

# THE OKAMI KAI HOWLER



Volume 10, Issue 11

July 2009

## Elephant Thoughts Return To Karate Day Camp

We have made the Karate Day Camp exclusive to a limited number of participants in the hopes that we can maximize the one on one instruction by Campsall Renshi and help these students rank up at the next kyu belt grading in September.



A problem has arisen though in the fact that Elephant Thoughts is so cool and some people are getting shut out of the experience. We have therefore decided to open this particular activity to the public. We can take 8 more kids for this event happening on **July 16 at 1pm**. The price to participate is \$10 per person and registrations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis.

Last year everyone made ice cream and floated on a hover disc all around the dojo. The year before, there was an inflatable planetarium where students were invited to come inside and look at star charts. **ELEPHANT THOUGHTS IS COOL** and it is only one of the activities that we have planned for our Day Camp running **July 13-17**.

## Wolf Pack Report

This is the last month for this year's competition. Every point counts so get to class often to help your team. Don't forget to bring in those school report cards with As and Bs too!

**Yellow Pack** Congratulations to Cole Bagshaw for being chosen as Ichiban for this month!

Congratulations to Rileigh Rodych for getting a straight A report card!

1728 points

**Blue Pack**

2002 points

**Red Pack**

1589 points

**Green Pack**

1357 points

## Brown and Black Belt Classes Return

As already stated in class more than a few times, Renshi Campsall is going to be making some changes to the current curriculum. All senior belts should be aware of these so they are have up to date information before they teach the wrong thing to lesser experienced students. In an attempt to assist with this, Renshi will be teaching a **FREE** one hour Brown and Black belt class on the third Friday of every month starting at **7pm on Sept.18**. It is strongly recommended that all higher ranked students make every effort to attend.

## More People Are Getting Clean!

At the beginning of the year we became an official distributor for Isagenix and so far the results have been amazing! If you would like more information on these fantastic products, you can click on the Isagenix logo on [www.okamikai.com](http://www.okamikai.com) or talk to Sensei Darcie or Renshi. We have also left a 30 Day Cleanse guideline in the message boards on [okamikai.com](http://okamikai.com) that can help you get started on your journey to an improved you.



## Mark Your Calendar!

For more information visit [www.okamikai.com](http://www.okamikai.com)!

**Wed. July 1** – Canada Day (**No Classes**)

**July 13-17** – Karate Day Camp

**Thurs. July 16** – Elephant Thoughts at Day Camp

**Sat. July 18** – Gorgon's Golf Tournament

**Sun. July 19** – Demo at Ribfest

**Aug.1-3** – Civic Holiday Weekend (**No Classes**)

**Aug.7-8** – Summer Synergy

**Fri. Sept.18** – Brown and Black Belt Class

**Fri. Sept.25** – Karate Kyu Belt Grading

**Nov.7-8** – Break Fall 2009

## Support Your Okami Kai Demo Team!

The Okami Kai Superstars will be performing at Ribfest at Elgin Park on Sun. July 19 at around 12pm. Admission is free and there will be loads of fun, activities, entertainment and of course food for the whole family.

Don't miss this chance to support the Legion and of course your fellow students at this great event!



## Looking For A Summer Job?

Don't forget about our referral program if you're looking for a little extra cash this summer. You get \$5 for every new student who is outside of your family who purchases a Start Up Package. Plus, if they sign up for six months you get \$25 and \$50 if they sign up for a year! Stop looking for jobs and start looking for students!

## Tonfa Are Coming

Starting in September, Renshi Campsall will be teaching students who would like to learn how to use Tonfa at both the Wednesday and Saturday weapons classes. Please speak to him so you can order yours and have them for the first class on **Sept.12**. Although the use of Tonfa will fulfill the mandatory weapons grading requirement for those who have it, it is not conceivable that a student will be able to use this weapon should they plan on grading on Sept.25



## Fall Kyu Belt Grading

Our next grading for all kyu belts in Karate will take place at the Okamikan on **Fri. Sept.25 at 6pm**. **We strongly suggest that anyone wishing to grade start preparing now.**

All orange belts or higher wishing to grade must submit a Request to Grade form into our office no later than Sept.11. Any white or yellow belt who is ready to test will be given a letter from Renshi informing them that they are on the grading list. All grading fees must be submitted by Sept.20. Anyone who does not have their fee in by that time will not be allowed to test.

## The Unsung Hero

By Renshi Scott Campsall

*Recently, Jacob (my five year old son) graded and was promoted to yellow belt. I have to admit that there was a lot of joy from this martial artist parent as he watched his little boy walk down the line of black belts all the while shaking their hands and smiling from ear to ear. He had put a lot of effort in getting ready for this test and now all the work had paid off. I don't think I've ever seen him so proud. I also don't think I've ever seen him try so hard for something. Yes, my young man had shown a lot of discipline to get where he is and is now oozing with confidence as he prepares for the next level.*

*Interesting though that as I write that last bit, I also have to confess that he really didn't do it all alone. There were more than a few times out of the dojo that I took some time to practice some kata, go over student creeds, and make sure he could get to class two or three times a week. I also know that his mother had a big hand in helping too.*

*It is true that when it finally came down to it, Jacob did what he needed to do to get the job done. It is also true that he had a lot of support.*

*So, not only do I now realize that my son has grown up a bit more. He has now gone from the young baby that I carried around the dojo floor every so often while I led a class. He has moved towards training as a Lil' Dragon and then decided to get more serious by joining Youth Karate. Now, he is one step closer to becoming a black belt. That realization is there, but there is also a nagging thought about how much we as parents are needed to support our children's activities whether they be Karate or anything else. They can't do it alone and I for one can tell you that as a teacher I know when they have been abandoned and when they have a strong support unit from their family.*

*To those who are more in the latter group. You are probably reading this newsletter. The first group probably is only reading this by a fluke. You also have probably figured out how your child can get to class at least twice a week and you have sacrificed something in your own life more than once. Maybe you don't have me to teach them stuff at home, but you have purchased a DVD or you've come to class enough that you have a rough idea how to help. Well, first of all, thanks. If it wasn't for you, our school wouldn't be running. Second, keep it up. Your child has everything they need to see their goal to become a black belt in you. Oh, and if you don't think they want that black belt just ask them. Over 90% of the students asked put up their hands when I asked them if they were planning on going the distance.*

*They can't do it without you. Thanks for being there. You may not get a lot of credit in the end, but I know for sure that you deserve it!*