



The Connection

Uniting and informing members of the U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®

Vol 27, Number 1

Winter 2007



Founder
Hwang Kee

President
Kwan Jang Nim H. C. Hwang

What's Inside ...

Kwan Jang Nim Communications	2
Moo Do Values.....	2
President's Leadership Goals	2
TAC Communications	3
President's Vision Tour Update.....	4
Guardian's Seminar.....	4
Walter Okahara - Lifetime Achievement	5
2007 U.S. Soo Bahk Do® Nationals	7
Events and Communication Links.....	8

The Technical Advisory Committee

At the opening ceremony of the 27th Annual National Championships held in Orlando, FL, July, 2005, Kwan Jang Nim H. C. Hwang announced the following appointments to the Technical Advisory Committee and the formation of the Hu Kyun In Committee.

TAC Chairman

Phillip Bartolacci, SBN

Shim Gung Bu

Phillip Bartolacci, SBN

Dae Kyu Jang, SBN

Ken Trevellyan, SBN

Neh Gung Bu

Frank Schermerhorn, SBN

Steven Diaz, SBN

Cash Cooper, SBN

Weh Gung Bu

Daymon Kenyon, SBN

Craig Hays, SBN

Jeffrey Griggs, SBN

You can read more about the role and responsibilities of each Bu of the TAC on the wiki: <http://soobahkdo.editme.com/FedOfficialsTACMembers>

The Hu Kyun In

Hu Kyun In translates as “after,” “looking,” “person.” The charge of the Hu Kyun In committee is to look after the growth and development of Soo Bahk Do® and the U.S. Federation as a Moo Do organization. Appointed by the president, the following members are serving as Hu Kyun In focused on maintaining, preserving, and perpetuating the history and traditions of our art.

<http://soobahkdo.editme.com/FedOfficialsHuKyunInMembers>

Hyuk Yoon Kwon, SBN

Robert Shipley, SBN

Ted Mason, SBN

Frank Bonsignore, SBN

Jeffrey Moonitz, SBN

Mary Ann Walsh, SBN

Wilton Bennett, Jr., SBN

Arthur Pryor, SBN

Fred Messersmith, SBN

On March 18, 2006, the Hu Kyun In demonstrated their dedication to their charge by presenting the 1st ever “Guardians of the Art Seminar Series” in Springfield NJ and attracted the largest-ever national gathering of practitioners except for the National Championships. <http://soobahkdo.editme.com/GuardiansOfTheArtSeminarSeriesIndex>

For 2007 the Technical Advisory Committee has invited the Hu Kyun In to present a 2nd “Guardians of the Art Seminar Series” on Friday August 24th at the 2007 National Festival and Championships in San Diego, Ca. You can read more about it and register for your preferred seminars here:

<http://soobahkdo.editme.com/NationalChampionships2007>

A Word From The Kwan

Jang Nim

The Five Moo Do Values in Action

by H.C. Hwang, Kwan Jang Nim

Introduction

The five Moo Do values, History, Tradition, Philosophy, Discipline/Respect, and Techniques, are backbones of our proud Moo Do identity. They all coexist and, furthermore, each element serves to strengthen the meaning of the other four.

I would like to discuss how the Five Moo Do Values are applied to our daily training for strengthening us, not only as Moo Do practitioners, but also as individuals who provide positive influence on our society.

I hope this will help the Moo Duk Kwan® practitioners to live with the Five Moo Do Values as basic action elements of their behavior rather than just concepts to speak about it.

History (Iyok Sa)



"A chronological record of significant events (as affecting ... an institution), often including an explanation of their cause" (*Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary <1989>*). These events, causes, and the individuals involved become the second heavenly nature of the institution/organization/concept.

I know who I am by knowing my History (past). This will guide me to the future not only by having but by being aware of my foundation, which was built upon the History (past), and where I am now.

History (past) is the guiding source for the life of our future. We can create the future by honoring the History (past).

Elders, seniors, instructors, experiences are part of past. So we honor (respect) them because they are a guiding source to creating our future.

We listen, value, and respect the teaching and wisdom that came from their experiences. These are some of the visible behavioral measurements of history in action:

- ✓ Concede your seat to elders and provide help to carry heavy objects for them.
- ✓ Listen to and honor your parents and grandparents (elders).



- ✓ Listen to your teachers.
- ✓ Demonstrate good academic behavior.

History will strengthen the Respect. We will be better learners and students as a result.

"Loyalty" (Choong) is one of the most important words in the Moo Do world. We often see that loyalty is motivated by a desire for a position, power, or money. This type of loyalty will be betrayed when the position, power, and money situation changes. Individuals who have failed in their loyalty usually are hiding their past. If loyalty is established based on the History, the loyalty will never change because the History will never change. These are additional visible behavioral measurements of History in action.

Create a good example (human story) by upholding loyalty, as demonstrated through behavior even during difficult situations. People learn from and appreciate the example (story).

- Loyalty to a principle rather than by convenience.
 - Honoring techniques that were built on a true historical background.
 - History strengthens Tradition, Philosophy, Discipline/Respect, and Technique.
- Do I have History in my behavior?

Editor's note: Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang will address the other four Moo Do Values in future issues of the Connection.

President's USA Leadership Goals

Purpose:

- Strengthen the foundation by increasing membership quality and quantity.
- Support the President's Vision Tour nationally and locally.

Focal points of Content:

- Strengthen our public identity
- Emphasize the Moo Duk Kwan's uniqueness.
- Convey our rich history (of the Moo Duk Kwan® and our Federation)
- Moo Do Values

Leadership:

- Strengthen the 5 Moo Do values in all our actions.
- On going education in teaching
- Encourage participation in actual teaching.
- Increase public visibility by having more Moo Do Dojangs.

Technical standards and excellence in instructional methods:

- On going education in Soo Bahk Do® techniques.
- Personal training records.

Understanding of financial stability:

- On going education in business administration based on the 5 Moo Do values.
- Apply business practices that are founded in and based on the 5 Moo Do Values.

*Read more from the Kwan Jang Nim on the wiki:
<http://soobahkdo.editime.com/KJNTTopics>*

Technical Advisory Committee

(Shim Gung Bu)

Ki (Part One)

by Dae Kyu Jang, SBN



The *Song of the Sip Sam Seh* asks "What is the main principle of the martial arts?" In the next line it answers, "The mind is the primary actor and the body is the secondary one." Our founder Kwan Jang Nim Hwang Kee felt very strongly that it is important to incorporate philosophy and spiritual value into our physical training. This is the essence of Moo Do, yet it is not so easy to do. In the calligraphy to the left,

the Kwan Jang Nim wrote that Ki is the mother of Do. Clearly Ki and Do are essential elements of martial spirit and the basis of Moo Do philosophy, so it seems appropriate to explore them together.

We usually think of Do as The Way. In its largest sense, the Do includes everything in Nature and is also the course of Nature. To illustrate this, the Do is often compared to water: its way is to flow downstream. It follows its course in a completely natural way.

Moo Do is the way of the martial artist. We might think of it as the path along which we harmonize physical training for defensive action with spiritual and moral principles that lead to healthy and peaceful lives. As with our understanding of water, we do not create its path downstream we discover it through observation, study, and practice. With Moo Do, we do not create the Do; we come to understand it gradually as we continue to train and to study the philosophy taught by our seniors.

An understanding of Ki can greatly benefit our training and our Moo Do practice. Many of us may be familiar with the idea of Ki as power, force, or energy. We have also been introduced to Chun-Ki (Heaven's energy), Chi-Ki (Earth energy), Soo-Ki (Water energy), and Hwa-Ki (Fire energy). But how can we understand Ki as the mother of Do? What did Kwan Jang Nim mean by this and how can it help us to do a better ha dan makee? How can it enrich our martial spirit?



Let's begin with the calligraphy. The Chinese character for Ki is made up of two parts. The symbol pictured to the left represents steam or cloud. It is also breath and the close association between breathing and life. Steam and breath are invisible and considered empty. In Asian landscape paintings, clouds often symbolize the invisible nature of life, the breath of the gods.

Wind that moves and shapes clouds is associated with the image of the earth's breathing. Clouds symbolize invisible energy, apparently empty yet holding the space of possibility and potential.

The next character represents rice, which in Asian cultures symbolizes the visible energy of life. Rice is nutrition and sustenance. In a tangible way, we can see how the rice plant takes

the earth, sun, and water and transforms that energy into food that fuels the human body. Rice is a symbol of energy that has form and physical properties.



When we combine these two concepts into Ki, we can begin to understand that Ki is the primal energy that always exists and has always existed. It is the emptiness that contains the Do, harmonizes Um and Yang, and is always available to us. At the same time, it is an energy that nurtures through care and feeding. We can increase energy not only through food as fuel, but food as love. We can understand Ki as a mother if we think of it as constant, as able to sustain and nourish.

It is not surprising that a concept as important as Ki would appear in many places and have many different applications. In addition to the varieties of Ki already mentioned, there are at least four more ideas that can help us to understand how Ki is related to Moo Do.

Hwal Ki is the total metaphysical energy. Everything exists within the boundaries of this primal Ki, from the Do and its harmonization of Um and Yang to the smallest thing you can imagine. Everything is filled with Ki as it constantly circulates. In Asian medicine, Ki is thought to flow through the human body along meridian pathways that are the primary sites for the treatment of illness.

Saeng Ki is life energy that is inherent to each object, plant, animal, and person, and is individual to each of these things. Everyone possesses a particular Ki within their body that is their own. Saeng Ki may be defined as Birth Ki. We are familiar with the concept of nature versus nurture. In these terms, Saeng Ki is nature. It is like your genetic makeup: corresponding absolutely to you as an individual and not subject to change.

Won Ki is external energy that works with your birth Ki. One way to think of it is as Saeng Ki and diet mixed together. Won Ki comes from the social and environmental factors that may nurture you. The energy received from the air that you breathe, good nutrition, water, and sunshine are Won Ki. It may also come from other people. When a group performs a hyung in unison, the feeling of increased energy is good Won Ki. Won Ki is corporeal energy that comes to our bodies, and we may control Won Ki in a way that is not possible with Saeng Ki.

Jung Ki is our spiritual energy. It is MaUm, the heart connection with our world. We often associate spirit with the mind, but spirit comes from the heart. To improve our Jung Ki, we contemplate our MaUm; in that way we use our mind to have a better heart. We contemplate Moo Do values and our willingness to practice such things as humility, honesty, perseverance, discipline, and respect. Jung Ki stimulates our reaction to want greater improvement. It is the spirit that we bring to our training that regulates the circulation of Ki through our bodies. Jung Ki helps us to balance Um energy and Yang energy. It combines with Saeng Ki and Won Ki to produce our vitality. With good Jung Ki, our physical performance is full and rich; without Jung Ki, we may be strong but our techniques are dry. (to be continued)

Part two continues in the next issue of *The Connection*. Read more from each TAC member here: <http://soobahkdo.editime.com/TACTrainingResources>

National President's Vision Tour Committee Update Report

by Joshua Duncan, SBN

<http://soobahkdo.editime.com/NPVT>

The Kwan Jang Nim asked me to serve as Chairman for the National President's Vision Tour Committee (NPVTC) for 2 years. This is an honor. With your support and participation we can achieve the Kwan Jang Nim's goals.



The NPVT Committee is charged to seek out, share and support all PVT activities initiated by Federation members. Some successful efforts have been profiled in the 2006 Nationals Program available on the wiki:

<http://soobahkdo.editime.com/NationalChampionshipsProgramIndex>

The January 2007 Moment with the Masters in Ramona, gave the Kwan Jang Nim the opportunity to speak with PVT Committee members as well as Regional Examiners to ask what have we done so far and what we can do to support the PVT. PVT members there were recognized by the Kwan Jang Nim for hard work and dedication with a T-shirt bearing the official PVT logo. These shirts are available to active PVT members at the Soo Bahk Do® Mall: <http://www.cafepress.com/soobahkdomall>

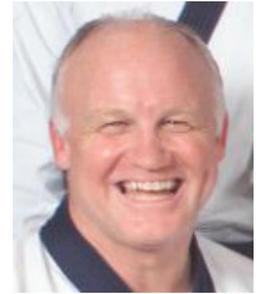
The first NPVT Teleconference was held February 26, 2007 to set goals for the year and to discuss ways to communicate PVT accomplishments. The NPVT teleconferences will provide opportunities to showcase and profile your PVT committee's activities and share your studio PVT successes with members nationwide. All interested studios and /or PVT Committee members are invited to participate in the teleconferences and share your activities, ideas and thoughts for supporting the Kwan Jang Nim's vision goals. You may even be asked to be a special "guest" speaker during one of our teleconferences. We will be summarizing the information from each teleconference on the wiki and for 30 Days after a teleconference you can even listen to a recording of any teleconference that you miss. You can help make each teleconference more informative and motivational with your participation and you can find upcoming and past info on the NPVT Teleconference Index at <http://soobahkdo.editime.com/NPVTTeleconferenceIndex>.

I invite you to be part of our reports to the Kwan Jang Nim and your fellow members by sharing your active pursuit of the President's Vision. Take one more action and tell us about it during an NPVT teleconference, then the NPVT can tell other members and studio owners about it through the Member Newsletter, Instructor Newsletter and other means.

To ask questions, comment or volunteer, please contact me at joshduncan@soobahkdo.com or Larry Greenberg Sa Bom Nim at lgreenberg@soobahkdo.com. Through your actions, the next two years can yield measurable results toward the Kwan Jang Nim Vision objectives. Thank you for your support and I look forward to speaking with you in the next teleconference.

Historic Guardians of the Art Seminar Series

by Greg Bryan, SBN



In March 2006, the Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) and the newly appointed Hu Kyun In Committee (HKI) met for the first time with Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang to discuss their roles in the Federation. While the meeting itself was momentous, the Guardian of the Arts Seminar held in conjunction made the event tremendous!

Soo Bahk Do seniors taught a series of seminars. Members got the opportunity to train and learn the history of Soo Bahk Do from those who helped make that history.

At the "Living History" session, SBN Jeff Moonitz noted the creation 30 years ago last June 30 (2005), of the U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation. How many of us are aware of what it took to make that happen and what was given in service by our Seniors to get us where we are today? When Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang spoke to the participants of the Guardian of The Art Seminar, he called the event "a celebration of and appreciation for the years of service" these Senior Men and Women gave to our art and Federation. They came together at this unique event to share their experience and skill with those willing to make the effort to attend.

And, attend we did! Two hundred and eleven registered from 54 studios and 9 out of 10 regions. Paul Del Sordo, SBN and his students created 11 training areas in every available space, for simultaneous seminars presented three times that day. Seminars included Creative Il Soo Sik by SBN Wilson Bennett; Energy Concepts & Applications by SBN Seiberlich; Nai Hanji Hyungs by SBN Hanke; Intro to Jo Kyo by SBN Pryor; Creative Ho Sin Sool by SBN Martinov; Dynamic Sparring Movement by SBN Messersmith; Tando Defenses by SBN Moonitz; Tan Bong by SBN Kwon; Hyung Application by SBN Bonsignore; Bong Techniques by SBN Mason; and Pyong Ahn Hyungs by SBN Walsh.

A Dan member noted that "the legends of our art" – practitioners that he had heard about but never thought he would get to experience taking a class from, were here sharing their perspectives and insights. A Ko Dan Ja member commented that over 500 years of Soo Bahk Do training sat at the head table in our last session, sharing stories of our Federation's creation and their own struggles to train and find instructors in the early days. They displayed pride in their history and the fact that they struggled to make the connection to Kwan Jang Nim Hwang Kee when others strayed from the course and lost the connection. You could feel their kyum son and their pride, especially when Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang thanked them for their dedication and selfless service.

Smiling students stood in hallways between sessions, talking about their experiences, struggling for words to describe them. White belts to Ko Dan Ja filled the available space and absorbed the

particular interests and expertise of senior members. They learned about the long or short stick; new variations on one-steps; dynamic movements and connecting with earth's energy in sparring; defending against a knife attack with a knife; or experiencing ho sin sool techniques as only SBN Martinov can teach them ("May I see that again please?") and so much more.

Everyone completed the day with cups running over. Every moment was a gift, a connection to our history and our foundation. As Kwan Jang Nim Hwang shared in a session with instructors and studio owners, it was about "strengthening our foundation and experiencing the value of our history." No wonder History is the first of our Five Moo Do Values. It was very apparent to all attending what that value included.

On Friday evening at the Grand Summit Hotel, Kwan Jang Nim Hwang hosted the gathering of the Senior Advisory Committee and the Hu Kyun In Committee. Kwan Jang Nim Hwang said his motivation for the gathering was to "express his appreciation for the years of service they had given" and "to celebrate the formation of the Hu Kyun In committee as an ongoing resource."



Fred Messersmith, SBN (HKI member) noted that "they will be available to the Kwan Jang Nim as a resource and they will proceed in a slow and mindful manner in developing their presence." He felt that the seminars were about further raising the visibility of our art and supporting the Moo Do Values. He called it an "epic event in changing our art."

Russ Hanke, SBN (SAC member) saw it as a time of "bonding of student with Senior and Senior with Senior." To him the sessions were about going beyond the regular classroom and learning how to be creative with your knowledge and art. The basics are intended to start the process and then free us to be creative, but not limiting in our training.

Martinov, SBN saw the creation of the HKI as "a stroke of genius by Kwan Jang Nim in coming up with this connection of our roots and our history with the day-to-day membership of our organization." He saw our organization, like many others, facing "a potential living gap" or void as some of the people who represent our roots were becoming disassociated from our organization as it grows and changes. While that void is not at all uncommon, he sees the HKI as averting that loss by "becoming a bridge for the new generation and their roots" and, importantly, by being themselves. They are the living history of our art and the guardians of that history. He felt he

was "rich beyond belief due to the friendships" that Soo Bahk Do had brought him. He summed up all of our feelings when he said "I did not want to be anywhere else but here today."

Kwan Jang Nim Hwang, described the day as "a historical event of great value to our art" supporting the Five Moo Do Values. He sees the HKI continuing the structure and foundation that our Founder Hwang Kee laid down in his vision. He sees his role as demonstrating that vision and continuing to build and strengthen the foundation. The SAC's role is giving guidance to the Kwan Jang Nim; the HKI's role is preserving the connection and history of service; and the TAC's role is that of protecting the curriculum and integrity of instruction.

The current TAC members are the third generation, building upon the foundation laid down by their predecessors. The connection is critical. It is very important that we maintain that connection with awareness and historical documentation. As the Kwan Jang Nim Hwang shared with the Studio owners in his session with them, "The day is about Vision in Action and, by participating, we are creating new history and you should congratulate yourselves for being here to help make history." As we make new history, we should not forget our past, but rather build upon it, strengthening that foundation so we can expand and build the impact of our art upon ourselves and others.

The day was a tremendous success; it touched many lives – some in teaching, others in learning, all in sharing. It started with a desire to "celebrate and appreciate the service of our Seniors" and became so much more through that action.

Read more great articles written by members or submit your own on the wiki: <http://soobahkdo.editime.com/ArticlesSubmittedByMembersOverview>

A Moo Duk Kwan First

by Phillip Bartolacci, SBN, TAC Chairman



It has been said, the greatest teacher is experience, and once again that has been proven to be true.

On Friday 08 September 2006, I had a tremendous opportunity to join Kwan Jang Nim Hwang, Arthur Pryor, Sa Bom Nim and William Johns, Sa Bom Nim on a special visit to see **Mr. Walter Okarah**, one of the Moo Duk Kwan's

most exemplary practitioners, when Kwan Jang Nim flew in to Region 4 and personally presented him with his Sa Dan certification and a new Ko Dan Ja belt.

Many members may not know Mr. Okahara as his ability to travel during his Soo Bahk Do career was extremely limited; however, his spirit and energy knew no boundaries.

Mr. Okahara was of



Japanese descent, born in Hawaii. He served our country proudly as a US Marine, and spent time in Korea during the Korean war. He loved this country and he loved the Moo Duk Kwan.

He began his journey to Ko Dan Ja at the age of 53, in 1986. Despite many debilitating health issues, most of which would keep a normal person house-bound, he trained several times a week, beginning his lessons with William Johns, Sa Bom, in Homestead, FL. After hurricane Andrew devastation, he continued training with Chuck Miley, Sa Bom. There were few students and even fewer prospects for new students. However, as is his character, he remained loyal to Johns, Sa Bom by saying, "I owe it to my Sa Bom Nim to keep the Moo Duk Kwan alive in Homestead."

Even after the Homestead studio closed he continued his training under David Tenedorio, Sa Bom, in Cutler Ridge, FL. He remained active in that dojang until just recently, when it became nearly impossible for him to attend the studio. Kwan Jang Nim observed that the existence of the Federation made it possible for this loyal and dedicated practitioner to continue his Moo Duk Kwan training even as the studios where he trained changed.

When serving as Regional Examiner for Region 4, and now as the Chairman of the TAC, I've had the honor of reading many essays written by candidates for Dan Classings and all that I have ever read from the Homestead or Cutler Ridge studios gave significant recognition and credit to Mr. Okahara for his contributions and support of the candidates in preparation for their Shim Sa. The accolades for Walter Okahara just flowed. He was that kind of person... Mu Sang in his presence, Yu Sang in his impact.

He touched many lives in Region 4 and not just physically, but spiritually. I recall his E Dan Shim Sa. In spite of crippling arthritis, he insisted on attempting the required twin foot jumping kick for Kyok Pa. Regardless of his physical limitations, he was not going to settle for demonstrating anything less than his best effort. His effort was legendary and he did successfully complete an alternate break.

Two years ago, at a Region 4 Shim Sa, many regional seniors gathered in the lobby, discussing the weekend's events when Mr. Okahara spotted us. Hardly able to walk, he came to us, and ceremoniously and humbly bowed to each of us in rank order. I was embarrassed. It should have been us going to him and initiating the bow, even though he was our Junior in rank. I regret that day more than most in my life.

We tried to find a way for Mr. Okahara to attend a portion of the Ko Dan Ja Shim Sa held in Mobile, January, 2006 and on behalf of the Region 4 leadership, I initiated conversations with Kwan Jang Nim about how we might do this. We talked, shared emails, and carried frank conversations to new levels for me. Kwan Jang Nim was rightfully concerned about protecting the integrity of the Ko Dan Ja rank, but not just for those who earned it through the renowned difficulty of the week, but for Mr. Okahara, if he was to

become a Ko Dan Ja. Kwan Jang Nim reminded me of the responsibility of making decisions based on the 'good for the Art; good for the Practitioner' model.

We did not reach a workable solution for the 2006 Ko Dan Ja, but we learned much about the philosophy so important to our Kwan Jang Nim and to the Founder.

In July 2006, Mr Okahara's health turned worse, and once again on behalf of the Regional leadership, I renewed discussions with Kwan Jang Nim regarding a way to for Mr. Okahara to achieve his Sa Dan rank. Again, Kwan Jang Nim gave us the opportunity to grow by exploring how we might initiate such a unique action. He spoke with me, Pryor, Sa Bom, the SAC and the entire TAC to

determine the best way to recognize Mr. Okahara's achievements and contributions.

Mr. Okahara modeled our Philosophy of Yong Gi in every action. He was the epitome of Discipline and Respect, showing us how he valued that at the Region 4 Shim Sa two years ago. His Technique was so much more than physical, it was spiritual. He transcended the body, and moved to the mind. His body couldn't work like the rest of us, but he taught us every day. We finally agreed that his extraordinary lifelong dedication to the education of the membership and his character and determination warranted an immediate personal visit by the Kwan Jang



Nim to his hospital room. We met at the hospital that Friday with Tenedorio, Sa Bom and Michael Ramirez, Sa Bom (both peers of Mr. Okahara). We entered his room, dressed in Do Bok. Kwan Jang Nim spoke of the legacy a man leaves behind. Mr. Okahara's family was there as well, and it was a moment that deserves to be recognized as truly human. Kwan Jang Nim read Mr. Okahara's Sa Dan certificate, presented it to him along with a Ko Dan Ja belt and in that moment Walter Okahara became the Moo Duk Kwan's most honored Sa Dan Master to date. It was our Art's highest moment of honoring our past and recognizing the contributions of such a dedicated member practitioner. Then William Johns, Sa Bom, Mr. Okahara's first instructor, wrapped his Ko Dan Ja belt around Master Okahara and asked him to carry it with him to his next home. Some smiled, some cried and all were deeply moved in this moment of our Five Moo Do Values converging in this room. Master Okahara was surrounded by his Kwan Jang Nim, his first instructor, his Seniors in the Region and his peers... this is our art's History. He was so honored that although he had proudly served in the US Marine Corps, he asked to be buried in his Moo Duk Kwan dobok, and requested that Federation members attending his funeral wear their dobok as well. This is how special the Moo Duk Kwan was to him, and how special he was to the Moo Duk Kwan. Sadly, he passed away Monday, 11 September, surrounded by his family and close friends and although that was the last time we saw him, Master Walter Okahara lives on in the many hearts he touched and in the Moo Duk Kwan's unique history as his exemplary energy shaped it.



A Nationals like No Other

August 23-25, 2007

2007 National Soo Bahk Do® Festival and Championships
 Town And Country Resort, San Diego, Ca
<http://soobahkdo.editme.com/NationalChampionships2007>

Top Five Reasons To Attend The 2007 National Festival:

The 2007 National Festival and Championships is unlike any nationals in the Federation's history due to the convergence of several unique events:

1. **Kwan Jang Nim H.C. Hwang's 60th Birthday celebration:** A special VIP dinner with Kwan Jang Nim will be held on Thursday August 23rd to kick off the weekend festivities. His formal birthday celebration and demonstrations will occur on Saturday August 25th as the culmination of the 2007 National Festival and Championships.
2. **The 2nd Guardians of The Art Seminar Series and TAC Seminars:** The most senior and talented practitioners in the U.S. Federation will be presenting more than 50 seminars on Friday August 24th in more than 40,000 square feet of training space. Specially designed seminars will be available for Gup youth, Gup adults, Dan youth, Dan adults, Ko Dan Ja, Jo Kyo, Kyo Sa, Sa Bom, PVT members, Studio Owners, Regional Examiners, future instructors, future studio owners and more!
3. **Special 2007 National Festival Activities and Booths:** Exciting educational offerings will be available throughout the weekend and you will return home with a newfound understanding and appreciation for History, Tradition, Philosophy, Discipline/Respect and Technique and how you can better apply them all in your everyday life.
4. **The 2007 National Championships:** In the tradition of the Federation's early days, the Federation's National Competition will be held as a single day event on Saturday August 25th and will feature Gup, Dan, Ko Dan Ja and Team events. Saturday's festivities will culminate with the demonstration celebration portion of the Kwan Jang Nim's 60th Birthday and banquet.
5. **Kwan Jang Nim's Birthday Celebration Demonstrations and first ever public introduction of Hwa Sun Hyung:** On Saturday August 25th, the Kwan Jang Nim will be performing and re-introducing Hwa Sun Hyung during the demonstration portion of his birthday celebration. Hwa Sun Hyung was first introduced in the U.S. by Founder Hwang Kee at the 1982 National Championships in Atlantic City, NJ and was just taught to the SAC and Chil Dan candidates at the 2007 Ko Dan Ja Shim Sa in Ramona, Ca. Federation members who would like to celebrate the Kwan Jang Nim's birthday by demonstrating along with him are invited to apply for one of the limited performance time slots that are available.

Read the latest updates about the National Festival Seminars and Championships on the wiki: <http://soobahkdo.editme.com/NationalChampionships2007>

U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®

Mail:

United States Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation
PO Box 154
Springfield, NJ 07081
United States of America

Phone:

Headquarters:(973)467-3971/(888) SOO-BAHK (766-2245)
Fax:(973) 467-5716

Email:

Board of Directors Chair - BoardChair@soobahkdo.com
TAC Chairman - TACChair@soobahkdo.com
Headquarters - headquarters@soobahkdo.com

On-Line:

Web - <http://www.soobahkdo.com>
Wiki - <http://soobahkdo.editme.com>

Publication Statement

The Connection is the official publication of the U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®, also known as the U. S. Tang Soo Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®. All rights are reserved. Reproduction or other use without written consent is strictly forbidden by the copyright laws of the United States of America.

Soo Bahk Do®, Moo Duk Kwan®, associated logos and corporate names are registered trademarks and cannot be used without written permission of the U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®.

A Nationals Like No Other!

August 23-25, 2007

Top Five Reasons To Attend the 2007 National Festival and Championships:

see page 7 inside for details

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #10
SPRINGFIELD NJ

U.S. Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation®
P.O. Box 154
Springfield, NJ 07081

