



KMA HAP KI DO NEWS

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Team-KMA Gold Medalists with GM Lee and IHF Officials

Article by Jason Ricker

On July 30th, **Team KMA-USA, Battle Creek's very own "martial arts ambassadors to the Republic of Korea", returned home victorious and hopeful for the future.** Nine days earlier Korean Martial Arts (KMA) sent 16 martial artists, along with ten coaches and chaperones to South Korea to compete in the 2009 Korean Open Hap Ki Do Tournament. The trip was undertaken to accomplish three missions; to gain international tournament experience, to share in Korea's rich and ancient culture, and most importantly, to lay the groundwork for the 8th Triennial World Hap Ki Do Championships, to be held here in Battle Creek in August of 2010. KMA-USA's excursion was successful on all three fronts.

The day-long tournament at Yongin University Stadium was the focal point for the trip. Team KMA-USA began training for the competition in January. Coached by KMA Hap Ki Do Masters Robert Schreiner and Mike Ormstead and led by Assistant Masters Katie Lee, Scott Ashley and Jason Ricker, the team trained for seven months under the watchful eye of Grand Master Hee Kwan Lee. Master Ormstead traveled to Korea with the team to serve as coach at the tournament.

During the months while the team trained, families of team members worked tirelessly to raise funds to help support the trip. The benefits of all that hard work were reaped at last when **Team KMA-USA received a First Place ranking in their division, carrying home Gold Medals and a trophy** for display at KMA. In addition to the stellar performance given by the group as a whole, several members of the team received honors in individual events. **Assistant Master Katie Lee earned a Silver Medal** in the Precision Kicking Competition, while **Assistant Masters Scott Ashley and Jason Ricker took the Bronze Medal** in the Black Belt Self-Defense Division. **Bryan Lahusky won the Bronze Medal** in the Long-Jumping Competition, and **Rachel Engelhart, a young Purple Belt at KMA, took the Bronze Medal** after going up against a Black Belt in the Free Sparring Competition.

In addition to the tournament experience, the members of Team KMA-USA traveled to some of the Korean Republic's most important cultural sites. Most notable among the team's activities was a visit to Cheong Wa Dae, or the "Blue House", which is the official residence of South Korea's President, President Myung Bak Lee. While on site at the Blue House, team members were able to catch a rare glimpse of President Lee as his motorcade passed within 10 feet of the group. As a memento of their Blue House visit, team members were given a beautiful Cheong Wa Dae coffee mug, post cards, and book.



Team KMA-USA at Cheong Wa Dae

Over the next few days, the team traveled to the spectacular Warrior Palace (Gyeong Bok Palace) in Seoul and the Korean Folk Village, which offers a unique view of Korea from hundreds of years ago. Also on the agenda was a stop at Gyeongju, the most famous Buddhist Monastery in South Korea. The team also paid a visit to an old friend – Grand Master Jae Hwan Kim, Chairman of the Moo Yea Federation in South Korea. Grand Master Kim visited KMA in 2008 to assist Grand Master Lee in instituting a Moo Yea program in the U.S. He showed the team outstanding hospitality by giving them a guided tour of his Korean History Museum, which he owns and operates in the town of Wonju. He is also the Vice Chairman of the Museum of the Korean State of Gangwon Do. Grand Master Kim introduced the team to Wonju City Councilman, Ju Wan Kim, who welcomed the team to his fair city with a delicious Korean luncheon. In Gangneung City, Grand Master Kim arranged a special meal for the team with Gangneung City Council Member Hyuk Moon Kwon, Chief of the city's Tourism, Culture and Welfare Bureau. Later, Team KMA-USA traveled to Insadong, where the sights and sounds of the antique market were only outdone by the smells of the wonderful food sold by street side vendors. The members of the team were also able to train in the school of Master Cheon Gyu Choi. Master Choi spent several months in Michigan prior to this trip, helping to train those students who would compete. It is largely due to his efforts that Team KMA-USA performed so well. At his dojang, the members of the team were greeted warmly and shown great hospitality.

Perhaps the most important function of Team KMA-USA's trip is what it bodes for the future. In 2010, martial artists from around the world will converge on Battle Creek to compete in the 8th Triennial World Hap Ki Do Championships at Kellogg Arena. Before this historic event can take place, however, the ground work must be laid. While in Korea, Grand Master Lee spent much time meeting with the Members of the Board of the International Hap Ki Do Federation (IHF), the governing body under which KMA falls, and of which Grand Master Lee is one of several Vice Chairmen. Grand Master Lee and Master Ormstead worked with IHF Chairman Hong Kee Lee, President Sung Kwang Myung and the rest of the IHF Board to promote next year's competition and to garner support for it from the entire martial arts community. At one meeting, Chairman Lee publicly honored Grand Master Lee and congratulated him on the work done to lay the ground work for the 2010

event. President Myung even remarked that out of 2,000 advertisement flyers for the 2010 championships distributed by Team KMA-USA at the Yongin Stadium tournament, not one flyer had been left behind. The IHF Board expressed its pleasure with the progress that has been made by Grand Master Lee and the 2010 World Championships Committee.

In all, Team KMA-USA's trip to Korea was a resounding success in every way. The members of the team made memories that will last a lifetime, as well as new friendships with their fellow martial artists from half a world away. This trip was made possible in a great way through the support of many organizations, including Battle Creek Community Foundation, Graphix2Go, Banyer Travel, and Rhingo USA.

The focus of GM Lee and the rest of the KMA staff will now turn to 2010, as Battle Creek prepares to host the 8th Triennial World Hap Ki Do Championships, one of the most historical international events in modern martial arts history.

Revised KMA Schedule (Revisions in RED)

Mon: 5:00-5:30pm Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
 Mon: 5:45-6:30pm Super Ninjas (White thru Green Belts, 7 thru 12 years old)
 Mon: 6:30-7:20pm Open Class (all ranks, 13 years old & older)

Tue: 5:00-5:30pm Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
 Tue: 5:45-6:30pm Super Ninjas (Blue thru Black Belts, 7 thru 12 years old)
 Tue: 6:40-7:30pm Demo Team

Wed: 5:00-5:30pm Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
 Wed: 5:45-6:30pm Super Ninjas (White thru Green Belts, 7 thru 12 years old)
 Wed: 6:30-7:20pm Open Class (all ranks, 13 years old & older)
 Wed: 7:30-8:30pm Moo Yea (Kum Sool)

Thur: 5:00-5:30pm Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
 Thur: 5:45-6:30pm Super Ninjas (Blue thru Black Belts) Plus
 Open Class (all ranks, 13 years old & older)
 Thur: 6:40-7:30 Open Class (all ranks, all ages for 2010 Championships Training) **(Free Sparrers must have full gear!!)**

Fri: 5:30-6:20pm Open Class (all ranks, all ages for 2010 Championships Training) **(Free Sparrers must have full gear!!)**

Fri: 6:30-7:30pm Moo Yea (Kum Sool)
 Sat: 9:30-10:15am Super Ninjas (all ranks, 7 thru 12 years old)
 Sat: 10:30-11:30am Open Class (all ranks, 13 years old & older)
 Sat: 11:30-12:00 Black Belt Class

****Reminder that all KMA students must bring their sparring gear to every KMA class****

***NEW* On Gup Promotion Saturdays, all classes as usual and all Gup Tests begin at 3:30pm.**



KMA participated again this year in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life on July 11-12. KMA won the distinction of being named a Gold Team, meaning we raised over \$5,000.00. **This year, KMA raised a total of \$6,943.87- for a grand total of \$59,943.87 raised over the years - in honor of Master Schreiner, a cancer survivor and Logistics Committee Chairman for the event.**

Thank you, Rosemary Mottinger, for serving as KMA Team Captain this year! And thank you to everyone who participated!

IHF Board Meetings

While in Korea, Grand Master Lee attended three meetings with IHF Board Members to discuss plans for the 2010 Hap Ki Do Championships. The IHF Board is very happy with the progress to date and they have pledged their full support to ensure this is a successful event.



IHF Board Members thanking GM Lee and Master Ormstead for their hard work in the U.S. on behalf of the IHF

KMA Weather Policy Reminder

For the safety of our students, **KMA will be closed during "Tornado Watches" and "Tornado Warnings"**. If a **"Tornado Watch or Warning"** is announced in advance, to be in effect during KMA class hours, KMA will be closed.

If a **"Tornado Watch"** announcement is made during KMA class hours, class will be stopped and students will be sent home. For students whose transportation is not at KMA, Class Instructor(s) will stay at KMA until student transportation arrives. Parents – please stay posted on weather advisories.

If a **"Tornado Warning"** announcement is made during class, **everyone** inside the school will take cover in the Girls' Locker Room until the warning has expired. We can be reached by calling 963-5425, 317-0552, 274-5363, or 986-0123.

If KMA must close for any reason, it will be announced on WBCK (FM 95.3), WOOD TV (Channels 8 & 41), and WWMT (Channel 3).

Happy August Birthday Wishes!!

Conor Lohman	8/3	Erick Helgelmann	8/14
Quintin Lohman	8/3	Bryan Lahusky	8/18
Sheri Spahr	8/4	James Holds	8/18
Seth Dredge	8/11	Trenten Dollaway	8/22
Brendan Madej	8/13	Preston Barker	8/30
Philip Ray	8/13	Karl Henderson	8/31

Thought for the Month

Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.

--Miriam Beard



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