

GARDNER MARTIAL ARTS



Volume 3, Issue 1

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Inside this issue:

<i>New Instructors</i>	2
<i>New Website</i>	2
<i>Parks and Rec</i>	3
<i>Testing Photos</i>	3
<i>Growing Again</i>	4
<i>New Faces at GMA</i>	4

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TESTING TIME

Testing time is upon us once again, though a few weeks later than the past. Our association continues to grow with instructors in over 19 states, China and Taiwan, with over 3,000 active students.

As GMA has continued to grow, so have neighboring schools in Ottawa and Baldwin City, and the decision was made to combine KC and Kansas into a single weekend!

So testing this time around was a huge event with over 50 students testing, and it took up most of Friday evening and Saturday to run all of our students through the paces.

GMA had 19 students out of the bunch. Only one of our white belts was ready to test, but "Big" Matthew is now a yellow belt!

Then the yellow belts hit the floor, with Holly, Mick, Makenna, and Shannon, all earning 2nd stripes on their belts. 2nd degree yellow belts Garland and Joseph rocked out



Students gather around the Masters for a few words of advice and encouragement after testing

their tests to earn their green belts.

Mikul and Noah earned a 2nd stripe for their green belts while Dan and Dakota turned their belts blue.

Ryan, Lisa, Michaela, and Veeren all busted tail to earn a 2nd stripe on their blue belts, and Casey impressed in her performance and finally earned her red belt after a long string of illness!

Then Brian, John, and Shaunak earned a 2nd stripe on their red belts.

We are very proud of all of our students and they did an outstanding job showcasing their skills as well as representing us as instructors. Be sure to check back next issue and read about GMA's first brown belts, a new 2nd Dan and new 4th Dan black belts!



MO REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

It's tournament time already! It seems like yesterday that we were competing in the MO state tournament, and now it's time to plan for the MO regional tournament circuit!

The circuit consists of 4 tournaments in 4 regions of MO—

Kansas City, Northern MO, Eastern MO, and Southwestern MO.

These 4 tournaments start the end of February and run until the first of May. Each one featuring competitors of all ages and ranks, broken down

by age and rank groups, so whether you are 5 or 95, white to black belt, everyone can compete and have an awesome day.

Students are already signing up and getting excited. Check back next issue for results!

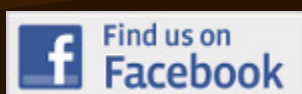
2 NEW INSTRUCTORS AT GMA

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates.

The great teacher inspires."

-William Arthur Ward

**We're on
facebook!**



For the rest of the photos of these events, become a fan of Gardner Martial Arts on Facebook. More photos are uploaded there for viewing as well as updates and goings on in between newsletters. Check us out, click "Like" and leave a post on our wall.

<http://www.facebook.com/gardnermartialarts>



Makenna ready to bring it!

Crystal and Shaunak join the rank of instructor at GMA. Both 2nd degree red belts have completed the Youn Wha Ryu instructor certification course and are currently working toward reaching their full certification.

The certification course was



Crystal and Shaunak are ready to help!

held in January and consisted of 6 grueling days of intensive training, instruction in curriculum ranging from white through black belt, including advanced techniques.

In addition to the training, they both walk away with increased confidence and leadership skills which will translate over to our class and help us improve our students.

Having completed the course, they now must complete 120 hours of supervised instruction prior to applying for full certification. Certification is a long,

difficult, and rewarding process.

Our classes have continued to grow and one way we can make sure every student is improving, learning, and getting the attention they need is by having great instructors. If you haven't trained with us yet, what are you waiting for?

NEW WEBSITE

If you are new to the newsletter, or if you missed it last time, GMA has a new website.

We train with a great graphic/web designer, and she was generous enough to create a new website for GMA.

The coolest feature on the site, other than housing all of our newsletters from past through

present is the new calendar.

Since we sometimes have to change locations due to conflicts with the school, the calendar is a great way to stay up to date on where and when we are meeting.

It features all of the classes that we teach, classes we/our high ranks can attend, as well

as events we are participating in.

So share the site with your friends and be sure to check out all the great updates to the site.

www.gardnermartialarts.com

GMA OUT AND ABOUT

We keep busy with GMA, in case you haven't noticed. Tai Chi classes through Parks and Rec started back on February 8 and run through April. We are also in the middle of our P&R warriors and family classes.

GMA also recently helped out the Sunflower Elementary School "Movie Night" in January. Aaron, Gina, and Haydon (along with a few students) taught around 100 kids some



Beau and Gina performing Tai Chi

basic kicks and punches, as

well as training principles over the course of an hour. Then, the kids got to watch Kung Fu Panda 2!

If you have an event coming up, and are looking for a kicking good time, drop us a line and see if we could tailor a class, demonstration, or seminar to meet your needs.

PARKS AND REC—WINTER SESSION

The winter session of Parks and Rec is in full swing and we have our hands full!

Our Warrior class was full, but we “graduated” 2 of our older Warriors, who had previously taken the Warrior class, to our regular family class. That leaves us with 8 little guys that are busting their tails learning some basic skills and technique while focusing on our training principles.

Our family class continues to do well with 2 dads and a mom taking the class with their sons. We also have 2 brother and sister pairs (including the brother & sister from the War-

rior class).

The WOMAN class didn’t get any takers this time around, but we are putting the time to good use, working on our skills and techniques to not only improve, but to help become better instructors as well.

Pictures of the classes and fun will be featured in the next issue, so be sure to check back then!

We are almost half way through our third year of teaching classes through Parks and Rec and each class is unique in its challenges and its fun! If you have taken one of

our classes, hopefully you enjoyed it as much as we did. And just because you have taken it once doesn’t mean you can’t take it again. We have had a handful of students repeat the class and we’d love to see you again!

Our next Parks and Rec session starts in July with all 3 classes being offered, so you can register early. Or, if you can’t wait that long, feel free to swing by our regular class during the week!



Dan throws around a black belt



Casey defends herself from attack

TESTING PHOTOS



Above (L to R): “Big” Matthew, Holly and Shannon, Veeren and Michaela, Ryan getting air, Dakota, and Garland Below (L to R): Mikul and Noah, Brian and John stare down, and a whole mess of GMA students ready to spar



GROWING AGAIN

In our last issue, we mentioned how we were changing our class times to better suit our ever growing classes. That format seems to be working great. Our class as a whole continues to grow (see below), we are getting our students motivated and teaching them their techniques, while getting time to work on advanced techniques

with our higher ranking adults and kids. And our students seem to be enjoying the new format as well.

More exciting changes are on the horizon for GMA as well. When we first opened our school way back in 2009, we had always hoped we would be able to one day open a store front location. But we had to balance that with keeping our

tuition low and family friendly, which is our #1 priority, so the store front was a long term goal.

If you follow us on facebook, you may already know, but we are close to realizing our goal of a store front location! We have agreed to a lease on a great location in Gardner, and should start teaching classes out of our NEW location sometime in March. Best of all, we will have

our store front while maintaining the same low tuition rates!

The new location offers us more visibility, greater amount of flexibility for class times, and the ability to make some offerings permanent classes. Stay tuned to the next issue for pictures and all the details on the location! If you can't wait to see more, keep an eye on facebook and swing by the new location once we are moved in.



Katie and Ryan make class family time

NEW FACES AT GMA

2011 continued to be a great year with 3 new faces joining us since our last newsletter, with several prospects for 2012!

Katie joins us from our Parks and Rec class, and she was having so much fun, her dad Ryan decided to join us too! With his hard work and previous martial arts experience, Ryan has already earned his yellow belt.

Kevin joined us last month and is making progress to-

ward his very own yellow belt too.

We have been blessed since we opened our school over 2 1/2 years ago to see it grow by leaps and bounds. Each new member makes our family larger while bringing in new excitement and energy. Whether our new students come from Parks and Rec, hear about us from current/former students, or see a flyer and stop by, we strive to make each student feel special

and part of our family.

Will you join us in time to test along side them?



Kevin is working hard

\$100 Sign Up Special

Sign up Includes:
Uniform and Belt
Association Uniform Patches
Beginner's Curriculum Handbook
Lifetime Association Membership
First Month's tuition

Continuing tuition only \$50/mo. with unlimited classes and family discounts available

Classes Locations/Times:
Edgerton — Monday 6pm
Gardner — Tuesday & Thursday 6pm

www.gardnermartialarts.com

913-938-4720



Brian displaying intensity before testing