuff,” they have become spiritual retreats and renewal weekends. To be sure, the more than 40 black belts and over 130 students in attendance learned from the best of the best (we had more high ranking black belts and more diverse experience than ever before), but that is just the surface of the power of the weekend.

I heard testimony after testimony of what the Lord was doing with people .... how God had healed some physically and some mentally and some spiritually ... how our pray letters had helped and encouraged ... how several pastors in attendance last

year, laying hands and praying over a brother had become a life changing experience ... how there was “deep soul talk” going on (unlike ladies, men do not make friends easily and are more in need of them ... these conferences are developing spiritual relationships that are revolutionizing the life and ministry of many men).

We laughed and we played and we worked and we prayed and we cried together. We edified one another and challenged each

other to submit to the Master’s leading and allow ourselves to be used more mightily of Him. We were also challenged by personal testimony and devotions



to be more purposeful in our personal evangelism and also to use our arts more aggressively to reach others for Christ.

The conference opened with several master instructors arriving in time to teach the 150+ students at Johnny Russell’s College Park Baptist Church classes. This was followed by a big pizza party. Friday, we had two examination boards convene at the international headquarters dojo to consider ryu recognition. John Himes, veteran missionary to Japan was recognized as the

head of a new system (Temple Chinese Boxing) and promoted to 6th degree black sash. Another system was evaluated and several recommendations were made for consideration prior to recognition and subsequent promotion.

A GMAU board meeting was convened over lunch on Friday (in the meantime, four tornadoes touched down and ravaged 60 homes and many businesses in the Indy area, some as close to us as just a block away). Nevertheless, we had a very productive meeting to set the agenda and vision for the future and to ensure excellence in our ministry.

Friday night and all day Saturday had a variety of workshops for all levels (four student levels) and three black belt levels. Pockets of black belts could be seen in fellowship throughout the weekend. Saturday night, over 100 guests enjoyed a delicious and sumptuous catered banquet. In addition to recognizing the CMAF instructor of the year (Denzil Tuttle) and recipients of the White

Pine Award (Jason DeWitt, Chris Potter, David Hyde and Denzil Tuttle) and the contributing instructors for the weekend, two other announcements were made — By consensus of Kyoshi George Brich, Kyoshi Gordon Garland and myself (a combined 150 years of martial arts experience and leadership), Johnny Russell was promoted to 7th degree black belt in Pachivas Pankration. In addition, Shidoshi Russell, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Great Plains Baptist Divinity School by Dr. Ron Tottingham (President) and Dr. J. David Jones (Executive VP) for his contributions to the cause of Christ through the Christian Martial Arts. Congratulations Dr. Russell. ■



## PUBLICATIONS

Seigi Bushido Ryu - 40 Minute Video (price includes s/h)	\$30.00
Basic Principles of Youth Work	\$ 4.00
The Character of the Black Belt	\$ 4.00
Yin and Yang for the Christian Martial Artist	\$ 4.00
Christians and the Martial Arts	\$ 4.00
The Fright Syndrome	\$ 4.00
Lessons from the Boxer Rebellion	\$ 4.00
Gideon the Black Belt	\$ 4.00
NEW-GMAU Generalized Ranking & Black Belt Requirements	\$ 7.00
Implementing a Martial Arts Ministry	\$ 7.00
Ki/Chi Power and the Christian	\$ 7.00
Legal Aspects of the Martial Arts	\$ 4.00
The Martial Arts: A Christian Perspective, Philosophy and Program	\$14.00
Martial Arts and the Old Testament	\$ 4.00
Mind Leading: Its Definition and Biblical Illustrations	\$ 5.00
Ryus of the World - A Compendium of 365 Martial Arts Styles	\$ 4.00
A Scientific Basis for the Martial Arts	\$ 7.00
A Short History of the Martial Arts	\$ 4.00
Seigi Bushido Ryu- System description and ranking requirements	\$ 4.00
The Sensei — His Nature and Role	\$ 7.00
The Tainting of the Black Belt	\$ 5.00
A Christian Philosophy of Self Defense	\$ 5.00
The Warrior’s Code Dojo Etiquette and Protocol	\$ 5.00
NEW- An Introduction to Acupuncture from a Biblical Perspective	\$ 7.00
1 Year Subscription to GMAU Journal	\$15.00

+ SHIPPING & HANDLING: (10% of total)

If ordering from outside the USA with non-US funds, please add \$5.00 to cover additional expenses.

Please include your name, the address you would like the order shipped, and your email address. Send check or money order made payable to the Gospel Martial Arts Union to: GMAU HQ, 8334 Cash Road, Martinsville, IN 46151

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