

December Newsletter 2008

It was good to see many of my students at our Gathering of Warriors in Ft. Wayne again this November! If you were there, you got to experience **Mr. Glenn "The Fox" Keeney**, one of the best fighters the world has ever seen in Sport Karate. His seminar was exceptional. You also got to meet and work with **Mr. Steve VanCamp**, AMTA Co-founder with **Mr. Walliser**. Mr. VanCamp graduated from Ball State University and has been training our military personnel down at Ft. Benning, Georgia for the past 20 or so years. **Don't forget to purchase your DVD of Gathering I & II from Mr. B - \$30.**

Please note that the December Schedule is a little different. I know that you are all responsible adults...and that you will **check the schedule, like you have been asked to do**, before you come to class...!

Mr. Walliser was back in class in November, but many of you missed class that night...oh well...you missed out on the fun! Life is full of surprises. He will not be here in December, due to everyone's busy Holiday schedules. We will try to have him back in January. Try not to miss!

AMTA Membership Dues are here again...please pay your \$20 in January if at all possible. If you are wearing a Blue Belt or above, you should definitely join the AMTA organization, period. I want all of my students to be proud of their martial arts heritage and family tree. Your dues help support our family tree and will make you a stronger martial artist because of the other great people that you will be associating with over the course of your martial arts career. We have many 'world class' martial artists in our own organization and you should want to meet them and talk with them. They will make you better.

AMTA patches cost \$10 and should be worn over the heart on the left side of your uniform. You can purchase these from Mr. Brown.

Many of you still do not have your own Sparring Gear..., and you are at Blue Belt rank level or above. Why? That is like a little league player not having their own glove! It is time people. **Purchase your own Sparring Gear - if not through me, then buy it on the web.** I will be throwing away most of the stuff in my basement, to force this issue, and you will have to start purchasing your own equipment...if you want to spar. Liability rules...and when it comes to safety, I will take no chances. If you are a parent, you should want your child to be safe. Here is what they need to spar in class:

- Headgear
- Mouthpiece w/ case
- Foot Pads or Ring Star Kick Shoes
- Hand Pads
- gym bag to carry it in

PLEASE READ: Entering the Dojang on snowy days... I will have one small pathway cleared-out to enter the dojang and it will go straight out to the street from the side entrance. You can drop off your children at the main sidewalk where they enter my dojang, and they can walk straight up and come inside (under the green awning) - **this will be the expectation. Why?**

- On snowy days, for the past two years, I get up early and get outside by 4:30 or 5:00 a.m., and clear off my sidewalk. Then, the street department of Fortville comes by at 8, 9, or 10:00 a.m. and throws street snow back on my sidewalk. Coaching wrestling, I don't have the time or energy to clear another path when I get home at 5:45, 6:00, or 6:15 p.m. for a 6:30 p.m. class. If school gets cancelled for the day, I may have the sidewalk cleared off...but I can't fight the poor performing Street Department! I'm too old...