



DESA NEWSLETTER

January 2012

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 1-2	Kyu tests – no evening classes at St. Albert dojo
Feb 3	Officials seminar 8:00-9:30 pm
Feb 4	Takeshi Sayonara Party – 7:30 pm Cardiff Hall
Feb 18-20	Dojo closed for Family Day weekend
March 9	Black Belt candidate evaluations by invitation– 7:30 pm
March 14-15	Kyu Tests – no evening classes at St. Albert dojo
March 17	Picture Day - afternoon
April 30-May 6	Spirit of the North 2012
May 5	Black Belt Test

TAKESHI'S SAYONARA PARTY

We will be holding a family dance on Saturday, Feb 4 at 7:30 at Cardiff Hall to say goodbye to our new Okinawan friend, Takeshi Kinjo. It is hard to believe almost a whole year has gone by! Tickets are \$15 each or \$60 maximum for a family. We have a DJ and there will be a lunch at 9:30. Cash bar with beer/coolers/wine and pop. Tickets are available at the office and **MUST BE PURCHASED BY MONDAY, JANUARY 30** as we have to let the people providing food know final numbers by Tuesday, Jan 31. Please try to meet this deadline to make it easier for everyone who is working on planning this event.

Sempai Janet is looking for a few volunteers for the party. If you can help with any of the following, please email desakarate@shaw.ca or talk to us at class.

- We will have a work bee on Friday after the noon class to make up some veggie trays
- Looking for people 18+ who can volunteer for a 45 minutes bartending shift at the party
- Volunteers to help set out the lunch at 9:00

BOOT RACKS

We have provided shoe/boot racks for your convenience to help keep the entrance way safe for people coming in to the dojo and to help keep the area a little drier. **All students, young and old, and our guests are asked to place their footwear on the rack** rather than leaving them in front of the door and in the hallway. We would really appreciate everyone's cooperation with this.

UPCOMING SPARRING DATES

Children's program: Feb 3 – next February date TBA

Teen/Adult program: [Jan 20](#), [Feb 3](#), [17](#)

Note: Jr. Black Belts teens that train on Thursdays at 5:00 are reminded to have their sparring equipment at each class.

KOBUDO (WEAPONS) TRAINING

Kobudo training for senior students takes place on Friday, Jan 27 at 8:00 pm and on Saturdays, Jan 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 25 from 11:30-1:00. Kobudo training for junior students takes place on Saturdays, Jan 21, 28, Feb 4, Feb 11, 25 from 10-11:30 am.



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TAX RECEIPTS

Our goal is to have the tax receipts for the child recreation tax credit ready by February 15. If you need it sooner, please let Sempai Janet know. We will be issuing receipts for the \$500 maximum credit or less if you paid less than \$500 in 2011. If you require a receipt for the entire tuition for other purposes, please let us know. Alternatively, if you do not require a receipt at all as you have enough from other sources, please pop us a quick email at desakarate@shaw.ca.

ONCE A WEEK STUDENTS

Just a reminder to our students who can only train once a week that if you miss your regular class due to illness, dojo closure or other reasons, you can make it up at any time in the year by coming twice another week.

OFFICIALS SEMINAR

All Black Belts who plan to officiate at Spirit of the North or any other upcoming events are asked to be at an officials training seminar on Friday, Feb 3 at 8:00 pm. If you can be at the dojo earlier to help officiate in the kids classes, that would be great and good practice as well! Regular sparring night for teen/adults goes on that night and we will use those matches to help with the training.

PICTURE DAY

Our annual picture day will take place on Saturday, March 17 in the afternoon. We will have scheduling information available in later February. Mark it on your calendar so you can be in the big picture on the wall this year! Let's try to get all our students in on it this year!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Phil & Laurie Anderson for donating the popcorn machine for the Children's Christmas Party! Thanks also to Santa for taking time out of his busy toy making schedule to make a visit. Lastly, thanks to the teens/adults who came in after my last minute call to help with the children's craft, popcorn making, etc. Your help is greatly appreciated!

LAST CALL FOR PICTURES WITH TAKESHI

We are putting together a book as a memento of Takeshi's stay here in Canada and are looking for any good pictures you would like to share from anytime you did an activity with Takeshi during his stay. If it is just one or two photos, please email to desakarate@shaw.ca, but if there are several, please put on a disk and bring to the dojo. Cat Hoyt and her friend Karalee have almost completed the project, but there is still a little time to add in some last minute photos.

SHUREIDO ORDER

The next Shureido order will be sent on February 5. If you are wanting a belt, uniform, Mizuno white helmet or weapons, please let Sempai Janet know.

SPARRING EQUIPMENT

It is great to see that so many of you have purchased your sparring gear! Just a reminder that all students who have been in the program for at least one month should purchase sparring gear and have it at every class. If you do not have equipment, please ensure you purchase it soon. We do carry all equipment required which includes a helmet, groin protection, gloves, mouthguard and case and it all now comes in a Desa School of Karate sports bag.



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SPIRIT OF THE NORTH

For our new students, Spirit of the North is our annual special training event. We invite Master instructors from all over the world to come here to teach our students, and finish with a tournament at the end of the week. The dates for 2012 are [April 30-May 6](#). This year we are very honored to have Grand Master Kiyohide Shinjo coming from Okinawa together with one other senior student. We hope to have more information on Spirit of the North 2012 in our February newsletter. Brochures should be out by March 15, as Sensei will be finalizing things while he is in Okinawa. Keep an eye on the website for any updates.

OKINAWA TRIP

Good luck to the students heading to Okinawa with Sensei deSa in February! Travelling this time are Steve & Kim Rooke, David Upright, Bruce Hoyt, David Climenhaga, Chuck Neill and Noah deSa.

POSTERS

We now have all three of the posters from the Karate Challenge in stock. If you are interested in purchasing one, they are \$5 each and this money will also go into the Masters Fund!

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK!

If you haven't joined our Facebook group yet, please feel free to do so! It is just another way that we can keep you informed of what is going on at the dojo. Students are always welcome to make comments as well!

JEWELRY & HAIR TIED BACK

Just a reminder that students cannot wear jewelry of any kind on the dojo floor when training. **This includes wedding bands.** Medic alert bracelets are allowed. If you have special circumstances, and have not already discussed it with us, please do so. Anyone with longer hair must have it tied back.

PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR THINGS!

Just a suggestion that you may want to put your child's name on their gi, sparring equipment and sports bag. This way when things are left behind, we know whose they are. We also have had quite a few instances of children taking the wrong coat or shoes/boots by accident as they are identical to theirs. A names inside would help a lot in tracking down owners of lost items.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

We have a pair of diamond earrings and a few bracelets in the office if anyone is missing them. All clothes/uniforms, etc that have been left behind are hanging on the back corner coat hooks in the entry. There is also still some unclaimed sparring equipment.