



OSU!

Another year almost gone and this February we will celebrate our second year. We would like to thank those of you who have been with us since we started the Dojo, as well as those of you who have joined along the way. Without all of you, Rising Sun Martial Arts would not exist.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SENSEI ABU!! On Dec. 5 Senpai Abu tested and was promoted to 3rd Dan. In our association (Circle of Tigers International Martial Arts Assoc.) 3rd Dan is the rank of sensei. Sensei Abu was promoted along with 9 of Master Lee's students to various Black Belt and Jr. Black Belt ranks.

#### TESTING!!

Kyu rank testing has been scheduled for Thur., Jan. 29 and Sat., Jan. 31. Testing will be done in two parts. Part 1 will be Thursday evening (1/29) at regular class time - 6:00pm for the Jr. Class and 7:00pm for the Sr. Class. Part 2 will be board breaking and promotion on Sat., (1/31) at the normal class time of 10:00am. Students testing in the Kobudo class will test on Saturday morning as well at 9:00am. Brown belt testing will

be Friday(1/30) evening from 7:00pm.

Test fee's must be in by Mon. Jan 26. Test fee's are \$30 for all kyu ranks except brown belt. The test fee for 3rd kyu is \$75. Master Lee is scheduled to come down for the brown belt testing and Saturday promotions.

Remember, all students are required to have a minimum of 28 classes in any given 4 month test cycle to be considered for testing. This is just a requirement to test - not a guarantee. If your not sure if you have the required hours, see senpai Pete.

One of the things that sets our Dojo apart from many others, is our testing policy. Rank is earned thru hard work and commitment.

There will be a few changes in fee's beginning January also. We know things are tight all over, as it is here at the Dojo. We don't want to make that burden heavier, but our costs are increasing as well. After much discussion, we have decided to *NOT* raise the monthly fee, but must raise the annual registration fee to \$40. The registration fee is mainly to cover our student and dojo insurance. It also helps to offset the costs of bringing Master Lee to our Dojo. Without this once a year fee we would have to raise monthly fee's substantially. This fee is due by Jan. 15.

Also beginning in January, we will be strictly enforcing the \$5 late fee for monthly dues paid after the 5th of the month. We

have been for the most part pretty lax on accessing late charges, but late payments are still a problem and we must pay our rent and bills ontime too.

Hi-No-De Bujutsu Dojo  
(Rising Sun Martial Arts Dojo)

We have always tried to be as open with our students and parents regarding the operation of the Dojo as possible, and we now need to enlist the help of all our students and parents.

Over the past few months we have experienced a higher than usual number of students dropping out of classes- mainly due to the economy as it is. This has made our decision to not raise monthly fee's a difficult one, as we don't want to put the extra burdon on those who may also be struggling to pay monthly fee's already. But, the Dojo needs a minimum of 32 students just to break even- that means rent, phone, and utilities.

None of the instructors has ever been paid to come in and teach...never. We have regular jobs like everyone else to support our families- our goal for the dojo has always been, and will continue to be for it to support itself and be able to provide the place and equipment for our students to get the best training possible, at the lowest price possible. We have built this Dojo as an investment...an investment in our students and our own training- not in our bank accounts. Look around at most any other dojo around and ask what is their goal...what is their bottom line?.

We are now down to 22 students- 10 short of breaking even. Sensei Abu and I can not afford to keep the Dojo open by covering this out of our pocket.

The point to all this is that we need new students. We don't advertise much other than T-shirts and the occasional school

event or demonstration, we can't afford it. So we are asking all of you to talk to your friends, family, neighbors and help get new students into the Dojo.

We feel we have the best martial arts school around. We don't have so many students they need ID cards to "clock in" every class, and our instructors know every one of our students by name. We don't have a big fancy dojo with lots of fancy equipment and after school day care. But we do have a very clean dojo with the equipment we need. We do have a family environment with our students and parents. And we do have students who can defend themselves. We do have students who are courteous and respectful- not because they have to be, but because they are sincere. Our testing standards are much higher than any other school around, higher than most any local or national association such as JKA or ISKA. We have a great program here, let's keep it alive and get at least 10 more students to sign up.

Lastly, we have an inventory of sparring gear and some canvas uniforms. We are offering a \$10 discount on both the canvas uniforms and full sets of sparring gear while they last- a new set of sparring gear or new uniform will make a great Christmas present!

OSU!

Dojo Staff

## Calendar

**Dec. 17 - Wed. 6:30pm-**

Brown belt prep class

**Dec. 25 - Thur. 6:30pm-8:00pm**

Special Open Class

**Dec. 31 - Wed. 6:30pm-**

Brown belt prep class

**Jan. 1 - Thur. 6:30pm-8:00pm**

Special Open Class

**Jan. 7 - Wed. 6:30pm-**

Brown belt prep class

**Jan. 21 - Wed. 6:30pm-**

Brown belt prep class

**Jan. 29 - Thur.**

Kyu rank testing - 6pm-Jr. class

7pm-Sr. class

**Jan. 30 - Fri. 6:30pm**

Brown belt testing

**Jan. 31 - Sat.**

9am - Kobudo testing

10am - Promotions

***All Test fee's must be paid by 1/26.***

**March - TBD**

Second Annual Dojo

Potluck Picnic



Rising Sun Martial Arts

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