



# 2022 February Newsletter

## Mission Statement

The Western Tang Soo Do Federation has been founded for the purpose of instilling discipline and respect in all its members who are willing to endure the sacrifices required to obtain the rank of Black Belt. We are committed to maintaining and handing down the traditions, philosophies, and techniques of traditional Tang Soo Do karate.

The training is designed to benefit the individual practitioner and also to build a team. This will help the members to develop camaraderie and learn the importance of working relationships with all of their associates, both in the martial arts and in other endeavors.

We will stand out in this world as leaders, setting an example to others of what can be accomplished physically, mentally, and morally.

Federation members will learn, teach, and demonstrate respect for others in all their associations. This respect influences family, business, and other relationships, and promotes a healthier lifestyle for all those who are associated with the Western Tang Soo Do Federation.

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## Editor's Note:

This *Newsletter* is a great forum to share information regarding: promotions, tournaments, school events, seminars, etc., or any special training or experiences you may have had and would like to share with other members of our WTSDF family.

We have a tremendous pool of knowledge, talent, and experience in the WTSDF and each of us has skills and information that could benefit everyone in the organization.

Let's use this forum to share what we have learned over the years and continue to grow together.

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## **Bledsoe Karate Club** *Western Tang Soo Do Federation* **November 2021 Seminar** **Old Overton Gym Overton, Nevada**



By: Master Dave Kluge

Despite COVID's travel and assembly restrictions Bledsoe Karate Club hosted a well attended and, by all accounts, extremely successful seminar for the WTSDF. There was even press coverage from the local paper, *The Progress*. (See article on page 2)

The day began with warm-up exercises led by Grandmaster Dave Clark. The participants were divided into seven groups and rotated through stations which included: balancing, stretching, strengthening, slow dynamic and explosive kicking exercises, followed by full body stretching and dynamic breathing exercises.

Following warm-ups, participants were then divided into three groups to work on weapons forms. One group worked on the Nunchaku form led by Mr. Solomon, another on the advanced bow form *Na Mu A Podam* led by Master Klockman, and a third worked on basic bow exercises led by Master Newton.

Following the weapons forms, participants could choose from four levels of traditional empty hand Tang Soo So forms to work on. Mr. Henderson instructed the basic form *Giecho Hyung Yi Bu Sang Gup*. Mrs. Nelson instructed the intermediate form *Pyong An Yi Dan*. Master Malehorn taught the advanced form *Ro Hai*. Grandmaster Dague taught two forms: *Geong* and *Koon San Goon*.

The individual schools then put on some excellent demonstrations including: synchronized and individual forms, one step sparring techniques, and breaking. The demonstrations were excellent and would impress even the most discriminating martial artist.

Following the school demonstrations individuals competed in forms demonstrations judged by the black belts.

At noon there was a working lunch while the Black Belt Council Meeting was held. The state of the different karate schools was discussed, followed by a review of the changes to the WTSDF by-laws by Master Newton. It was decided to hold the March gathering in Eagle Mountain, Utah. Grandmaster Bledsoe and Mr. Henderson will be planning the activities. Mrs. Nelson gave an up-date of the status and additions to the WTSDF Website.

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## **Bledsoe Karate Club**

*Back: Ms. Savanna Howard, Mr Bledsoe, Mr. Alex Villezcas, Jacob Villezcas*  
*Middle: Payton Paice, Trig Overson, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Arthur Villezcas*  
*Front: Emmitt Villezcas, Wyatt Allred, Colton Huff, Teegan Freeman, Beck Freeman*

## WTSDF November Seminar - cont. from page 1

Following the working lunch participants were treated to some excellent instruction by three-time International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation (IBJJF) champion Walter Vital. Master Vital is a 4<sup>th</sup> Dan in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu with an impressive list of accomplishments: Pan American Medalist fourteen times, World Medalist thirteen times, four times Abu Dhabi Pro World Trials Champion, three times IBJJF World Champion, nine times IBJJF Vegas Open Champion and won all five of his MMA fights by submission in the first round.

Hugo Leite, one of his black belts from his Las Vegas studio, came to assist with the afternoon's instruction.

The activities included basics in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu with an emphasis on defensive close-in techniques. Various takedowns and escapes were demonstrated from a multitude of attacks. As karate practitioners we are used to defending ourselves from striking distances (punches and kicks), but these techniques are applicable once the attacker gets inside of those ranges.

No one became an expert in these techniques during the three hour seminar, but it definitely open some eyes as to the practicality of this art form, and perhaps sparked some interest in further study of Jiu-Jitsu to round out ones self-defense repertoire.

Everyone agreed it was an enlightening afternoon and having Master Vital back in the future for additional instruction would be a great idea.

Topping off the day's activities, everyone was invited to a pizza party at Mr. Bledsoe's Quail Hollow Farm in Overton. The homemade brick oven pizza and raffle were a fitting end to another successful WTSDF seminar.

A special "THANK YOU" to everyone from the Bledsoe Karate Club for all the work you did to make this a very special day, and to Mr. and Mrs. Bledsoe for your gracious hospitality hosting the evenings activities.



*L to R - Mr. Alex Villezcas, Emmitt Villezcas, Jacob Villezcas, Master Walter Vital, Mr. Arthur Villezcas*

**Editor's Note:** This is a reprint of an article covering the November seminar that appeared in "The Progress."

*The Progress* NOVEMBER 16, 2021

## Martial Arts World Champion Instructs In M.V.

By NICK YAMASHITA

Moapa Valley played host to a world champion last weekend. Walter Vital, 3-time International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation champion came to the Old Overton Gym for a martial arts seminar hosted by the Western Tang Soo Do Federation on Saturday, November 13.

The seminar was part of a bi-annual event hosted by Western Tang Soo Do Federation. Bledsoe Tang Soo Do Karate hosted the event as Master Monte Bledsoe was the lead black belt, being a 9th Degree Black Belt in Tang Soo Do Karate.

The event brought in over 60 martial artists from all belt ranks and levels to the small community from Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and other states. The event started off with training in warm-up drills and

*Continued on page 3*



World champion Walter Vital (left) and Hugo Leite (right) do a demonstration during a three-hour martial arts seminar held at the Old Overton Gym last weekend. PHOTO BY NICK YAMASHITA/The Progress



## *The Progress - cont. from page 2*

stretching at 8:00 am and then leading into weapons forms instruction with the bo staff and nunchaku.

Mr. Brad Solomon of Solomon Karate from Eagle Mountain, Utah, instructed in the nunchaku form. Solomon grew up in Overton, Nevada, and is the son of Stan and Shirley Solomon.

"It is good to be back here and see everyone," stated Solomon.

After the weapons workshops, there was instruction in open hands forms which were divided into three levels including Beginners, Intermediate, and Advanced levels. After the instruction of forms, the participants were treated to demonstrations performed by each school and as well as some friendly competition in forms by several of the students.

In the afternoon, Vital with help from one of his students Hugo Leite, began his instruction. Vital and Leite come from Las Vegas where Vital has one of 30 training studios.

The workshop included basics in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu skills and methods and lasted about 3 hours.

"I loved it," said Josiah Huwe, a local yellow belt from Under the Mountain Martial Arts Academy. "It was so much fun."

"I really learned a lot and those guys are awesome," added Savannah Howard, a Black Belt of Bledsoe Karate from Las Vegas.

Vital is a 4th Degree Black Belt who has more than 26 years of teaching and competing in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. He has built one of the top teams in all of North America in the sport. His accolades include 14 times Pan American Medalist, 13 times World Medalist, 4 times Abu Dhabi Pro World Trials Champion, 3 times IBJJF World Champion, 9 times IBJJF Vegas Open Champion, and has five MMA victories by submission in the first round for all five fights.

"I really like it here," said Vital. "More than I expected and I really appreciated the environment. Everyone was respectful."

The conference ended with a pizza party at Bledsoe Karate located at Quail Hollow Farm in Overton with good conversation, a raffle of martial arts prizes, and homemade brick oven pizza.

"It was a very good day and we had a great turnout," stated Cynthia Nelson (Black Belt and one of the coordinators of the seminar). "Now we can't wait until the next one."

Thanks were expressed for all of the support given and those who helped make this seminar a huge success. Also a special thank you to Walter Vital and Hugo Leite for coming and teaching everyone the amazing art of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Self-Defense.

For more information about the Western Tang Soo Do Karate Federation visit their website at [www.westerntangsoodofederation.org](http://www.westerntangsoodofederation.org).

## *Solomon Karate Studio*

*By: Mr. Brad Solomon*

We had 19 new students take a trial class in January, 15 of which have joined the Solomon Karate School. Our total student count is 104 full time students. We also continue to see our Kid's Courses well attending with 36 additional students in those weekly classes. We currently have 9 students in the 3-1 Gup red ranks and expect to be seeing many tests in the near future for Cho Dan (1st Black).



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## Solomon Karate Studio - cont. from page 3

In December we had a special Red and Black belt workout. With a focus on preparing for your Black Belt test. Mr. Bledsoe provided a 2 hour training class which was well attended. Then there was a small after party at Mr. Solomon's home. This was very fun and meaningful and we will attempt to continue this type of event every couple of months.

We had a test in Feb with over 50 Students. The testing was divided into 5 separate testing time slots throughout the day. Most of the students were able to advance to new ranks. Here is a list of those that participated and the newly earned rank.



*Red and Black Belt workout participants.*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Gup Rank</i>
Ryder S.	1
Nicole Solomon	2
Jeffery	3
Amber	3
Axel	5
Max	6
Alec	6
Wesley	6
Lilly Redford	7
Jack	7
Soren	7
Porter (Sam)	7
William	7
Nate Redford	7
Mike	7
Jonathan Berrett	8
Liberty	8



<i>Name</i>	<i>Gup Rank</i>
Wyatt	8
Takoda Webb	8
Kyden Clark	9
Talon Solomon	9
Makenzie Kennington	9
Emily	9
Ivan Nielson	9
Katie Solano	9
Collin Kwiatkowski	10
Elias Collier	10
Haven Gosling	10
Aiden McKinley	10
kaden Alexander	10
James Faile	10
Jasmine Culas	10
Madisen Folsom	10
Nora Robertson	10



<i>Name</i>	<i>Gup Rank</i>
Elaina	10
Henry Hassell	10
William Hassell	10
Zander Dipo	10
Justice Taylor	11
McKay Brady	11
Evan Bennion	11
Maximus Bennion	11
Nathan Solano	11
Treyson Schroeter	11
Joshua Gilson	11
Braxton Smith	11
Ben	11
Hudson Blunt	11
Daniel Quigley	11
Jeremiah Quigley	11

Also of note Mr. Brian Corrales from Wasatch Karate Tang Soo Do invited Solomon Karate and WTSDF to attend a tournament that will focus on our shared heritage and roots in March. The link for this is here: <https://wasatchmartialarts.com/events/tournament/>

One more thing, coming in April we will have a Women's Self Defense night. This was intended for January but could not happen. Anyone interested from WTSDF would be welcome to attend this 2 hour event. It will not be limited to students, but rather extended to any family or persons interested in self defense. It will be a casual work out dress with no Gi required.



# March 2022 Seminar Schedule

By: Grandmaster Bledsoe, Mr. Henderson and Mr. Solomon



## Western Tang Soo Do Federation

Saturday – March 12, 2022

Solomon Karate Studio  
4038 N, Ira Hodges Scenic Pkwy,  
Eagle Mountain, UT 84005



**7:30 AM WTSDF Black Belt Test** [This is open for all to watch.]

Morning Sessions	Beginning: White - 9th Orange	Intermediate: 8th Blue - 4th Green	Advanced 3rd Red - Black Belt
9 AM	Stretching and Goal Specific Training <a href="#">Link to join the stretching club and start stretching NOW</a>	Dynamic Kicking and Martial Arts First Aid	National Tang <del>Soo</del> Do Black Belt NTC BB Form #1
10 AM	Combat Ready Forms	Stretching and Goal Specific Training	Teaching for Success and Training for Your Next Test
11 AM	Dynamic Kicking and Martial Arts First Aid	Combat Ready Forms	Stretching and Goal Specific Training
12 noon LUNCH	General Black Belt Meeting (lunch provided)		
Afternoon Sessions	Beginner/Intermediate 6 yrs old - 11 yrs old	Beginner/Intermediate 12 yrs old and up	Advanced All ages
1 PM	Bully Wise	Self Defense	<del>Jiu Jitsu</del> / Grappling Self Defense
2 PM	Self Defense	Street Smart	
3 PM to 4:30 PM	Tournament Sparring		
4:30 PM	Tournament Sparring Finals		
5 PM	Awards and Pizza Party/ <del>Potluck</del> [Pizza provided] Students and their parents invited.		

## YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Teaching for Success and Training for Your Next Test	Mr. Monte Bledsoe, 9th Dan, Overton, NV Mrs. Cyndi Nelson, 3rd Dan, Overton, NV
Stretching and Goal Specific Training	Mrs. Becca Bledsoe Searle, 4th Dan, Bluffdale, Utah
Combat Ready Forms	Mr. David Clark, 8th Dan, Las Vegas, NV
Dynamic Kicking Techniques	Mr. Brad Solomon, 3rd Dan, Eagle Mountain, Utah Mr. Alex Henderson, 3rd Dan, Logan, Utah
Martial Arts First Aid	Mr. Robert Olds, 5th Dan, Reno, NV
Self-Defense	Mr. Ted Klokman, 5th Dan, Las Vegas, NV Ms. Liz Edwards, 1st Dan, Eagle Mountain, Utah Mr. Alex Villezcas, 1st Dan, Overton, NV
Bully Wise/Street Smart	Mr. Monte Bledsoe, 9th Dan, Overton, NV Mr. Brad Solomon, 3rd Dan, Eagle Mountain, Utah Mrs. Cyndi Nelson, 3rd Dan, Overton, NV
<u>Jiu Jitsu / Grappling</u>	Mr. David Clark, 8th Dan, Las Vegas, NV Mr. Arthur Villezcas, 1st Dan, Overton, NV
Tournament	Mr. Ken Newton, 5th Dan, Palisade, Colorado

Updated February 23, 2022

# *March 2022 Seminar Directions & Accommodations*

*By: Mr. Solomon*

## **Solomon Karate Studio**

### **Address:**

**4038 N, Ira Hodges Scenic Pkwy, Eagle Mountain, UT 84005**

This address will work in most map apps on phones. You can also search for Solomon Karate Eagle Mountain and find the location and route that way. The building is named “**Gotta Dance.**”



### **Directions from Las Vegas NV:**

Roughly a 6 Hour Drive

1. Follow I-15 Northbound
2. Take exit 278 West (Turn left off the exit)
3. Continue straight for roughly 12 miles (about 25 minutes). Passes through Lehi, and Saratoga Springs. Road will convert to SR 73. Continue on SR 73
4. Left turn on Eagle Mountain Boulevard. Will be a large “Eagle Mountain” monument and sign on the left.
5. After about 4 miles and a few stop lights, you will hit your first stop sign. The Studio is a half mile further up the road on the right hand side next to the Chevron Gas station.

### **Directions from Glenwood Springs CO:**

Two methods are nearly the same time. Fastest is towards Spanish Fork Canyon 5 hr 45 min. 2nd is through Provo Canyon 6 hr 10 min. Either way ends up Northbound on I-15

Listing directions though Spanish Fork.

1. Follow I-70 West
2. Take exit 157 to merge onto US 191 North
3. Follow signs for I-15 North
4. Follow steps 2 through 5 on the Directions from Las Vegas above.

### **Directions from SLC Airport**

1. Get a rental car
2. Follow signs for I-15 South bound
3. Exit 278 West (turn right)
4. Follow steps 3 through 5 on the Las Vegas Directions above.

### **Recommended Accommodations:**

There is going to be a 20 to 25 Minute Drive from any hotel to the studio so plan accordingly. Mr. Solomon has one guest room and a lot of couches as well and anyone is welcome to stay at his home. His home is 3 minutes from the Studio.

[Best Western Timpanogos Inn](#) (25 min)

[Tru by Hilton Lehi](#) (24 min)

[SpringHill Suites by Marriott Lehi at Thanksgiving Point](#) (27 min)

All of these are near Thanksgiving Point which has many places to eat as well. You can stay at any hotel near Thanksgiving Point and it will be a nice stay. There is a cluster of hotels there and different brands.



# 2021 Dick Douglas Black Belt of the Year

By: Mrs. Cynthia Nelson

Originally selected and presented by Kwan Jang Nim Mr. Dick Douglas, the **Dick Douglas Black Belt of the Year** award is now chosen by vote of the WTSDF Board of Directors. Nominees for consideration can be submitted by any Black Belt within the organization, and any Black Belt is eligible. The recipient is then selected by vote of the Board of Directors.

*"It is my belief that if more people would devote themselves, as so many of my black belts have done, to martial arts training, along with keeping all other aspects of their lives in order such as family, religion, physical fitness, honorable business practices, and music, to mention a few, this world would be a much better place."*

—Grandmaster Dick Douglas, Founder WTSDF (Forms manual, page 3)

Each November we are tasked with selecting a Black Belt who typifies Grandmaster Douglas' view of people who make our world a better place. This is not an easy task as the *Western Tang Soo Do Federation* seems to be filled with such people. They are people of service, giving back to their communities and churches and to this organization. How do we pick just one? Within our organization most people think everyone else is more deserving than they are, and so, are reluctant to accept the honor. So it is with this year's winner: **Master Dave Kluge**.

Mr. Kluge moved to Wisconsin a few years ago, yet still goes out of his way to stay connected with the rest of the organization. One way he accomplishes this is through creating the *WTSDF Newsletter* three times a year. Gathering information from various schools and individuals spread across the country can be a daunting task. In spite of these challenges he manages to put out a newsletter that is informative with just a touch of his sense of humor.

The "Meet the Board" section provides us all with a deeper insight, and at times surprising reveals, of some of the individuals who help give the WTSDF direction and keep it running smoothly. We hear about the latest achievements and activities of each school. We get a chance to read about personal life achievements such as weddings, births, and graduations. Overall, the newsletter makes for a great read.

Jan 13, 1983, marked the first martial arts class Mr. Kluge attended; a class taught at the *Colorado Mountain College* by our now Grandmaster Brian Mable, President of the *Western Tang Soo Do Federation*. Mr. Kluge had been intrigued by David Carradine's character Kwai Chang in the TV series *Kung Fu*. He wondered if the study of martial arts would help develop that inner peace and connection to the natural world that he portrayed? At the suggestion of a friend, he enrolled in Mr. Mable's class to find out, and to see if *Tang Soo Do* was for him. It must have been; Mr. Kluge is still here.



**Bill Wallace seminar 11-12-2005**



**12-6-86 - 1st. Dan United Fighting Arts Federation  
L to R  
Brian Mable, Chuck Norris & Dave Kluge**

At seminars and trainings we get to see Mr. Kluge's "be patient" teaching philosophy first hand. He said, "The learning process is different for everyone. Some things come easily, some things come only with struggle, but the struggle is when you learn the most. You need the tough stuff to grow." [Perhaps that is why he "enjoys" creating the newsletter. We certainly don't make it easy for him to gather the information!]

Master Kluge had his own karate studio in Carbondale, Colorado, for about ten years. During that time he saw a need for a bo form that would be more competitive in tournaments than our basic bo form *Mahabong Bastone Anio Isa*.

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## *Black Belt of the Year*

So began a two year process of creating “*Na Mu a Podam*,” English translation “*Wind in the Wood*.” (When one moves the bo/staff quickly you can hear the wind.) In the mid 1990’s Brian Lee and James Anderson (then red belts) worked with Mr. Kluge to create *Na Mu A Podam*. The goal: Create a form with enough complexity and variety that it would be competitive at tournaments, but still retain the strong functional basics of traditional Bo training. About 2006 Mr. Lee and Mr. Kluge took on the task of creating the training video for *Na Mu A Podam*. That took several weeks, as it was before the time of easy access to digital cameras and editing software. Filming was very much a “do it over and over again” until it was right. The result was the instructional video we have on our website, and *Na Mu a Podam* is now a required form for 3rd Degree Black Belt.



*Mr. Bledsoe giving last minute instructions before “going over the edge” at July campout 2001*

Within our organization there are hundreds of years of experience; and from that, much understanding, words of wisdom and advice. Mr. Kluge has this advice for those who are just starting their martial arts studies.

“Don’t give up too soon.” It will take several months of training before you will even begin to know if the study of martial arts is an endeavor you are willing to make a commitment too; and even more time before you will be able to decide if *Tang Soo Do* is the style you want to pursue.



***Being successful isn’t determined by when you start,  
it is determined by when you quit.***

We all have lives outside of our martial arts training, and most of us are unaware of what our fellow black belts have achieved or dabbled in during their lifetimes. Master Kluge spends much of his time now teaching horse owners how to train their horses. He feels this is much more effective than training the horse for someone, as both the horse and owner need to understand and communicate with each other for the partnership to work. In the past he has been a high school Industrial Arts teacher, a musician, a construction worker, owned and operated a building design company for over thirty years, and has been a substitute teacher.

***Are we having fun yet?***

And for the “I’ll bet you didn’t know” part: Mr. Kluge put himself through college working as a “Carney” during the summers. He and a few other “crazy college kids” booked their rides and concessions (midway games) with different carnivals (like Bluegrass Shows) traveling from town to town setting up, running, taking down and moving their rides and booths. It was very hard physical work; especially the “circus jumps” where you took it all down Sunday night, traveled to a new town, and had it set up and running again by Monday evening. It was a hot, dirty, miserable way to spend the summer, but he was able to make enough money to put himself through college doing it, so it was worth it.

To all you martial artists out there, be on the lookout for a black belt you feel is deserving of the honor of the Dick Douglas Black Belt of the Year. Nominations can come from anyone. Who do you see who makes a difference around you, in your community and in this organization? Take the time to thank them always and take the time to nominate them for this special honor. THANK YOU, MR. KLUGE!



***Eskrima stick sparring with Mr. Malehorn  
at July campout 2009***



# Meet The Board

By: Master Dave Kluge

*In this section we feature a member of the Board of Directors so you can better know the people who help give the organization direction, and keep it running smoothly. In this Newsletter we are introducing **Master Ted Klokman - 5th. Dan.***

Master Klokman began his career in martial arts in 1995 through an invitation by a former high school classmate we know as Grandmaster Dave Clark. At the time Mr. Clark had already earned his 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt and was teaching at the *Vegas Tang Soo Do* studio owned by Grandmaster Dick Douglas.

"I didn't do sports in high school, but found out that this was a physical activity I could do despite my smaller size. I really liked it, and in particular, the people I worked out with. The instructors were very encouraging, and that really kept me going."

He said karate has made him much more confident and has improved his self-esteem. When confronted with other challenges in life he said he just tells himself, "I earned a Black Belt, I can handle this too."

His suggestions for other martial artists is to, "Stay with it and be consistent in your training." Breaks in your training make it hard to get your skills back. "Consistent training is very important."

About ten years ago, after having earned his 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan, he studied *Krav Maga* for about a year. Though the techniques were similar to the traditional karate techniques he had learned in *Tang Soo Do*, there was a different emphasis to the application. "Everything was geared toward self-defense." When asked which he prefers he said, "If I had to pick one, I'd say *Tang Soo Do*. Our training is well rounded, involving both fighting and the artistic aspects, whereas *Krav Maga* focuses on only one application of martial arts."

He said he has never had to use his martial arts training to physically defend himself, but the awareness he's learned and his ability to react quickly has helped him in his work with autistic children. For the past seven years he has worked as a substitute teacher, and this past year with autistic children. Because of his awareness he is better able to recognize when they are becoming stressed or aggressive and react to help control them before things get out of hand.

He said one of the most important lessons he has learned is that, "We are all capable of much more than we realize, but to bring out the best in ourselves, we need to be challenged. Mr. Douglas always pushed me hard, and I'm better for it."

One of the more memorable moments in his martial arts career was when he earned his 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt. "I realized I had become something I wasn't before. That meant a lot to me."

He said it was a great honor when Grandmaster Mable and Grandmaster Bledsoe invited him to join the WTSDF Board of Directors in 2013. This new leadership role made him feel like he really belonged and was appreciated.



**Master Klokman receiving his 1st Degree Black Belt  
Left to Right  
Mr. Dague, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Klokman, Mrs. Bejarano  
Mrs. Houser & Mr. Clark**



**Sparring with pugil sticks at July campout 2009**

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## Meet The Board - cont. from page 9



*Skiing at Sunlight View near Glenwood Springs, CO*  
*Left to Right*  
*Mr. Newton, Mr. Mable, Mr. Malehorn & Mr. Klokman*

In 2012 he received the Dick Douglas Black Belt of the Year Award which he said meant a lot considering the caliber of the black belts in our organization.

Some of his proudest and most memorable moments were watching the students he helped teach earn their Black Belts. It's a privilege, responsibility and an honor to be able to pass the traditions and skills on to the next generation of martial artists.

A few years ago the WTSDF held a "Back to Basics" boot camp. Mr. Klokman taught defensive techniques; slowing way down and showing every detail of how each technique is applied. After the workout one of the students told him, "That was the first time I really got the feel of the techniques."

"That feedback really made me feel good, that's why I like teaching." Mr. Klokman said.

When not substitute teaching Mr. Klokman can be seen working at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas on the weekends. No, not coaching the Raiders (yet), but ushering, scanning tickets, and greeting. His experience at the Stratosphere Tower providing guest service helped prepare him for his role at the stadium.

For entertainment, when not working or practicing karate, he enjoys: **Movies** – horror, science fiction, and anything connected to the Marvel Cinematic Universe, **Reading** - supernatural, science fiction, and fantasy novels (*Steven King*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, etc.) and **Solving Puzzles**. He has a large collection of different Rubik's Cubes and can solve them all.

His advice to beginning martial artist is to, "Believe in yourself, know that you are going to accomplish what you set out to do." Don't let your physical limitations hold you back, push yourself, you'll be better for it.

That determination didn't just help Mr. Klokman accomplish his goals; it's what makes him such an asset to the WTSDF.

## Alternate Picture Captions



*"Get that Newsletter done,  
or I cut the rope!"*



*"Why is there yellow snow down there?"*



*Now Mr. Malehorn can work for  
"The Sopranos"*