

MAY 5, 2012

BLACK BELT NEWS



LINK'S MARTIAL ARTS BLACK BELT GRADUATION

Black Belt Quote

"Gold medals aren't really made of gold. They are made of sweat, determination and a hard to find alloy called guts." Dan Gable

LMA Black Belts

Junior Black Belts

Mr. Matt Luft

Miss Alex Dankert

Miss Lauren Skell

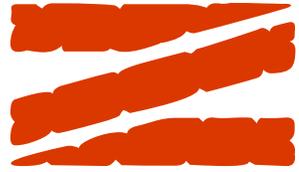


**Link's
Martial
Arts**

"Where
Families
Strive for
Excellence"

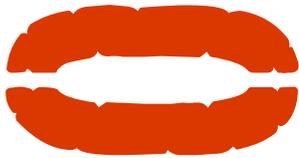
MAY 5

Graduation Program



LMA ELITE TEAM - Youth Members

Dannylin Link - Tiger Poomse
Lauren Skell - Sai Kihon Shodan
Patrick Harvancik - Bo Kihon Shodan
Georgia Krukar - Pal Gwe O Chang

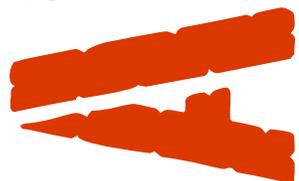


Introduction of Candidates - Presenting Pal Gwe 1,5,7 Chain

Mr. Matt Luft,
Miss Alex Dankert,
Miss Lauren Skell



Creative Partner Set - Miss Lauren Skell partner Daniel Monty



Personal Form -Miss Alex Dankert

Bo Kihon / Shodan Chain - All Candidates



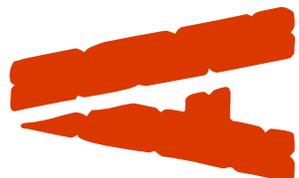
Creative Partner Set - Mr. Matt Luft partner Daniel Monty

Personal Form -Miss Lauren Skell



Creative Partner Set - Miss Alex Dankert partner Natalie Dankert

Combinations - All Candidates



Personal Form - Mr. Matt Luft

Board Breaking - All Candidates



Presentation of Advanced Rank



MATT LUFT

Matt Luft

Age: 14

Began Training at LMA

September 10, 2007

Junior Black Belt

May 5, 2012



Accomplished Martial Artist

Black Belt Club Member

Level 3 Kobudo Student

KICK State Champion

2010 LMA Student of the Year



Thanks and

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my mom and dad, grandpa and grandma, and my grammy for supporting me through my journey. I would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Link for teaching me and helping me correct what I needed to be correct. I would also like to thank the Monty's for helping me learn and helping me with my forms.



Words of Guidance to Help Others on Their Journey to Black Belt

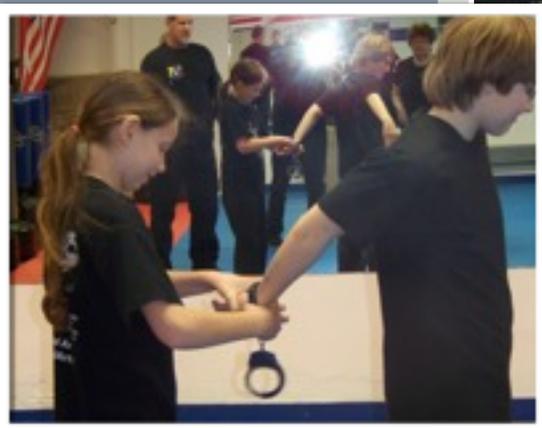
Well, a few words of guidance would have to be; dedication, persistence, and work hard. Dedication because when you are dedicated you learn more, but without dedication you just go through the motions and you don't learn anything. Persistence because without persistence you could be there one week, learn something, then come back maybe a month later and forget everything you have learned that week you were there.

Obstacles I Have Faced On My Journey to Black Belt

I have faced many obstacles during my journey to black belt. One obstacle was all of the other sports I am in. Another obstacle was when my grammy passed away. Also, we had to put down our family's 13-year-old dog, Kovu, who I have lived with all my life.



2010
Link's Martial Arts
Student of the Year!



Memorable Moments Training at Link's Martial Arts

One memorable moment at Link's Martial Arts would definitely be the birthday spankings. Another thing would be when I was a triple-crown state champion in KICK. Also, I will remember my weapons classes when I got to use sai.

My Future Goals at Link's Martial Arts

Someday I hope to become an adult black belt and possibly begin to get my degrees. For now, I want to focus on my school work and school sports. I want to keep my grades up so I can get scholarships and go to college to become an engineer. Also, after what my family has been through this year, I would like to spend more quality time with my family, cousins, grandparents, etc... I've seen previous Link's members return and I hope to be one of those someday and continue my learning.

How the Martial Arts Has Changed My Life

Martial Arts has given me more focus and patience. It has also given me more restraint, and knowledge on how to protect myself and others. Also, I now put more thought into what I do and how it affects others.

Memorable Moments Training at Link's Martial Arts

My first memorable moment was training for Disney in 2005. It was a lot of work and I was only 6 at the time, but we had a lot of fun and I made a lot of new friends. I was really excited about learning how to use the bo. It took me a minute to do it without hitting myself a lot, but I have improved a lot – not so many bruises now. Masters weekend, when I learned Tessenjutsu, was also a lot of fun. My Grandma bought me and my sister pretty fans to use. We created forms with Mrs. Link and Mrs. Wickland to use at tournaments. I had a great time working with Mook when she was here and I miss her a lot. Just recently, Mr. Skell taught me how to flip my sister without killing her. She may get hurt, but she'll live, because that's how we Dankert's roll.

Words of Guidance to Help Others on Their Journey to Black Belt

The most important thing is to never give up. If you do, all you will be doing is letting yourself down. Do your best, have fun and it will pay off if you stick with it. Just remember what Master Link says "Come to have fun, learn something new and give your best effort" and you will do great.

Words of Guidance for other Students

If you enjoy the martial arts, stick with it. Never let anyone tell you can't do something, if they do tell you that prove them that you can. Always do the best that you can. You're not always going to win at everything, but always try your best.



A strong foundation in the martial arts brings balance to life. It is through the balance of martial arts training that allows students to excel in all areas of life. When your foundation is neglected life moves out of balance and it becomes difficult to meet daily responsibilities.

Alexandria Dankert

Age: 13

Began Training at LMA in 2004 - Suffered an injury in a 4 wheeler accident.

However, She returned to training in February 2005

Junior Black Belt

May 5, 2012

Accomplished Martial Artist

Black Belt Club Member

Level 2 Kobudo Student

KICK State Champion

Demo Team Member

2005 Disney Team Member

Thanks and Acknowledgements

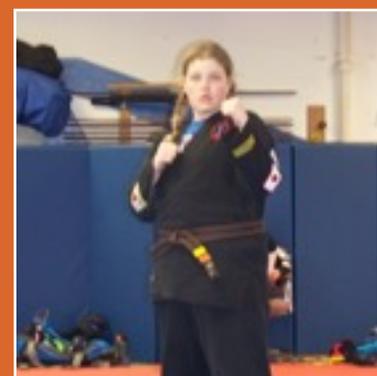
I want to thank my Mom and Dad for supporting me throughout my years at LMA and my Mom and Grandma for practicing with me

with all of my material that I had to learn. My sister is also a big part of my success, because she is my partner and practices with me. My Dad also made sure that all of my created forms looked right. I especially want to thank Master and Mrs. Link for being patient with me and knowing how far to push me through all of my injuries.

My Future Goals at Link's Martial Arts

My next goal is to be in the adult class with my Mom and Grandma and get my First Degree Black Belt. I would like to get as many degrees as I can and also become an instructor when I get older. I will work very hard to achieve these goals.

ALEX DANKERT



ALEX DANKERT
How the Martial Arts Has
Changed My Life

Martial Arts has taught me how to be confident that I can defend myself and stand up in front of a crowd and present a form. I also learned how to focus when lots of things are going on around me and to be patient when my sister Natalie is annoying me.

Obstacles I have Faced on My
Journey to Black Belt

Injury was my biggest obstacle. The first year that I joined I shattered my spleen which took a while to heal. On my partner sets test, my sister and I were both broken and that was just a month ago. My family and I have been broken a lot in all the years that I have been at LMA, but we have worked through it – Thanks to Master and Mrs. Link and my family. It took me seven years, but I made it.



Black Belt - The combination of all colors; mastery, calmness, dignity and sincerity. Final stage of one's life cycle and the beginning of the next.

LAUREN SKELL
Memorable Moments
at Links Martial Arts

In Black Belt Club once, we were working with wood knives and my dad was in the middle. As a drill we were seeing how many strikes we could get in in a minute. When it was my turn I was about half way through the time when I struck my dad in the face harder than I meant to and the knife sent his glasses flying and he had a red mark on his face for a week.

Future Goals at Link's
Martial Arts

One of my future goals is to be in martial arts as long as I possibly can. My second goal is to become a fourth degree black belt at least. Also I want to keep learning new things at karate so I can become the best.

Obstacles I have faced
on my journey to black
belt

Some obstacles I have faced were a few broken or jammed fingers, a jaw injury. None of them have held me back for long. I love the martial arts and I plan to do it forever.



“Ever since I was a child, I have had this instinctive urge for expansion and growth. To me the function and duty of a quality human being is the sincere and honest development of one's potential.”

Bruce Lee



Act as if what you do makes a difference,
It Does!”

LAUREN SKELL



Lauren Skell Age 11
Began Training at LMA
February 16, 2008

Junior Black Belt
May 5, 2012

Accomplished Martial Artist

Black Belt Club Member
Level 2 Kobudo Student
2012 ELITE Team Member
KICK National Team Champion
KICK State & National Champion
Finalist for walk on Movie Role
2009 & 2010 Disney Team member

Thanks and Acknowledgements

Thank you to all of my friends and Family for being there since I started the martial arts. Thank you to



Master Link and Mrs. Link for teaching me martial arts because without them I would never have gotten this far. Thanks to Daniel Monty for being my partner and for helping me. Thanks to the other candidates. Thank you to anyone else that I did not mention that helped me.

How Martial Arts changed my Life

The martial arts has changed my life because it taught me to never give up. Also that if I work hard enough at something I will achieve it.



KICK NATIONAL
TEAM CHAMPION

BLACK BELT QUALITIES FOR A LIFE TIME OF SUCCESS

UPCOMING LMA OPPORTUNITIES

Mark your Calendars

ELITE TEAM Training, Demonstrations & Competition

New Training Schedule begins in June & includes more opportunities for individual lesson training, quality curriculum instruction, & family interaction

Master Link's Birthday Event
8 Hour Seminar Day Camp
July 15 - Open to all students

Douglas Grose Memorial
Tournament Aug. 11
Peoria, IL

BIG FOOT ZIP LINE EVENT
Wisconsin Dells Oct. 19

Annual LMA DISNEY EVENT
Tournament Nov. 2 & 3
All School Trip

LINK FAMILY GRADUATION
Dannylin Link Candidate
First Degree "Il Dan Nim"

Tammylin Link Candidate
Master Fifth Degree "O Dan Nim"

Daniel Link Candidate
Sixth Degree "Yook Dan Nim"

- New ELITE Team Members -
Work Hard and show you are
ready to be an ELITE Team
member

Annual LMA Honor Awards
2012 Banquet - December 15

Be prepared for the Fun and
Excitement of Training at
Link's Martial Arts!

"Life is a gift, and it offers us the privilege, opportunity, and responsibility to give something back by becoming more."



8 HOUR WORKOUT
LMA Students help the Candidates
meet their sparring requirements.

LMA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

LMA ELITE Team
Individual Training Program
Competition Opportunities
Annual LMA Disney Trip

**"Take the Ordinary
and Make it
Extraordinary"**

Black Belt Club
LMA Kobudo Training
Instructor Training
Seminars
LMA Honor Awards
Jui Jitsu Class