



## Newsletter

June 1999

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## The 6th Annual Founder's Day Workout

The 6th annual Founders Day workout will be held in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Saturday, July 24, 1999 from 1:30 pm to 4:00 at Carthage College. A dinner will follow at the Danish Brotherhood Rathskeller in Kenosha.



## From the President

Dick Bruno

Our annual Founder's Day Event will be on July 24, 1999 this year at the Carthage College campus in Kenosha, Wisconsin. (please see map in newsletter.)

Ron Zieth is reserving part of the campus by the field house for us. From what I hear we will be expecting a great turn out at our workout and evening dinner. The coordination of the workout will be by our chief instructor, Joe Ferraro. Joe has some very interesting demonstrations and learning techniques for us this year: Leland Roth who is a 5th degree Black Belt in Judo will be showing us some self defense techniques that can be used very effectively instead of karate kicks, punches, and strikes and Joe will be demonstrating the defense against firearms in close proximity. The workout will begin with a short 20-minute warm-up (1:30 to 1:50 p.m.) and have two one-hour sessions with a ten-minute break between the sessions. The workout will conclude at 4:00 p.m. Be prepared to learn from these two fine masters their art of self-defense. The kids will once again have their own class from Tim Hillary. Later we will have our dinner and program at the Danish Brotherhood. Again Ron Zieth is planning this dinner for us at the Danish Brotherhood Lodge. (Please see the announcement in our newsletter for further details about the workout time along with details about our annual dinner) Before I forget I would like to thank Ron and Joe for their planning and hard work for this special event for the association.

I would also like to say that in our last newsletter I forgot to mention two promotions that the board unanimously voted yes on September 12, 1998.

These are Chuck St. Pierre (promoted to Godan-master) and Russ Harbach (promoted to Shodan). I apologize to these fine karatekas on their promotions; they are well deserved. At the present time Tim Hillary, our rank

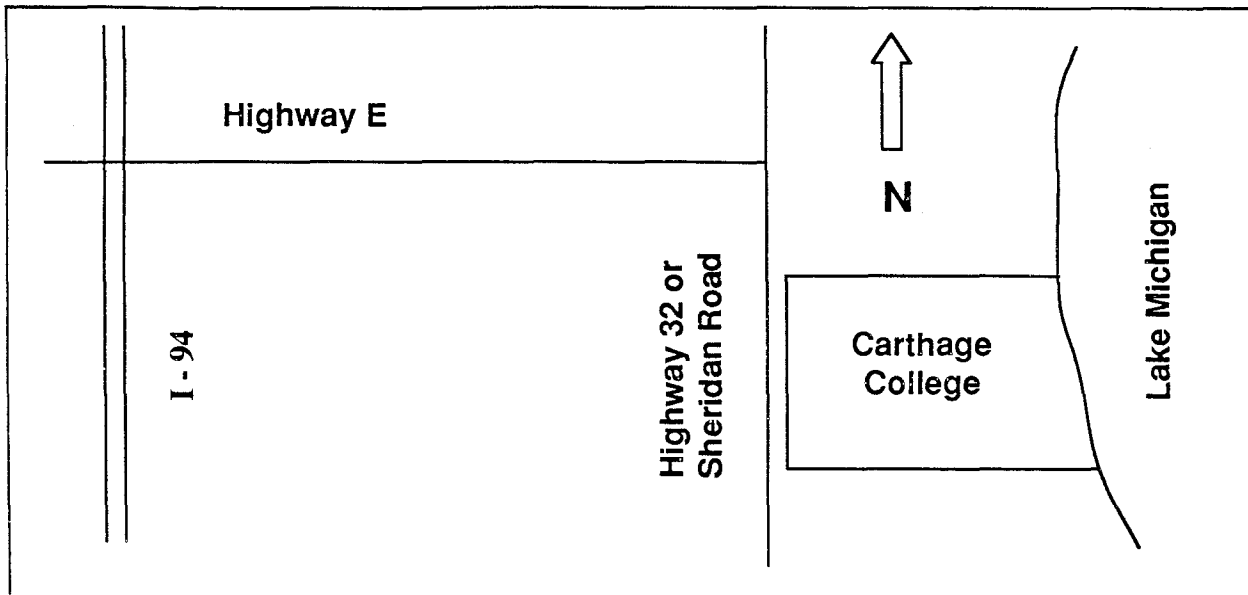
oversight chairperson, presented information on record keeping of kyu and dan. The association will keep records on black belt promotions and the individual schools will track the kyu ranks.

The board also discussed the need for some type of teacher certification within the association and the possibility of providing instruction with seminars in the future. The board also needs to consider the promotion of people within the association who are of a different style of karate.

Lastly, I have been president of the association for the last 23 years since Shihan Foster founded the association in 1976. With this in mind I have submitted my resignation (effective January 1, 2000) to our vice-president/secretary, Al Gomez. My resignation was presented to the board on May 15th, 1999. I feel that no one should monopolize this office for this length time and I am recommending to the board that the next president serve the maximum of two 4-year terms. At the present time there is no article in our constitution that address these conditions; the board needs to amend the constitution in the future if they decide on limiting the president's term of office. I plan to continue to be an active board member in the future and continue to make contributions to our association. The board members have inspired me with their dedication, character, vision, and hard work for the years that I have served as president. It has indeed been an honor to be president of this fine karate association. There are many qualified people on the board who can be candidates for the president of our association. With this final closing, I want to wish you and your families a wonderful summer and a healthy future. See you this summer.



## Map to The 6th Annual Founder's Day Workout



### \*\*\*Attention All YYDKA Members\*\*\*

Tim Hillary

As most of you will remember, the organization was severely crippled by the death of YYDKA's Founder, Shihan William Foster. Without his direction, we found ourselves disorganized and unprepared to organize. Lynn Philyaw took the helm of the organization at Shihan Foster's direction and with a valiant effort kept the organization together until that effort cost his personal life more than anyone should endure. To compound the problems, the organization was suffering growing pains and was not ready for immediate business as usual. The Board of Directors and individual sensei all deserve much credit for holding the organization together.

Throughout this period of time, many Yudansha promotions were just put on hold. These folks continued to diligently study, learn, teach, and contribute, but not be promoted -- they fell through the cracks. The YYDKA Board has unanimously decided to correct these inequities.

The ultimate purpose of karate training is to help develop better balanced, well-rounded individuals of the highest caliber. In keeping with that philosophy, the YYDKA Ranking Oversight Committee and Board of Directors feel that higher grade Yudansha promotions require more than just technical skills.

Of course a strong foundation of technical knowledge/proficiency in the physical aspects of the art is essential. Applicants for promotion will be evaluated on basic techniques, kata, and kumite. Further, the Ranking Oversight Committee will look at the following aspects of the applicant's qualifications:

1. Time in grade.
2. Character.
3. Theory, history, & philosophy.
4. Application of theory (ie: explanation & use of ki, etc.).



5. Measurement of continuing growth (involvement in workshops, continued receipt of instruction, exploration of other styles/arts, etc.).
6. Contributions to Art, YYDKA, & community (responsibilities assumed, etc.).
7. Teaching record & ability.
8. Participation in support of organization activities (Own & student involvement).

Within this framework, each aspect will be as standardized as possible with more details published for general knowledge at a later date.

Al Gomez sent a letter to all sensei in 1998 requesting names of those who were overdue promotions. Evidently, once again, some folks fell through the cracks. I am therefore requesting notification of Yudansha that are overdue for promotion, along with justification, be sent to the Chairman of the Ranking Oversight Committee. Please make sure nothing is omitted in the justification, for time in grade is not sufficient justification!

*To date, the YYDKA Board of Directors, in conjunction with the Ranking Oversight Committee, is pleased to announce the following promotions:*

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Years in Karate</u>	<u>Yudansha Since</u>
Godan	Bob Brown	28	1980
Godan	Richard Bruno	30.5	1975
Godan	Al Ferguson	30.5	1977
Godan	Joe Ferraro		1977
Godan	Jim Frederick	23	
Godan	Tim Hillary	38	1965
Godan	Ulf Muntzing	35	1974
Godan	Robert Nelson		
Godan	Charles St. Pierre, II	29	1980
Godan	Ron Zieth	25	
Yodan	Tom Mellonig		
Yodan	Sharon Olszewski		
Yodan	Marc Travanti	27	1986
Sandan	DuWayne Balk		
Sandan	Bob Okray		
Sandan	Charles St. Pierre, III		
Sandan	James St. Pierre		
Sandan	Bob Tondi		
Nidan	Joe Bushman		
Nidan	Donn Hein		
Nidan	Marsha Kowalski		
Nidan	Gary Rhyner		
Nidan	Julie Rhyner		
Nidan	Dave Schweiner		



We know there are more out there, so please respond. These catch-up promotions will only occur one time and if you are missed, you are out of luck!

Because many senior members of the YYDKA are on the Board, there may be the appearance of a "bunch of old guys" sitting around promoting each other. Rest assured that this is not the case! We are simply trying to straighten out some of the problems we allowed to occur.

The YYDKA Board will be publishing, in the near future, more detailed criteria for ranking by the Association. These criteria will be the minimum requirements for certification by the YYDKA. Additional requirements may be imposed by the dojo's sensei. The YYDKA Board feels that the criteria for passing any particular rank must remain fixed and well known. We recognize the tendency to inflate grading severity so

that tests become just a little bit harder to pass each time. The Board strongly discourages this practice. The criteria of how much power, how much speed, and the level of accuracy and precision must remain stable.

Any comments, suggestions, complaints, etc., should be addressed to:

Tim Hillary  
Chairman, Ranking Oversight  
Committee

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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#### **From the Treasurer**

Al Ferguson

We have the following items available to members:

Patches .....	\$5
Double Ax (Yudansha) .....	\$3
Kyu Certificates.....	\$5
Dan Certificates .....	\$10
T-shirts .....	\$10
Yin Yang Do Silver Anniversary Booklet .....	\$10

The Second Annual Founder's Day workout T-shirts are available in black and white, large and X-large. They have the Yin Yang Do Karate Association symbol and printed with "W.H. Foster 1913 - 1994". (\$15 each plus postage.)

Send application and order to:  
Al Ferguson

#### **Editors Note:**

Al Gomez

The next Newsletter will be out during the month of November. Please have your articles or any notes of general interest to me no later than October 31, 1999. If possible please type your article. I can read Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, or text. If you have access to the Internet you can reach me at: [algomez@aol.com](mailto:algomez@aol.com) . Please "pour" your article into the body of the message, do not send an attachment. Put something regarding Karate in the subject area so I will not delete your message by mistake!! I receive too much junk mail.

Mail to:  
Al Gomez

