



# WORLD GRANDMASTERS COUNCIL

**APRIL - JUNE 2014**

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Before we begin this newsletter we would like to express our condolences to the following WHFSC warriors who lost their mothers recently; Grandmaster Jim Arvanitis of New Hampshire/ Florida who lost his Mother, Alice on March 23<sup>rd</sup> & Grandmaster Don Jacob of Trinidad who lost his Mother, Juliet on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Our deepest sympathies gentlemen. Also to Grandmasters Bram Frank of Florida & Ron Van Clief of Hawaii who are caring for their Mothers now. We wish them moral & spiritual support as they care for them during their special time of need. To Grandmaster John Casarez of Ohio who is still battling diabetes issues with his foot; & to GM Gary Wasniewski of England whose Wife is recovering from recent eye surgery. We wish them a complete & speedy recovery!



*GM Jim Arvanitis*



*Prof. Don Jacob*



*GM Bram Frank*



*GM Ron Van Clief*



*Prof. John Casarez*



*GM Gary Wasniewski*

On more upbeat news, CONGRATULATIONS to GM Richard Van Donk on the birth of his grandson who came 30 days early & to GM Don Warrener's daughter, Tracy who recently had a "Stag & Doe" Party on April 12<sup>th</sup> in Brantford, Canada. May your marriage be a lifetime of joy and happiness!



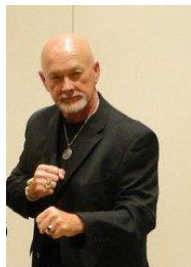
*GM Richard Van Donk*



*GM Don Warrener*



*Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Van Kruistum*



Professor Gary Dill, One of the original Oakland Jeet Kune Do students, received a nice re-print of the article he wrote on the late James Yim Lee & his influence on the late Bruce Lee. The article which originally appeared in Black Belt Magazine resurfaced on Black Belt's on-line "Martial Arts Daily". You can read the article by clicking on the link:

<http://www.blackbeltmag.com/daily/traditional-martial-arts-training/jeet-kune-do/meet-james-yim-lee-the-man-who-helped-make-bruce-lee-a-success>

Another article that good friend, Professor Dill wrote especially for the WHFSC is below. The words really mean something today where greed and business relationships have over-ridden friendships & loyalties. **NEVER EVER FORGET WHERE YOU CAME FROM OR THE PEOPLE & ASSOCIATIONS THAT HAVE HELPED YOU ALONG THE WAY!**

**"You Dance with the One who Brought Ya to the Dance"**

**By Professor Gary Dill**

Years ago there was an interview with an Oklahoma Speaker of the House, who held that post for many years and was an "old school" politician. He was asked, "How were you able to survive the ruthless state politics for so many years?" He replied, "it's simple. You dance with the one who brought ya to the dance." **LOYALTY**.....that's what he meant in one word. He was loyal to the people who voted him into the state office. He never forgot those legislators who appointed him to that powerful Speaker post. He remained loyal to them. He never forgot those who put him in that office. And thus, he stayed there for many years.

**LOYALTY, GRATITUDE, RESPECT, PROTOCOL AND HONOR**.....These are personal character trait that some in the martial arts have forgotten, or didn't have in the first place. It seems that in our culture

today, it is all about ME, ME, ME. Nobody ever gets into a legitimate position of prestige in the martial arts without the help of someone else.

Some black belts, black sashes, JKD instructors, easily overlook who taught them, who groomed them, who put them in that position in the martial arts. Yes, one can say that “I passed that test, I took that test.” BUT.....you would never be in that “place” if not for the hard work of your instructor, or perhaps the head of an organization (ryu / council). They made it possible for you. If not for them, you would never be where you are in the martial arts. I am grateful to my main instructors, Hanshi Lou Angel and Sifu James Yimm Lee, and to Bruce Lee for developing Jeet Kune Do. Without them, I would never have the success and position in the martial arts that I have now. Of course, I have worked hard to get where I am, but without the influence of these three men, I would have never been able to get there. My debt to them is a debt that can never be paid off. I will always be loyal and grateful to them.

I have 50 years in the martial arts, and I have seen the values of loyalty, respect, and proper protocol fading away in the modern martial arts community. A martial artist should NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER forget, overlook, shun, or disrespect their instructor, master instructor, grandmaster, or the head of the organization with which he is affiliated. We all owe someone for what we are in the martial arts. The poem by John Donne exhibits this:..

***No man is an island***

***Entire of itself,.....***

***And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls,***

It tolls for thee.

**HONOR, GRADITUDE, RESPECT, LOYALTY, PROTOCOL.....**This is the glue that keeps an organization or system strong, that keeps it alive for generations. The martial artist who does not embrace these important values, will eventually find him/herself without a family (ryu), and without the backing of a strong organization, for they will eventually find themselves alone. Their ego will be deflated, they will find themselves as an island, all by themselves, and the bell will toll for them.

I have experienced in my own organization, JKD instructors and black belts who overdosed on ego, who became a legend in their own mind. They thought that they did not need me or SDS anymore and they broke away, leaving their organization or system to chase their illusions of greatness. Where are they now....who knows? Most that I heard about crashed and burned like a Sopwith Camel. I and my senior staff have seen this happen several times by the wannabes that we trained and brought up through the ranks. Hey, you more senior black sashes /belts may remember these famous words said at the Summercamp of 1997, “**Chief, I'm world famous now.**” Yeah, right. He was a flash in the pan. He got out there on his own, and got shot down by several other grandmasters and true experts in the knife training community.

There are a few so-called grandmasters and black belts who do not adhere to the values of honor, respect, and protocol. Usually these people are self-promoting, and actually have questionable combat skills. They try to put up a smoke screen so the martial arts community can't see how pathetic they really are. Very rarely do you actually see them out on the mat demonstrating anything.

There is one "grandmaster" who was always a big mouth braggart at the Sokeship meetings. He was claiming to be a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, as well as serving in Vietnam with the Special Forces and was a POW. It was all a lie, none of it was true. He got caught. He was expelled from the Council.

There is a "grandmaster" that I used to be affiliated with back in the 70's. I caught him selling black belt rank and even Soke appointments. He sold them for \$2,000 each. Get this, he actually made some guy a Soke in the art of the Yawara Stick. And I eventually caught him in several lies and his resume (martial arts and law enforcement) was a total fraud. I left his organization and so did several other of his Sokedais, all within a one year period. He is still out there preying on the martial art novices and the ones who are looking for that magic system of invincibility. This guy has some skill, but has no honesty or honor. He's the type of con man who would take the pennies off a dead man's eyes. But you will never see him anymore at any martial arts events, for he knows he will be confronted because of his unethical practices throughout the decades, and there will be a long line of grandmasters who will be ready to challenge him on the spot.

Another "grandmaster", with whom I used to do seminars, had almost all of his Sokedai staff quit within a short period of time. He was caught selling black belts, lied about his true rank, and was trying to seduce females at seminars. He has the biggest ego of anyone in the martial arts, but has the actual skill level of a green or brown belt. This guy even paid thousands of dollars just to get his picture on the cover of a magazine. He is still at it, still conning the unsuspecting martial art novices. He is a master alright, a master of the smokescreen, a master of deception.

**These people are the exception**, but my point is that the lack of honor is on ALL LEVELS. These guys are not real masters of the martial arts for they do not adhere to the principles of Bushido, the code of the samurai. They will not and cannot perform the high-level techniques which would be indicative of a master or grandmaster.

The World Head of Family Sokeship Council has well over 200 grandmaster members from all over the world, representing all facets of the martial arts. In order to be recognized as a grandmaster, and to be offered a membership in the Council, the grandmaster candidate must go through a rigid screening process consisting of background and credential checks. Then the candidate must go in front of a board of senior grandmasters of the Council. At that time the candidate must successfully pass an oral board, and immediately after that, he/she must demonstrate their martial arts skills. Only about half of the candidates make it through this process. The WHFSC Council cannot stop the frauds and wannabe "grandmasters" from proclaiming their "greatness.". But when a martial artist makes it through the WHFSC screening process, it is because he is a REAL grandmaster.

For the martial arts to survive, we must all work on reflecting the values of Bushido,

LOYALTY, GRATITUDE, RESPECT, PROTOCOL, AND HONOR. We are all warriors, we are a special breed, because we adhere to these principles and values. Do not ever let these waiver. Stay strong. Be a true martial artist.

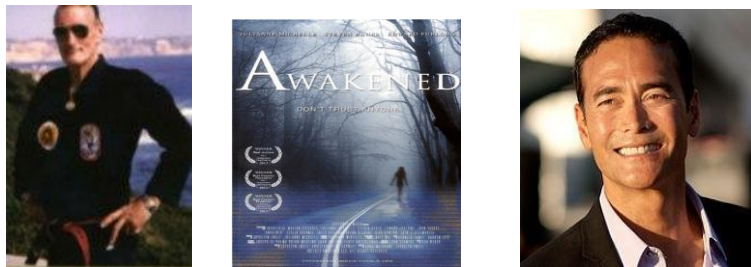
And remember.....“Always dance with the one who brought ya to the dance.”

Thank you, Professor Dill for these great words of wisdom!



*Hanshi Stephen Kaufman      Martial Arts Author Award*

Hanshi Stephen Kaufman of New York reports that Tuttle Publishing of Japan has acknowledged his receiving the “Masters of Martial Arts” Award for his being the “most impactful international martial arts author of our time”.....Certainly a very prestigious honor



*GM Gary Alexander      “Awakened” Poster      Master Mark Dacascos*

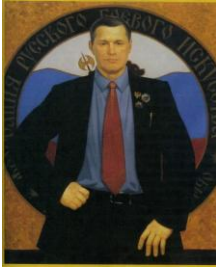
Grandmaster Gary Alexander of New Jersey makes a cameo appearance in the movie, the “Awakened” which premiered March 21<sup>st</sup> in New York & also provided security behind the scenes for cast & crew. The life story of this martial arts icon is currently being self written & those who are interested in reserving your particular copy of his memoirs can write to Gary at [garyalex2@optimum.net](mailto:garyalex2@optimum.net) ..... Also, appearing recently on a recent episode of the popular TV program, “Chicago P.D.” was Hawaii’s own, Master Mark Dacascos in an episode entitled “Different Mistakes”. You can view a snipit of the segment that aired at <http://www.nbc.com/chicago-pd/video/sneak-peek-different-mistakes/2754026>



*Master Alfredo Torella      “Brotherhood” poster      Prof. Vincent Lyn      Carnegie Hall appearance poster*

Master Alfredo Torella of our Masters Division from Michigan reports that his movie called the “Brotherhood” is near completion & is set for release in 2015.....Professor Vincent Lyn of Connecticut will be appearing Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at Carnegie Hall with South African music award winning flutist, Wouter Kellerman. All in conjunction with them both releasing jazz albums for this years’ Grammy Awards. You can call the Carnegie Box Office at 1-212-247-7800 or visit the Carnegie Hall website at [www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org) for ticket information. Vincent also reports that he was part of a film presentation in May for martial arts at the Museum of Moving Image. You can click on the following link to find out more about it:

<http://www.movingimage.us/visit/calendar/2014/05/16/detail/journey-to-the-east-the-tao-of-kung-fu-and-stardom>



General Alexander Retyunskikh, Head of the international R.O.S.S. System headquartered in Russia is featured in a film documentary on one of his camp seminars (click on link below):

<http://yadi.sk/d/a7sZGFyBSrRDS>

Master Don “The Dragon” Wilson has a new movie,”The Martial Arts Kid” co-starring Master Cynthia Rothrock which is currently in production, but unlike previous movies this is being financed from the donations of the general public through a fund raising platform called “Kickstarter”. For more information you can contact Don at [ddragonw@aol.com](mailto:ddragonw@aol.com)

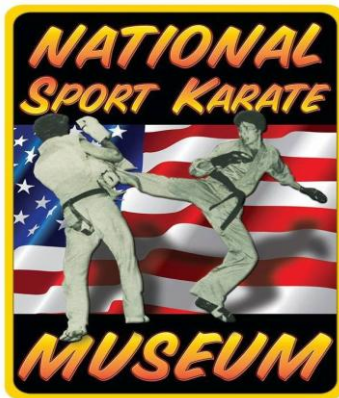


Master Don Wilson

Martial Arts Kid poster

Master Scott Sonnen


Master Scott Sonnen reports that he was honored to become the first American to teach Sambo at the prestigious Sambo Academy, SAMBO-70 in Russia recently. The popular martial arts/ fitness guro also has a new auto-biography coming out soon entitled, “Stand Like a Mountain”



The NATIONAL SPORT KARATE MUSEUM under Professor Gary Lee in Texas is having it’s PINK & BLACK Celebration on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Houston, Texas to honor one of the pioneers of women’s Karate, Malia Bernal-Dacascos (Wife of WHFSC Member, GM Al Dacascos) with a Roast; the induction of our late member, Shihan Keiko Fukuda into the museum & the honoring of 61 ladies of martial arts, including our own, Master Jill Hernandez & others. SUPPORT the museum by making your reservation to attend (there is limited seating). Contact Professor Gary Lee for attendance information at 1-713-483-0476 & click on the link below to donate. “Thank you”:

<http://www.gofundme.com/201m88>

Lastly the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the World Head of Family Sokeship Council was without a doubt one of the best we've ever had to date according to many in attendance!..... from the congratulatory letters we received to the fantastic seminars, our Annual Meeting & the night's entertainment. It was spectacular. Join us next year when the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary celebration will take place in Nebraska on the Labor Day Weekend with host, GM John Byrne of the "5 Circle System"!! Here are some of the highlights of this years' event:

  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
February 7, 2014

ANDER CRENSHAW  
FOURTH DISTRICT  
FLORIDA

Mr. Frank E. Sanchez  
PO Box 8395  
Jacksonville, FL 32239

Dear Mr. Sanchez:


Congratulations to you and the World Head of Family Sokeship Council on its 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary in May. I understand the Council is America's first worldwide martial arts grandmasters organization, and it is based here in Jacksonville, Florida. I am happy to add my words of support to this organization.

Your organization provides a broad spectrum of opportunities for its membership including professional promotions and seminars and a Martial Arts Hall of Fame. For those with respective interests in this field, I know your organization does a great service.

I applaud your Council as it offers events and works to make a difference in the martial arts world and to recognize those who have reached the highest levels in this competitive field. Judging from the accolades you have received, martial arts grandmasters and masters are appreciative of the recognition afforded them by inclusion in the Council.

Through the good works of the Council, members and others draw inspiration, insight and strength. You as a collective group give of your talents, your time and your energy to the martial arts field.

I am, indeed, pleased to congratulate your organization on its 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary.

Sincerely,  
  
ANDER CRENSHAW  
Member of Congress

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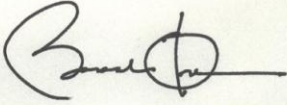
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
February 28, 2014

I am pleased to join in celebrating your 22nd anniversary.

In America, history is not only made by presidents and generals. Change often comes when caring and engaged individuals join together to build a brighter, stronger future for themselves and for the generations to come.

For years, you have carried forward a proud tradition. By daring to imagine the world as it could be and working tirelessly to realize that vision, you are helping America reach a better tomorrow.

Congratulations on your anniversary. As you reflect on your years of service to your community, I hope you take pride in what you have achieved. I wish you all the best for the years ahead.



23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the WHFSC was packed with attendees



*“Young lions” chosen to lead the WHFSC in the future – (L to R) Sensei Matthew Sanchez, Shihans Jill Hernandez, Alfredo Torella, Chris Marquez & Jimmy Rutherford*



*Standing ovations claimed the night*



*Seminar presenters receive accolades from crowd*





*Crowd in attendance of banquet is all smiles*

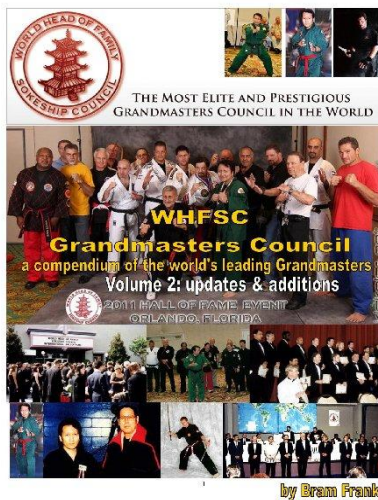
Photo album of WHFSC event is at:

[https://www.facebook.com/sokefrank.sanchez/media\\_set?set=a.755392934498913.1073741834.100000846405768&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/sokefrank.sanchez/media_set?set=a.755392934498913.1073741834.100000846405768&type=3)

Video/ live demo by GM John Byrne's "5 Circle System" from Nebraska along with some 2014 testimonials of WHFSC are contained in link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=756395467731993&set=a.755392934498913.1073741834.100000846405768&type=3&theater>

DON'T FORGET to also order the new 2014 edition of the "WHFSC Grandmasters Council" Book Vol. II by GM Bram Frank! Available through LuLu (<http://www.lulu.com/shop/bram-frank/whfsc-gm-book-vol-2/paperback/product-21686032.html>), Amazon & Barnes & Nobles- Over 600 pgs of bios, photos & information!

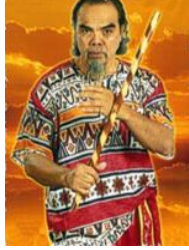


NEW MEMBERS of the WHFSC.....We'd like to WELCOME to the grandmasters division of the WHFSC the following individuals:

From California, we have GM Emil Bautista, GM Max Pallen Sr. (also listed as a member of the WHFSC for Senkotiros) & Professor David Ducay who are co-founders of the Art of Kajukenbo Eskrima as recognized by the K.S.D.I. ( Kajukenbo Self Defense Institute) of Hawaii.....From Hawaii, we have GM Aiau Koa of Ai Pilau Kajukenbo & GM Janice Somera-Aquino, inheritor of Ken Ka Kung Fu.....



*GM Emil Bautista*



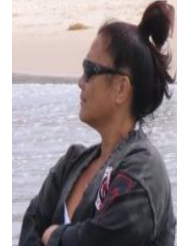
*GM Max Pallen Sr.*



*Prof. David Ducay*



*GM Aiau Koa*



*GM Janice Somera-Aquino*

Recently passing our time in grade requirements as well as stringent physical & verbal testing for grandmaster membership during our June 21<sup>st</sup> private screening were 2012 Black Belt Magazine Hall of Fame awardee, GM John Riddle of Progressive Self Defense Systems in Florida; GM John Taube of North Carolina who came highly recommended with 3 written endorsements from former instructors in Neko Ryu Goshin Jitsu (our member, GM Ernie Cates), Muay Thai & Machado Brazilian JuJitsu to earn recognition for his system of Seido Ryu JuJitsu & GM Phil Piplinski from Florida who is the FIRST individual to come & test for grandmaster membership from our Masters Division for recognition of his Art of Practical Hapkido



*GM John Riddle*



*GM John Taube*



*GM Phil Peplinski*



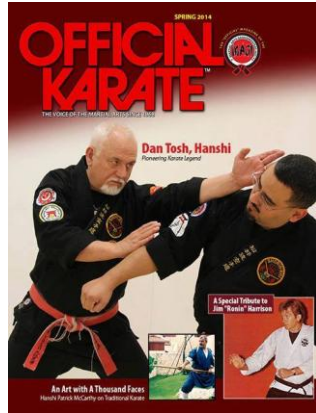
*GM Phil Little & Master Bob Jenkins*

In the Technical Department of the WHFSC, we are proud to welcome the following licensed Private Investigators to round out our team of lawyers & professional business people in this particular division.....Master Bob Jenkins who Heads his own Private Detective firm in Florida with affiliates in several States & our own Grandmaster Phil Little, owner of Investigative Technical Solutions, LLC in South Carolina

To all our new members, “mahalo” & “si yuuse maase” (thank you) for joining us & becoming a part of our elite worldwide family!

In the media this time around.....

GM Dan Tosh reports that he is on the cover of the “new” Spring issue of Official Karate Magazine & Master Scott Sonnon’s system of tactical fitness called TACFIT was just named “World’s Smartest Workout” in Men’s Health Magazine. CONGRATULATIONS, gentlemen!



GM Dan Tosh – cover of Official Karate Magazine



Master Scott Sonnon’s TACFIT – page from Men’s Health Magazine

*(Note: because of time constraints we have not included our usual reviews of martial arts publications. BLACK BELT, BUDO INTERNATIONAL, TAEKWONDO TIMES, etc. They will appear in future editions of our newsletter. We apologize for the inconvenience)*

Lastly, before we conclude this issue, a Sensei Patrick Lee had e-mailed me asking “why” we did not have many pictures of our 1995 event in New Jersey on our website? This was the time the late GM Peter Urban made his famous “never, never quit” speech while another one of our members, the late Professor Vee (Visitacion) lay dying in the hospital. It was a very emotional time & many of the “who’s who” were in attendance of this event. Sadly, since this was one of our first martial arts events, we were concentrating more on making it successful than in “documenting” what took place with pictures (we have since learned our lesson!). So, if anyone should have pictures from that time, I would appreciate your getting them to me. We would like to share them with our membership & get them on the website – OSU

Well, this concludes this particular issue of our newsletter. Remember to stay aggressive & fair in all you do & to send in your news for the next issue!

Your Brother in the Arts,



GM Frank E. Sanchez – Founder/ Executive Director International



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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**World Head of Family Sokeship Council Order Form**  
**P.O. Box 8395, Jacksonville, Florida USA 32239-8395**

**ORDER FORM**

- Replacement for membership certificate - \$50.00
- Official multi-color patch \$15.00 ea. Grandmaster\_\_\_ Master\_\_\_
- Official rubber seal stamp \$20.00 ea. Grandmaster\_\_\_ Master\_\_\_
- WHFSC Certification certificates for students \$25.00 ea.
- WHFSC t-shirt with logo white ( ) black ( ) \$25.00 ea.
- WHFSC jacket with logo white ( ) black ( ) \$50.00 ea.
- Master membership re-newal \$35.00 @ year

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount ordered</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Unit price</u>	<u>Total</u>

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You can also e-mail your order and monies to [San\\_Jitsu@yahoo.com](mailto:San_Jitsu@yahoo.com) for faster service by first setting up a “free” account with PayPal at <https://www.paypal.com/>

**NOTE:** T-shirts and jackets are ordered on an individual basis and are not mass produced – turn around time may be three or more weeks for delivery.