

# WORLD GRANDMASTERS COUNCIL

# **JAN – MAR 2013**

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Keiko Fukuda, Shihan

We are sad to report the passing of yet another legend of the World Head of Family Sokeship Council......Keiko Fukuda, Shihan was not only Judo's last remaining 10<sup>th</sup> dan, but also its only woman to hold the coveted rank of judan in Kodokan Judo. A direct student of Judo's founder, Dr. Jigaro Kano, Grandmaster Fukuda passed away on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at the age of 99 in California. She will be sorely missed by all of us on this Council. RIP.



Grandmaster Jeff Speakman



Grandmaster Sam Kuoha

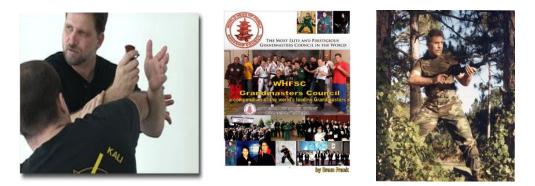
Grandmaster Jeff Speakman of 5.0 Kenpo in California is currently battling throat Cancer as relayed to me by his former Goju instructor and good friend, Grandmaster Lou Angel. Please keep

him in your prayers and if you can donate something to help with his medical expenses please donate to the Jeff Speakman Medical Fund at <u>www.jeffspeakman.com</u> .....Grandmaster Sam Kuoha is currently recovering from knee replacement surgery and is set to have his other knee replaced sometime in April....& lastly, Professor George Kirby's Wife is currently recovering from hip replacement surgery. We wish all of you & especially Jeff, a speedy recovery!



Grandmaster David Grago with his lovely Bride-to-be, Sandy

Grandmaster David Grago in Texas will not be attending the WHFSC's 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary celebration in Orlando, Florida & for good reason.....He is getting married the weekend of June 1<sup>st</sup> to his new lovely fiancé, Sandy! We wish them both tons of happiness. David also pledges that he and Sandy will be at next years WHFSC event......



Grandmaster Bram Frank

New WHFSC Book

Grandmaster George Alexander

Grandmaster Bram Frank's new book on the World Head of Family Sokeship Council is now available for purchase! You can purchase the new book on the internet from Lulu at: http://www.lulu.com/shop/search.ep?keyWords=WHFSC+grandmasters&categoryId=100501 and hopefully take it down to our 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary event on May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> to have it signed by the grandmasters present . The book is 645 pages long and is a great follow-up to Grandmaster Don Warrener's historical book on the Council - still available from Rising Sun Productions of California and on Amazon.com ......Grandmaster George Alexander who now resides in New York has a new book that he is working on called "Seeking the Way". An excerpt that was previewed from his newsletter contains mentions of WHFSC members, Professor Edwin Maley, Dr. Richard Kim (deceased), GM Michael DePasqule Sr. (deceased), GM Peter Siringano (deceased), GM Florendo Visitacion (deceased), Professor George Kirby, Professor John DeNora (deceased), Professor Miguel Ibarra, Professor Wally Jay (deceased), GM Moses Powell (deceased), GM Ed Parker (deceased), GM Peter Urban (deceased), GM Don Nagle (deceased), GM George Mattson (deceased), GM Bill Wallace, GM Chaka Zulu, GM Joe Hess, GM Ron Van Clief and Master Jackie Chan. He also mentions his near stardom when another WHFSC member, GM Ric Black (former publisher of Martial Arts Business Magazine and the first individual to hold a martial arts trade show in Las Vegas in 1990) presented his long time friend, GM Ed Parker with a video that George had made for ESPY TV featuring the Chinto form & its relevant bunkai. Long story – short, GM Ed Parker was

suitably impressed with the video and offered George a role in a movie he was making – one of 3 lined-up with Paramount Pictures at the time. Unfortunately, Grandmaster Ed Parker passed



Grandmaster Ric Black



Grandmaster Ed Parker



Grandmaster Jeff Speakman

away a short time later leaving George's movie plans in the dust and a new star was born when Paramount released "The Perfect Weapon" after Parker's death which instantly propelled GM Jeff Speakman into super stardom!....For you Jeff Speakman fans (myself included), funding for one of his films has gone through recently and we may be seeing this great martial artist/ actor on the screen once again in a major motion picture! Lastly, in news about George, he has his Okinawa tour on May  $11^{th} - 23^{rd}$  and his Annual Summer Camp on August  $1^{st}$ ,  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$ . For more information you can contact George at <u>alexyama@mindspring.com</u>



Grandmaster Gary Alexander's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary IAMAA Championships (GM Alexander – front row 2<sup>nd</sup> from right)

AN END OF A MARTIAL ARTS ERA!!! - Grandmaster Gary Alexander's longest running tournament in the U.S. has finally come to an end with his last tournament held at the Ukranian Conference Center in Somerset, NJ on March 17<sup>th</sup>...Shihans Gary and Ed Alexander wish to thank all of the people who participated. Gary will of course continue to train and teach internationally as he has for more than 54 years.



Grandmaster Don Warrener

Grandmaster Tom Hunnicutt

Grandmaster Don Warrener announces that the WKO's 2014 World Karate Championships will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> in Curritiba, Brazil. For more information, you can contact host, Marco Ferreira at <u>marco.ferreira@br.unisys.com</u> or access the new Facebook page for the 2014 event at <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/103367596503444/?fref=ts</u>. For more information on Don's Canadian Martial Arts Hall of Fame to be held this year, you can contact Don at <u>donrw@earthlink.net</u> ......Grandmaster Tom Hunnicutt reports that his Wife, Joan took part in a Homeless Veterans Benefit Concert on March 2<sup>nd</sup> sponsored by the Northeast Ladies Auxiliary for Northeast, Arkansas. The Benefit was designed to raise funds for moving goods from the Veterans Administration Storage area in Little Rock to home sites across NE Arkansas. Tom, who is also an Army Vet/ Country folk recording artist put together a special CD of songs to be sold at the event.



Grandmaster Frank E. Sanchez



The new Guam Museum



Grandmaster Vincent Lyn

In the 1970s, *yours truly* was one of the first contemporary singer/ recording artists to emerge from the Island of Guam singing under the professional name of "Frankie" Sanchez. I am even mentioned in the Island's official on-line website called Guampedia at <a href="http://guampedia.com/chamorro-music-2/">http://guampedia.com/chamorro-music-2/</a>. Imagine my surprise when I learned that a station in New Jersey, WFMU had me on their playlist in November of last year for a song I recorded called "Do You Remember Guam?" (playlist at <a href="http://wfmu.org/playlists/shows/48306">http://wfmu.org/playlists/shows/48306</a>). Now, I am proud to say that my picture, gi, letters of acknowledgement and books on me as the Founder of Guam's first martial art system, San-Jitsu have been accepted for display by the new Guam Museum which will have its official grand opening in 2014!..... Also in the music genre, jazz recording artist and Kung-Fu expert extraordinaire, Grandmaster Vincent Lyn reports that he's been invited back to do a performance again at Carnegie Hall in New York City on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. For more info, you can contact Vincent at <a href="http://wincent.time.gia.lingarlyn@gmail.com">http://wincent.time.gia.lingarlyn@gmail.com</a>









Dr. Dennis Hanover



Master Don Wilson

Grandmaster Douglas Wong's Son, Travis is an accomplished stuntman and choreographer, having recently worked on the movies "Olympus Has Fallen" & "G.I. Joe II". GM Wong also notes that his Son has a website at <a href="http://travis-wong.com">http://travis-wong.com</a> listing his accomplishments ...Dr. Dennis Hanover of Israel was presented with a "Life Time Achievement" Award by the Ministry of Culture & Sport" in Israel for developing martial arts there...... & Master Don Wilson was interviewed by TMZ TV earlier this year for a segment to be broadcast later this year.



GM Vincent Marchetti	Master Alfredo Torella	GM Alfredo Bassani	Prof. Gary Dill
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Grandmaster Vincent Marchetti, Head of the WHFSC's Associate Membership Department is complaining that most of the student members of that department are *his*! He would like to see the Associate membership grow with other members students, as well. The idea is to perpetuate the Council with young blood so that the Council continues to sustain itself in the future when the present membership is long gone....Per our recent Annual Meeting, there will be no exclusivity between the instructor and student where the student's membership ceases once he leaves his instructor. For more information, please contact Vince at <u>vmarchetti@kearnymartialarts.com</u> .....& lastly in International news, W.A.S.C.A. under Grandmaster Alfredo Bassani will have its Annual meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> in Italy. The "Return of the Dragon II" event which was scheduled to go on at that time has been postponed according to U.S. Italian Martial Arts Alliance Head, Master Alfredo Torella to Winter because of the bad economy there. We will keep you posted when new information becomes available. Professor Gary Dill will be Heading the "Challenge" competition in honor of the late great Bruce Lee once the date is set.

In our new members department. We'd like to welcome to our Grandmasters Division.....Grandmaster Ray Arquilla. An original student of the late Grandmaster James Mitose, GM Arquilla is the Head of Iron Dragon Kosho Shorei Ryu in California......From the Philippines, we have two new members, Grandmaster Frank Sobrino, Chief Instructor for the Philippines Special Forces/ Anti Terror Units; and Grandmaster Roberto Presas last remaining brother of the Presas family of Arnis & Head of Hinigaran Modern Arnis; and lastly from New York, Grandmaster Glenn Perry of Black Dragon Aikijitsu.



GM Ray Arquilla

**GM Frank Sobrino** 

**GM Roberto Presas** 

**GM Glenn Perry** 

In our Masters Division.....We'd like to welcome Master Guy Edward Larke of Cheunji Muye Do from Korea; & from Florida, Simo Hilda Wilson & Rich Wilson of Pai Lum Tao (Wife and Son of WHFSC Member, Grandmaster Glenn C. Wilson)

Again, WELCOME to your new "family" of the world's martial arts elite!

On the cover of the magazines this month......



Grandmaster Rudy Timmerman graces the front cover of the current issue of TaeKwonDo Times along with Stace Sanchez & Supreme Grandmaster Ji Jan Jae's U.S. Representative, GM Ken MacKenzie

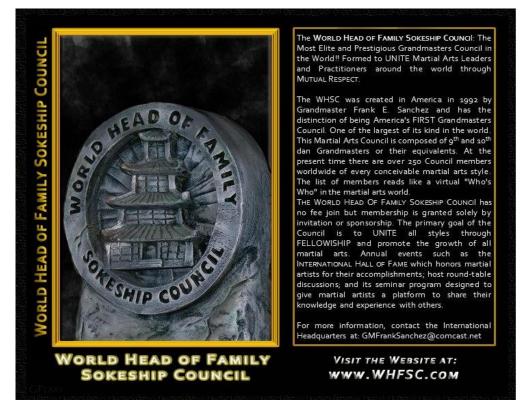
In the magazines this time around......BLACK BELT Magazine's March issue features mentions of GGM Cacoy Canete, Master Rickson Gracie, the late GM Ed Parker, DVDs by Master Scott Sonnon, a tribute to deceased GM Ronald Duncan, GM Bill Wallace's views on joint replacement surgery and sage advise from Grandmasters Leon Wright, Stephen Hayes, Gary Alexander & Bill Wallace.....The current issue of TAEKWONDO TIMES features a cover story on the upcoming 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Korean Martial Art Festival in Crestview, Florida on April 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Featuring WHFSC members, Grandmasters Rudy Timmerman & Ian Cyrus along with a host of other talented instructors.

Well, this concludes this January – March issue of our newsletter.....Remember to attend our upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the WHFSC on May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> in Orlando, Florida. If you didn't receive an invite you can still get all the pertinent information for attendance from the "Upcoming Events" of our website at <u>http://www.WHFSC.com</u>. Until next time, remember to stay "aggressive & fair" in all you do".

Your Brother in the Arts,

GM Frank E. Sanchez Founder/ Executive Director International

## HISTORICAL PHOTO



(Trading card by GM Glenn Perry)

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<u>NOTE</u>: 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.