

The T.K.D. Flash

A Publication of the Association of Academies of Martial Arts

The National Newsletter of the United States Taekwon-Do Federation

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FROM THE EDITOR

Your Humble Editor & The Staff are pleased to commence the 33rd year of publication of The TKD Flash. In this issue, as always in our January issue, we continue our tradition of

selecting and publishing the best of the images supplied through the preceding year. The reader is reminded that this award is for an image reflective of Taekwon-Do, and is not an award to any photographer or persons therein depicted. We are, however, grateful to their sharing these



Lorenz and **Sophie Wall**. Assisting was Gup One **Vyshanth Selvakumar**. Pics: on this page, Savannah Kelley aces her pattern, and additional picture on page two.

On December 14 The Academy of Martial Arts in Grafton, Wisconsin, held a gup level testing. Presiding were Sixth Dan **James Pals**, Fifth Dan **Mary Lubner**, Fourth Dans **Aaron Prohuska** and **Matthew Thur**, First Dans **Noah Friberg** and **Gabriel Pals**, and Eight Dan F.M. Van Hecke.

The following tested for the ranks indicated: **Savannah Kelley**, Gup Eight Yellow Belt, **Sam Locklair**, Gup Eight Yellow Belt, **Joshua Rupert** and **Alex Rupert** for Gup Seven Green Stripe, **Cylis Zirtzlaff** for Gup Four Blue Belt, **Daymien Perkins** for Gup Five Blue Stripe. **Shambav Ashwinkumar** and **Roshan Selvakumar** tested to Gup Three Red Stripe. At the Corner were Gup Ones **Ben**



Sam Locklair
at Grafton
testing on
December 14

images and respect their contributions in making them a part of our publication. These images reflect, in turn, personal joy, images unique to our circumstance, the power of our Art, its intrepid courage, and ultimately, the beauty of youth and its gorgeous poignancy. Hopefully this collection will help, in its own small way, to bring us, and keep us, together.

These images begin on page five. We hope you find them inspiring.

UPCOMING EVENTS

A ZOOM meeting of Grand Masters, Senior Master, and Masters will be conducted on January 16.

Approval pending, a USTF Referee Seminar may be held on January 31 at the Academy of Martial Arts, Grafton. Master **Rick Bauman** will instruct.

The Uniform

by F.M. Van Hecke

What three significant powers attend uniforms?

A doctor in his lab coat and tie, a soldier in full formal military regalia, that National Guard member in his fatigues, the police officer on his beat, even the mechanic in his overalls with his prescribed name patch—all wear a uniform or its equivalent.

You can regard a uniform as addressing three important considerations.

The first of these is that of function. Function may be both practical and informational. On the practical side, those fatigues are easy to move in and store things in and thus aid in the soldier's assigned functions as bermuda shorts and flip-flops may not; the police officer's sidearm may have an important deterrent value and thus promote public peace. Similarly, the doctor knows that confidence in his status as a doctor may give comfort and aid healing. The white of a nurse's uniform may both convey and aid in cleanliness; the mechanic's overalls keep his basic clothing clean and yet portray a willingness to get a job—perhaps a dirty but important job—done.

On the informational side, when one needs to quell violence or seeks protection from illegal behavior, a uniformed policeman presents a symbol, saying, "I may be addressed, from among the persons about you, with these concerns." The doctor's coat says, "I may be trusted to serve your health needs."

Further information may be of an important relational nature within the given profession: one wearing a Sergeant's stripes knows his place in a hierarchy as do his fellows: he may make decisions a Corporal may not, but must defer to the command of a Lieutenant. Knowing one's place may be a life and death consideration.

The second important function of a uniform is that of communality. I know that in wearing my uniform I am bonded to those who wear the like uniform. I recognize that I am one of a band, I partake of something in common with others of the same profession or interest group. I "send a message," that what I do is important and that we do it in common.

The final power I would address is that of the uniform to transform the individual to meet the ideal of that uniform.

Have you ever noticed that when you put on a bumper sticker on your car with a candidate’s name or a cause’s exhortation you tend to drive more courteously? Why is that? The answer is simple: I wish not to denigrate my ideal. Similarly, if I wear a judge’s robes or a fireman’s tunic I’m less likely to engage in visible misbehavior and more likely to attempt to elevate the view of my profession by good behavior.

When you put on a uniform, it changes YOU, because you assume and internalize the ideal of that uniform. The soldier WILL fight for his country; the mechanic WILL get it fixed. The judge will represent the dignity of the law and the importance of sober consideration.

Think then, of your Taekwon-Do uniform: are we in this together? And to what ideal?



On December 12 we held a Color Belt Test at **Sereff Taekwon-Do**. It amazes me how creative we have all become in trying to make sure we have some normalcy in our TKD classes and tests! Congratulations to this small group that worked so hard to achieve this level during this Pandemic crisis. Usually there are lots of students, parents, instructors cheering on our color belts but this time they only had GM Renee’ Sereff grading them and Ms. Cameo Zugschwert running the floor due to the restrictions within our state of only 8 students and staff allowed on site.

Patterns, social distance step sparring and social distance breaking went really well and we could see how much they had been training. We have been preaching if we can not complete our Ho sin Sul, we can up our game on knowledge and these students did not disappoint! Our youngest student did not just answer one question about his pattern but proceeded to tell us everything he knew from history, how many moves, diagram and even a little ad lib! The school did not put up the giant tree this year but we sure had fun with the little Elf that joined us! This small event brought some cheer at the end of this year!

Grand Master Renee’ Sereff, D.F.S.

[Editor’s Note: group photo of Grand Master **Renee’ Sereff**, **Dustin Lambert**, **Zane Lambert**, **Tyler Phillips**, **Steven Smith**, **Dr. Sherrie Nunn**, **Ms. Cameo Zugschwert** and **Elfie**. More photos, next page.]



Two great breaks from the Color Belt Test December 12 at Sereff Taekwon-Do. Left, Sherrie Nunn, right, Dustin Lambert.



Meanwhile, Up in Alaska

Sr. Master Van Hecke,

We've held the last color belt test for the Year 2020. I know I echo the thoughts and aspirations of people everywhere in the world. Let it be over...

Nina Chythlook, her sister **Sophia Chythlook**, and **Trevor Stagdon**, were all promoted to 4th gup.

On the Board were Sr. Master **Guy Williams** and First Dan **Carson Lundquist**. **Jaxon Browning**, Gup One, called the test.

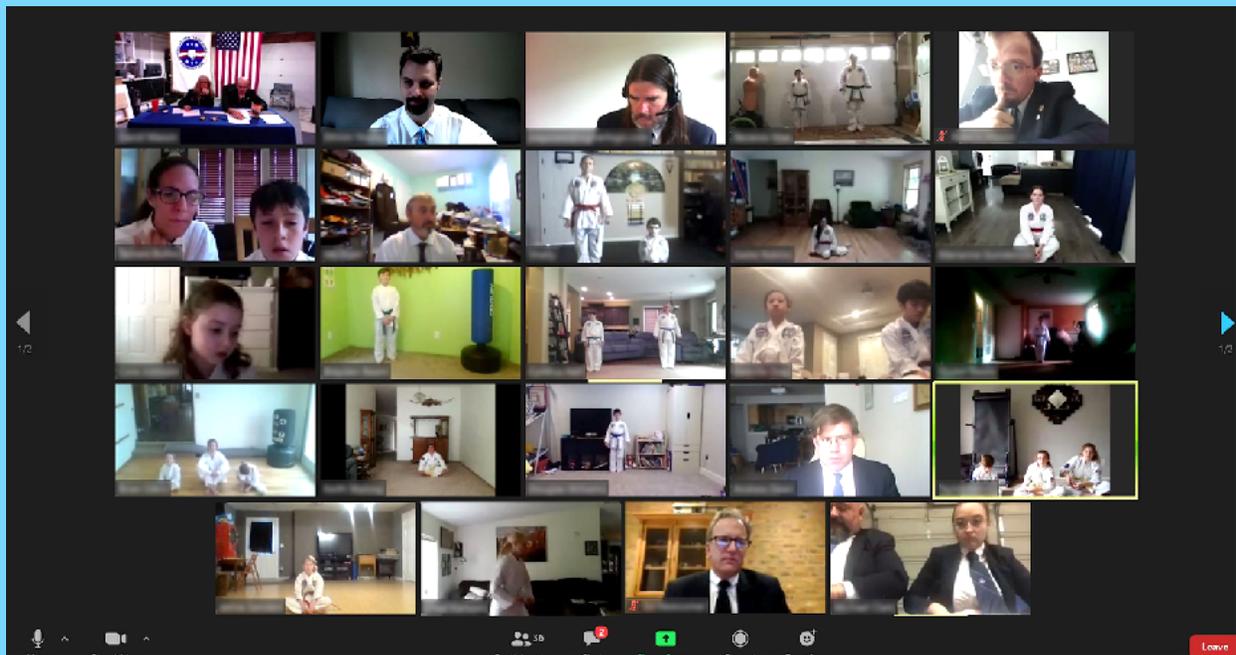
Sr. Master Guy Williams, D.F.S.

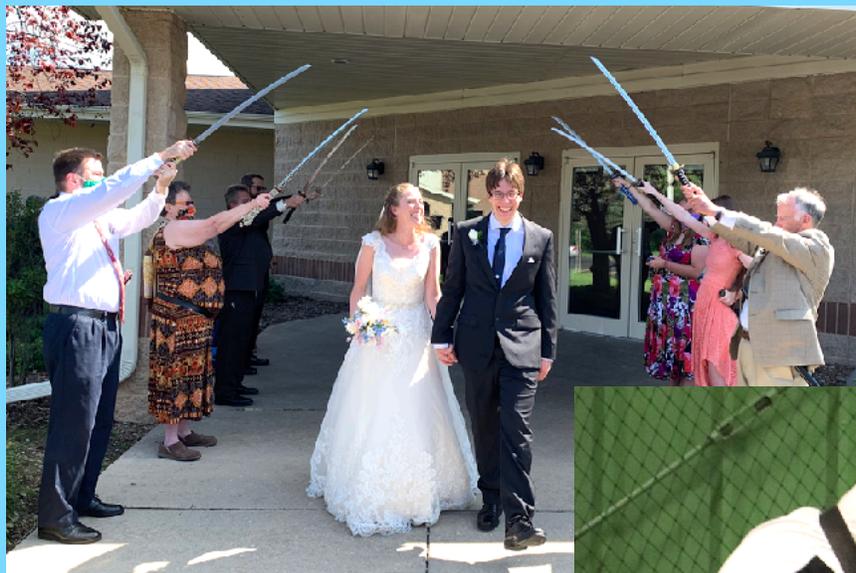


Great Images
from
2020



And
More





And Yet More





Remind Us



That Together





We Are Unconquerable



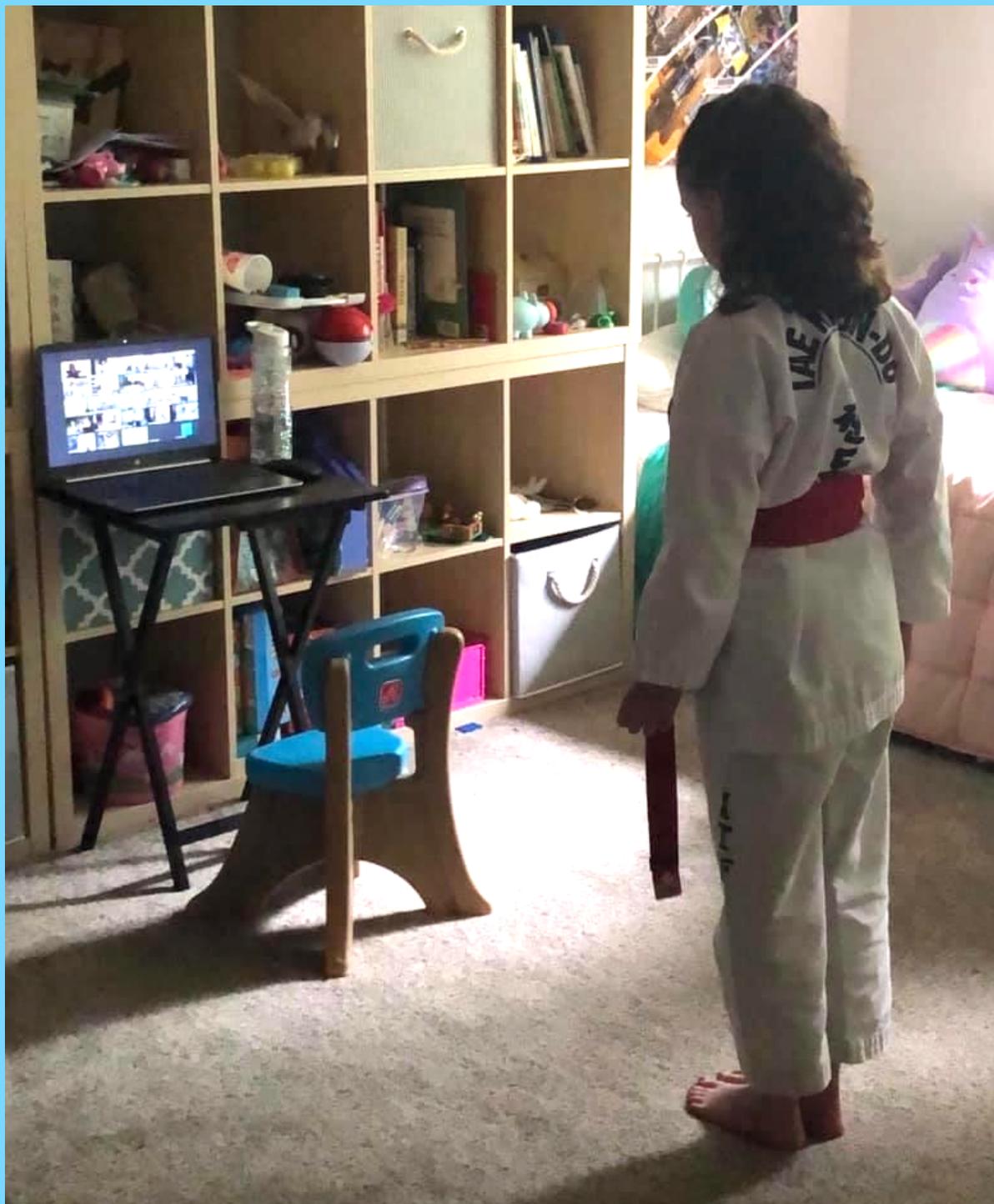


Image of the Year
2020