



NKMAA NEWS



LEFT: KMAB MEMBERS IN OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON. RIGHT: KMAB MEMBERS IN AUSTRALIA

It's been a busy, but very productive year.

As usual, my travels in 2011 started off in March with a short trip to Charlevoix, MI. There, GM Timmerman conducted the first session on the 2011 theme... the KSB UGLY STICK. From there, it was a fast trip to S. Francisco, to attend the WKF Summit.

Then it was off to the Annual Korea Festival in Florida hosted by CM Gordon each April. This event is growing by leaps and bounds, and it is a far cry from the humble beginnings where I was the sole presenter. Just look at the 2012 lineup.

Then it was the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame in May, where I went to support my old adversary Don James who was inducted. From there it was Calgary, where KJN Tillman had put together a great seminar. Please check the pics of all these events next pages.



HOLLAND GRUDUATES



TESTING IN RUGBY, UK



UK KSB CANDIDATES

PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR



TOP: GM BOOTH'S AUSTRALIA SEMINAR GROUP.
TOP RIGHT: GIFT PRESENTED BY KOREA'S
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL TREASURE #76... TAEK-
GYEON GM JUNG KYUNG HWA AT THE SUPER
SUMMER SEMINAR IN OLYMPIA, WA. MIDDLE
LEFT: THE FINER POINTS OF THE UGLY STICK AT
CM GORDON'S KOREA FESTIVAL. MIDDLE RIGHT:
GM KEN MACKENZIE AND CM ROBERT OTT IN
OLYMPIA, WA. BOTTOM: KOREAN FAN DANCERS
AT THE OLYMPIA, WA SUMMER SEMINAR.

PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR



TOP LEFT: POSING WITH MY OLD FRIENDS DON JAMES, DON WARRENER, AND CEES KEUKENS. TOP RIGHT: SPEAKING AT THE WKF SUMMIT.

MIDDLE LEFT: A WELL DESERVED HUG FOR SAMANTHA MCCORMICK FOR HER HELP AT THE CANADIAN OPEN HKD CHAMPS.

MIDDLE RIGHT: PRESENTING A SEMINAR IN GRONINGEN, HOLLAND. BOTTOM: ENJOYING A NICE DINNER WITH MASTER JELTE DE GRAAF.

NKMAA testing was conducted in Holland as well as the UK. Congratulations to all who passed.

While passing a test is not nearly as important as checking the progress of each individual, tests can make a huge difference to all who participate. Even those who need more training can enjoy the benefit of the test.

The first thing to consider is your attitude. With a good attitude, your focus will lie in how to improve. By recognizing the areas that need improving, you will naturally “grow” as a martial artist.

This growing process is largely a forgotten aspect in the lives of many. Schools pass people because they simply get older. Martial Art Organizations “sell” promotions,

A TRUE MARTIAL ARTIST IS ONE WHO HELPS OTHERS NO MATTER HOW LOW THEY HAVE FALLEN.

because promotions mean certificate sales. In all, is it a sad state of affairs when we look around us.

Grand Master Timmerman, in an effort to keep NKMAA certification meaningful, gives candidates an opportunity to rise above this decline in integrity. Naturally, he recognizes that it requires time to “change” attitudes, and some may never “get it”; however, he HAS observed a steady increase in the number of people wanting to EARN their rank.

WE, the Masters of NKMAA, respect these efforts, and we applaud your drive to be among those who have earned their rank through hard work. I implore all of you who read our news letter to continue your efforts to reinstate respect, honor, and integrity in our rank system. Given some time, I firmly believe many of our members will wish to EARN their rank.

TESTING PICS



LET'S SEE THAT AGAIN



OLD TIME TESTING



MARJORIE (3YEARS)



THOMAS (6YEARS)



EUROPE GRADUATES



Graduates

1 Jelte DeGraaf	6 dahn
2 Rob Poll	5 dahn
3 Reece Kenney	4 dahn
4 Joshua Poole	3 dahn
5 Willem Vrieling	2 dahn
6 Paul DeGraaf	2 dahn
7 Constance Morgan	2 dahn
8 Rebecca Wignall	2 dahn
9 Derek Fraser	1 dahn
10 Chris Smith	1 dahn
11 Ann Marie Smith	1 dahn
12 Natasha Bacon	1 dahn
13 Natasha Lee	1 dahn
14 Harry Power	1 dahn

We expect all candidates to work even harder for their next level.

It is a great feeling to promote to the level of Black Belt; however, with this promotion comes a great responsibility.

The Black Belt was once revered and respected the world over. Recent years have seen a decline in this respect, and rightly so.

Unscrupulous organizations, bent on making more dollars, began "selling" rank at an alarming rate. It has taken some time for legitimate martial artists to recognize this, and I believe we now have a movement underway to return

the Black Belt status to what it once was. YOU can be part of the solution, or YOU can be part of the problem.

We encourage all NKMAA members to continue their efforts in doing what is right. To be sure, this will take some time, but I guarantee you the results of your efforts will be worth while.

Let's ALL strive to "raise the bar". Young and old, we MUST work harder to improve our fitness levels as well as develop a REAL Black Belt attitude. YOU can do it!

Beside the hard work, we also had fun :)

During many of this year's trips, the hosts made every effort to show us around their homeland, and we experienced some great moment. Unforgettable was the Whale Watching and visit to the Australian Zoo, and we got close and personal with a number of awesome creatures. Another real trip was the steepest train ride in the world. Thank you GM Booth for making us so very happy.

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES FOR A DULL BOY, SO HERE ARE SOME OF THE FUN THINGS WE EXPERIENCED.

Party Time in Holland

When it comes to throwing a unique party, the Dutch contingent of KJN DeGraaf can't be beat. His students are an awesome bunch of people who truly enjoy going all out. This year's event was held wearing slippers. Note my fake "wooden shoes" lol. I especially loved their rendition of a Russian dance, The entire crew dressed up as Cossacks and danced the night away.

Nothing like the UK for antiquity

Thanks to KJN Ward, some of the UK seminar group (CM Janisse, KJN Bourdage, and myself) had a chance to visit some of the historic sites around Morecambe, where an old Church, built in the 1600's, is still in use. Roaming around the hill side grave yard, we came across a bunch of stone hewn graves that date back to ancient times. I also had a chance to visit one of the most beautiful lakes in the UK, and there we had a chance to do some shopping as well as sight seeing. Thanks to KJN Ward and his lovely wife for a wonderful trip.



WHALE WATCHING

WHILE IN AUSTRALIA, GRAND MASTER BOOTH ARRANGED FOR SOME FUN TIMES AT A LOCAL WILD LIFE CENTER, AND WE SPENT GREAT DAY SAILING SYDNEY HARBOUR TO WATCH FOUR MAGNIFICENT PODS OF WHALES. THANK YOU GM BOOTH!



HORTUS HAREN

KJN DEGRAAF TOOK ME ON A VISIT TO ONE OF HOLLAND'S MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES... HORTUS HAREN. HERE, I WAS ABLE TO SPEND SOME QUIET TIME SMELLING THE WONDERFUL FLOWERS OF HOLLAND. THEN, WE VISITED MY OLD BIRTHPLACE, SCHEVENINGEN, WHERE WE MET SOME OF MY FRIENDS.



ALL THINGS OLD

THE UK, WITH ITS WONDERFUL AND QUIANT SCENERY IS BREATH TAKING. BESIDES A FUN EVENING IN RUGBY WITH KJNS WOON, KJN WARD TOOK ME TO SOME OF MORECAMBE'S AWESOME PLACES. THANK YOU ALL FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CULTURE OF THE UK AND ITS FINE PEOPLE.