

THE INTERNATIONAL MARTIAL ARTS COUNCIL OF AMERICA

IMAC QUARTERLY E- MAGAZINE



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IMAC

BY MARTIAL ARTISTS - FOR MARTIAL ARTISTS

WHERE OUR DESIRE TO TRAIN RISES ABOVE ALL ORGANIZATIONS AND BOUNDARIES

IMACUSA.COM



Message from the President



**Professor Marty Cale
President of IMAC**

Wow...the 2008 United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame will be here before we know it and I am so excited about this years event. Don't get me wrong, I am always excited about the Hall of Fame and National Training Camp. But, this year we will be returning to Nashville, Tennessee. If you remember we were there a few years ago, and what a blast! I really think it was the best location, the Sheraton Downtown Hotel was beautiful. The Hotel staff was very helpful. The food was some of the best hotel food you will taste. The training space was great. Oh yeah, we cannot forget the downtown location. There are some wonderful restaurantsok, YES, there are some great Blue's Bars and the music is to die for. Well, you get the hint. I am very excited about being in Nashville. Most of all, I am excited to see all my old friends and very excited to meet new ones. This year one of our special guest instructors will be Grandmaster Thomas B. Mitose. Incase you do not know who Thomas Mitose is, well let's just say his father was James Mitose, founder of Kosho Ryu Kenpo. He was the one responsible for bringing Kenpo to the modern world. I of course am very excited about this as well, seeing that my discipline is Kenpo. Like always, we are going to have a great list of instructors teaching at the camp. Most of whom will be very high ranking Masters and Grandmaster. This years training camp will be one of the most exciting training camps to date.

The Hall of Fame is going to be the finale to an awesome weekend, honoring some of the world's greatest martial artists, people just like you. I am looking to make this year's inductees the best class of inductees in nine years. I can only do this with your help. I am asking each and everyone of you to nominate at least ten people to the 2008 United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame. This is simple, email me at ProfCale@aol.com send me the names and addresses of the martial artist you would like to nominate and I will personally send them a nomination letter. Think of it, an annual event that you can attend, see old friends, meet new friends, train with some of the world's greatest Masters and Grandmasters. Stay at a great hotel, eat good food, laugh, have fun, but most of all feel good about yourself for introducing your peers and associates to the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame and National Training Camp. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

See you in Nashville.

Professor Cale

**IMAC QUARTERLY
E- MAGAZINE**

The IMAC Emagazine is designed to act as a forum for members of IMAC and those interested in working with us. If you have ever had an interest in writing an article for a major martial arts periodical, you may have found your opportunity. We encourage you to submit your writings as well as events in your dojos. If you have specific questions about submissions you can visit the IMAC web site or email the Emagazine directly. We have had great feedback from the first issue and look forward to getting better every quarter!

IMAC Emagazine
Executive Director:

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IMACUSA.Com



We are moving forward



Fred Mastison Sensei
Director of IMAC
Director of Law-enforcement Training

2008 is here and in full swing! I am sincerely looking forward to all that this year has in store for us as an organization and individually. A new year is a chance to start anew and push ourselves towards what and who we want to be. We have a large number of events scheduled this year already and it is certain to be a productive year.

One of the things I want to focus on this year is a merging of the warrior mind with our daily lives. It is difficult sometimes to see just how a "warrior mind" fits into our daily lives. How does this mind set help you as you go through work each day or teach your children how to tie their shoes? I believe it is all based on just how a "warrior mind" is defined. The martial arts are about so much more than just fighting. They are about life lessons and ultimately making yourself the best person you can be. It is about learning patience and kindness. Knowing that with knowledge and power comes responsibility. Most importantly it teaches humility and respect.

The martial arts can be a vehicle to help you with this journey. You have to decide to follow the path however. It takes courage and commitment to stay on this path. Life and society will often tempt you off the path and into a state of criticism and arrogance. Ultimately it is the journey and the challenges we face that forge us into who we are and will be. My challenge to you this year is to see just how your journey is going. Are you on the right path? If not - change it.

Fred Mastison

Fred Mastison is the Director of IMAC and is the Director of Law-enforcement Training. President of Force Options Tactical Training Solutions based in Phoenix, he holds a 5th dan in Aikido and 7th dan in Aiki Jitsu. Mastison Sensei is celebrating his 30th year in the martial arts.

Diamonds in the Rough

IMAC is a progressive organization that is by martial artists - for martial artists. This is seen in our annual National Training Camp and Hall of Fame. Each year we present some of the best martial artists in the country as instructors.

It is my belief and experience that some of the country's best instructors are yet to see the limelight or gather great attention simply because they are focused on excelling at what they do. With this in mind IMAC is announcing that we are looking for instructors we consider to be "Diamonds in the Rough". These are men and women that have great skill as both a martial artist and a teacher. They are people that have a strong following and teach on a regular basis. They are ultimately the backbone of the martial arts community.

If you or someone you know falls into this category, please contact me to discuss a possible teaching position at this year's National Training Camp.

Diamond in the Rough Instructor Criteria

- * Senior Black Belt
- * Actively teaching
- * Has a strong following and student base
- * Sees the martial arts as a lifestyle as opposed to a hobby.

Please send all inquiries to:

Fred Mastison
ForceOptions@Cox.net



State of the arts

Don Wilhelm Sensei

Assistant Vice President of IMAC

The Executive Black Belt Concept
(who are they kidding)

Get your Black Belt in less than 60 hours!?! It's true I myself have been told I should institute an Executive Black Belt Program in my martial arts school. The sales pitch, "Think of it, people paying \$2000-\$5000 dollars for 2 hours a week for 6 months. In 26 weeks or approximately 52 hours you have made at least \$2000 and they have their "Executive Black Belt". Exactly what is an Executive Black Belt? Is it a Black Belt with an MBA? Does an "Executive" Black Belt know more in 52 hours than say a regular student in 4-5 years of training? How absurd!

To go into greater detail, the pitch went on and I was told that you teach different techniques to the Executive Black Belt Program students than you teach to your regular students. Wow! That seems honorable. Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse than buying Black Belts out of a magazine, the "McDojos" come up with this. As an instructor, I believe the only time you customize training for individuals is for bodyguards, government specialists, law enforcement or for physical disabilities. In keeping with the thought of charging more for so called specialized training, wouldn't you charge more to teach the handicapped? That would get you the peace prize. Maybe that is exactly what this program is doing, not necessarily teaching the handicapped but instead handicapping the people who are taught. Ponderous isn't it. A Black Belt in 60 hours, that's a work week not a goal to strive for.

I remember being a third degree and it was a respectable rank. Now thanks to preposterous programs like this and the commercialization of martial arts we have pre-teen 3rd & 4th degree Black Belts that in my opinion are nothing more than make believe. To these instructors, as long as it pays the bills it's acceptable. What honor. It is not acceptable. Not then, not now, not ever. All that is getting accomplished is giving people false hope with fake rank. Have they no shame. It's not the rank; it's the certification these instructors are giving these students. Our future martial artists.

If you want to know who your instructor is and who is certifying you....find out who they were certified by.

My Best to you all!

-Don Wilhelm Sensei





TRADITIONAL WAYS

With the recent craze surrounding MMA and organizations such as the UFC and WEC, many people have been misled into believing that Traditional Martial Arts (TMA) are no longer useful. We are given many reasons why TMA are no good. People who believe this may say things like "it takes too long to learn a traditional system", or "the moves are exaggerated and not useful in a real fight" or "katas do not teach you anything". While these arguments do have a slight hint of truth in them, they are incomplete in their assumptions. They make the assumption that the only reason you should study TMA is to learn how to fight. But ask any TMA practitioner why they took up martial arts and you will almost always find it had nothing to do with fighting. There is also a reason that the moves are exaggerated. It is simply training your muscles to do things they are not used to doing by going even further than the move may require. The statement that katas do not teach you anything is also false. Katas teach footwork, timing, and the ability to use techniques while moving in unusual directions. This is helpful because most fights go the way of the unusual. That is to say that a fight cannot be predicted to go in any certain direction. If you are attacked, you have to be able to move in the way that your environment allows. Kata teaches this skill.

Don't get me wrong. I am not bashing MMA, nor it's supporters. In fact, I am a fan of the sport and respect anyone who gets inside the cage to fight. I am simply stating that just because MMA is the hottest thing right now doesn't mean that TMA are dead. In fact, just the opposite is true. If it weren't for TMA, we would not have MMA. The name "Mixed Martial Arts" is a dead give away that TMA was the main driving force behind this phenomenon. Now, if you go on websites such as Bullshido.net, you will find loads of forums that claim certain arts "suck" and then you can read a list of people's opinions about certain arts. This is very unfortunate. Each art has something to contribute to the individual who is studying it.

The bottom line is MMA is here to stay and is good for the Martial Arts. However, you should never believe that TMA are dead. As long as the human race continues to exist, there will be TMA.

Billy cook





Upcoming Events

KYUSHO INTERNATIONAL IN COOPERATION WITH FORCE OPTIONS PRESENTS

THE MOST COMPLETE PERSONAL PROTECTION AND SELF-DEFENSE CLASS AVAILABLE

KYUSHO TACTICAL APPLICATION
CERTIFICATION COURSE



TACTICAL HANDGUN , KNIFE AND OPEN HAND DEFENSE

You are invited to join us for the country's one and only Kyusho Tactical Application Course. This course is designed as the ultimate in personal protection and the protection of loved ones. Unlike other course, we will teach open hand techniques, use of a knife as a defensive tool as well as defensive handgun! The course will culminate with a practical force on force exercise with open hands, knives, and simunition type hand guns. If you teach any type of gun or knife defense, this course is a must for you!

From high speed open hand techniques to solving a challenge in a live fire shoothouse this course is one of a kind!

STRICTLY LIMITED ENROLMENT

Phoenix, Arizona (USA): February 22-25, 2008

3 or 4 Day Tactics Training and Challenge Course with Instructors
Jim Corn and Fred Mastison of "Force Options".

Contact Fred Mastison at (001) 480-242-5439 OR E-Mail ForceOptions@Cox.net

For more Information visit <http://aikidoofphoenix.com/ktac.htm>



Upcoming Events

2008 IMAC National Training Camp and United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame July 31st- August 2nd 2008 in Nashville, Tennessee

The dates and city have been chosen for the 2008 National Training Camp and United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame. On July 31st, August 1st and 2nd, 2008, we will gather to celebrate the martial arts and those who lead the way. The 2008 event will be held in Nashville and is sure to be the largest and most exciting event to date. We are once again being hosted by the Nashville Sheraton Downtown! It is a beautiful hotel and only blocks from the historic and exciting downtown Nashville! So mark you calendar now to join us at entertainment central for the best camp and hall of fame yet!

