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The newsletter will be distributed monthly, so please have articles, photos, and/or ideas to me by the first of the month.

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Burien Martial Arts Champ Stays on Top

By Gregg P.J. Jorgenson (12/30/2011) of The Highline Times

Most martial arts champions enter a short stay in the winner's circle. Time, tough opponents, and injuries each take their toll, and anytime they do have in the limelight is usually hard fought and harder still to hold.

However, Sgt. Don Gulla of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center in Burien has managed to hold onto his championship status for well over three decades and counting.

Since 1985, the 53-year-old King county deputy has won five gold medals in the World Police and Fire Games in Karate with his most recent win coming in this year's International games held in New York City.

In his teens he was a Junior Olympic gold medal winner in Judo, and in between then and this latest Karate gold, he has also managed to squeeze in regional championship titles in Tae Kwon Do, Filipino Arnis Stick fighting, and Kung Fu.

True to form Gulla is humble about his many career wins and plays down his tournament success.

"I've done okay," he says.

However, those who know him best will tell you that 'okay' doesn't really sum it up his marital arts abilities and will tout his talent and staggering record of wins in more laudatory terms.

"Don is one of the best martial artists and coaches I've ever seen," said Commander Gabe Russell of Department of Homeland Security's Federal Protective Police, one of Gulla's sparring partners who helped him train for this year's international games.

"He's not just talented. He's focused and dedicated, which shows in the time and considerable effort he puts into his training. I think the gold medals just reflect that degree of dedication."

Having spent the last 10 years studying with Gulla the 20-year law enforcement veteran will tell you that the King County sergeant's proficiency and achievements are nothing short of remarkable.

Master John Chamkunthod, the former Light Heavyweight Muay Thai Champion of Thailand and now a major figure in the Pacific Northwest martial arts community, agrees.

"To get to the championships in the martial arts you have to be a gifted fighter. To stay there, you have to have that special something," the Des Moines resident said. "Don has it. He is a very gifted fighter. He is awesome!"

When he is not in the Dojo or competing the 27-year veteran King County deputy, serves as a Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator at the Criminal Justice Training Center. Gulla is also a former SWAT team member with 500 missions under his gun belt, a Master Defensive Tactics Instructor, and is the founder of the police based mixed martial art called Arrestling.

His previous four gold medals came in the World Police and Fire Games in San Jose, California, Vancouver, British Columbia, Melbourne, Australia, and Stockholm, Sweden.



WSCJTC Child Abuse Program Update

By Patti Toth, Program Manager—Child Abuse Training

Child Abuse Investigation and Interviewing Course (#5357)

In Fiscal Year 2011, WSCJTC's Child Abuse Investigation and Interviewing class was significantly revised and expanded. The class now lasts a full week, and includes pre-class reading assignments, a quiz at the beginning of the class, and a written closed-book essay test on interviewing concepts. Attendees must also conduct two full practice interviews with actors who portray children in suspected abuse scenarios. The class covers changes that have been made in WA State's Child Interview Guide with regard to stages of an interview, 'ground rules,' and truth-lie discussions. The expanded class has been very well-received and has been full with a waiting list each time it's been offered.

There are only two more classes taking place in Fiscal Year 2012. These are likely to be the last ones the WSCJTC will be able to offer at no charge. They are taking place in Richland from March 26-30, 2012, and in Burien at the WSCJTC from May 21-25, 2012.

Any questions about the class can be directed to WSCJTC Program Manager Patti Toth at ptho@cjtc.state.wa.us.

Registration information can be found at:

https://fortress.wa.gov/cjtc/www/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=107&Itemid=10.

Child Interviewing Refresher Classes

Child Interviewing Refresher classes were held five times in 2011. These day-long classes were meant to provide updates and review for people who have previously attended WSCJTC's Child Abuse Investigation and Interviewing classes in the last 14 years. One took place during the May 2011 WA State Children's Justice Conference in Seattle. The other four classes were sponsored by local agencies:

- April 2011: Colfax, sponsored by Whitman County SO
- September 2011: Spokane, sponsored by Spokane PD and Spokane SO
- November 2011: Tumwater, sponsored by Monarch Children's Justice and Advocacy Center
- December 2011: Bellingham, sponsored by Brigid Collins Family Support Center

Program Manager Patti Toth taught at each of these. If you are interested in hosting and sponsoring a future Child Interviewing Refresher class, please contact Patti directly.

Fulbright Scholar Visits the WSCJTC

Miho Nagato, a visiting Fulbright Scholar from Japan, visited the WSCJTC and attended the week-long Child Abuse and Investigation class held in Burien during August 2011. Ms. Nagato is an author and journalist who has been working at the School of Social Work of the University of Washington on a book about the child protection system in the United States.

Impressed with the quality and content of the WSCJTC's child interview training, Ms. Nagato has since published an article in Japan describing the class and what she learned.



Left to right: WSCJTC ATU Manager Tony Anderman, WSCJTC Assistant Director Steve Lettic, and Fulbright Scholar Miho Nagato

Message from Interim Executive Director Mealy

I just wanted to take the opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. As we come to the end of 2011 and begin 2012, it is important to look back and be proud of all that we have accomplished this past year. Most of those accomplishments could not have occurred without such amazing staff, dedicated commissioners, and invested stakeholders.

Just this week we went live with a customer service survey. Please take a few moments out of your busy schedule to respond and give us feedback in regards to how you think we are doing and if there is anything that we could do to make the partnership between the WSCJTC and our stakeholders, you, stronger. In case you have not seen the survey, the link is: http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=dxBRexkgxqDeNUYmkMwrh07VStUpRO2rL7mkpHWtl_2bw_3d.

The 2012 legislative session will convene on January 9. It should be an eventful session, where much discussion will likely revolve around how criminal justice training is funded in the future. We will be engaged throughout the process and will work with the Governor's Office and legislators to help find a resolution during difficult economic times. As always, I will keep you updated as we move forward.

Once again, thank you again for all your support and help this past year. Here is to an amazing year!

32nd Annual Husky Food Drive

By Officer Van Leuven, University of Washington PD

2011: \$14,046.23 and 265 lbs. food collected!



On Saturday, October 15 Husky Food Drive volunteers and supporters turned out in droves to support the 32nd year of UW Police helping Northwest Harvest feed local families.

The WSCJTC's Basic Law Enforcement Academy Class #676 creamed BLEA Class #669 who raised \$11,910 and 714 lbs. of food in 2010! 2010 was the first year WSCJTC helped, and we hope you come back every year---you are outstanding examples of officers in training. Also for the first time, we welcomed the WSCJTC's BLEA Commander, John Suessman, who came out to see what all the fuss was about! We were honored and thank you for your support!

Special thanks go to BLEA TAC Officer Nowacki and BLEA Class #676 Recruit Mortensen for being team coordinators.

Next year, Husky Football will operate out of CenturyLink Field (formerly Qwest Field).

Thank you for representing your organizations & the Husky Food Drive with the utmost professionalism, with sincere philanthropic energy and great attitudes. You were all very well received by the University community & Husky fans. Hope to see you next year!

BLEA Class 677 Class Project

As part of their community project, Class 677 supported the annual U.S. Marine Corps 2011 Toys 4 Tots holiday toy drive. During the campaign, the U.S. Marine Corps collected over 25,000 new, unwrapped toys donated during 22 collection events held in the local area. They also accepted donations at over 300 collection sites at local businesses.

The toys were then housed in a warehouse in Normandy Park where Class 677 sorted over 7,000 of them by age and gender, packaged them, and then loaded them onto trucks for transport and distribution to children throughout King County. The selfless efforts of Class 677 contributed to over 19,000 less fortunate children receiving a toy for Christmas.



January

1: Phuong-Nhi Nguyen

5: Darlene Tangedahl

13: Brian Dixon

14: Rachele Heinzen

19: Raphael Park

26: Steve Grossfeld

February

6: Ron Napenias

28: Marylou Lalonde

28: Todd Brophy

2012 POLAR PLUNGE

The 2012 Polar Plunge benefiting the Law Enforcement Torch Run/Special Olympics will be held on **Saturday, February 11, 2012**, at South Lake Union in Seattle. The goal is to entice 500 law enforcement professionals from throughout the region to take the plunge. This is a great opportunity to get your folks and their families together for a fun activity that will highlight law enforcement in a very positive light, and, more important, benefit those great athletes who represent Special Olympics. For more information, please go to: www.specialolympicswashinoton.com/polarplunge

The law enforcement profession is going through an interesting time with budget cuts, etc. On occasion, there are recruits facing a layoff while in the academy or upon graduation; therefore, the WSCJTC would like to establish a list of agencies who want to be contacted when this occurs. In addition, Sonja Hirsch is occasionally contacted by peace officers who did not make probation or, upon leaving the Academy, feel their agency is not a good fit for them. These officers and deputies may be a good fit with your agency, so please let us know if you are interested in being notified in these instances.

Commander Suessman: 206/835-7289 and Sonja Hirsch: 206/835-7372



Phuong

New Faces in Information Technology

By Joel Gavino, IT Manager

Phuong-Nhi Nguyen

I am the youngest of seven children. Most of my immediate family lives in Olympia. I was raised in Olympia, but born in Vietnam.

I attended Olympia High School and then South Puget Sound Community College where I earned a degree in Desktop Support in Applied Science. I was also an IT intern at Department of Health, which I did to complete my degree.

Family is most important to me so I like to spend most of my time with them. I love playing video and PC games, my favorite is Sims 3. I also like taking walks and riding bikes with friends. My most favorite activities, though, are trying culturally different foods and

watching horror movies.

I had a great experience and enjoyed being an intern at DOH and hope to feel the same way at WSCJTC.

Vadim Tarasov

I first moved to New York when I was seven years old from Russia and within two years our family moved to the state of Washington where we first purchased our house in Renton. We later moved to the Kirkland/Bothell area where I attended Cedar Park Christian School. My hobbies include basketball, football, bodybuilding, and programming.

I started working at the WSCJTC as a work study in late July 2011 and have the privilege of working with Joel, Ron, and Phuong as my co-workers/team.

My current position at the WSCJTC involves me working with servers, applications, WSCJTC website, and maintaining the databases. I've always been interested in computers ever since I can remember and currently I'm in progress of getting my bachelors in Computer Science.

So far I've worked on various projects, my most recent one includes the Adobe Connect which is our E-learning system used to host virtual classrooms. We just finished upgrading the software so it should be faster and more reliable. Most of my time goes to maintaining our databases and working on improving the WSCJTC website. I enjoy working with all the staff here and love coming into work!



Vadim

TRAINING CALENDAR

January

- 11-13:** 0738-2 Telecommunicator IV: Survival Communications @WSCJTC
- 16-4/28:** First Level Supervision (online)
- 17-20:** 0739-2 CTO: Communications Training Officer @WSCJTC
- 18:** BLEA Selection for 681 (starts 2/14/12)
*Must have 30 applicants registered
- 23:** COA 419/1000-7 and JCOA 1049-2 Start
- 23-27:** First Level Supervision @WSCJTC
- 23-27:** CIT-King Co. 40-hour Basic @WSCJTC
- 24:** Equivalency Academy Starts
- 24:** CIT-King Co. In-Service @WSCJTC
- 27:** Leadership Under Fire (more info on page 6)
- 30-2/3:** Middle Management @WSCJTC
- 30-2/3:** Instructor Development @Everett

February

- 6-10:** CIT-King Co. 40-hour Basic @WSCJTC
- 6-10:** 0725-4: Telecommunicator I: Basic Call Taker @Port Angeles
- 8:** CIT-King Co. In-Service @WSCJTC
- 13-17:** 2001-5: Instructor Development (for Telecommunicators) @WSCJTC
- 13-17:** Instructor Development @WSCJTC
- 16-17:** 0744-2 ACTO: Advanced Communication Training Officer @WSCJTC
- 22-24:** 0743A-2: Communications Center Supervisor Mod A @WSCJTC
- 27-29:** 0752-2 CTO II: Communications Training Officer II (Second Pilot)—Introduction to the WA-COMM designed adult training model for telecommunicators @WSCJTC
- 27-29:** Situational Leadership

CONGRATULATIONS!

Leanna Bidinger, Regional Training Manager, graduated from Kaplan University in December with a Bachelor's in Management and Business Administration (double major).

She said that it was a challenge to work full-time at the WSCJTC, commute a minimum of one hour each way to work every day, keep her marriage alive (her husband is also a full-time college student who works full-time and will graduate in May), and juggle two little boys who are now five and seven and have homework of their own. She added that it took her three years and it was definitely challenging, but worth the effort.



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Command College and Executive Training Day

The 25th Northwest Law Enforcement Command College will be held from March 4-8 at the Skagit Valle Resort in Bow, WA. The WSCJTC puts this leadership event on each year in partnership with the FBI. Registration will be closing on February 1, and space is limited, so please register as soon as possible. Please click on this link to be directed to our training page for registration information and cost structure

http://www.cjtc.state.wa.us/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=232&Itemid=10 .

The Executive Training Day is always the last day of Command College. This is when we invite all past Command College attendees to come back for a day of training and networking and to participate in the graduation dinner and ceremony. This year the Executive Training Day is on Thursday, March 8. Registration for this day will also close on February 1, and space is limited. For registration and cost structure please click here to be directed to our training page

http://www.cjtc.state.wa.us/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=233&Itemid=10 .

If you have questions about either the Command College or the Executive Training Day you can contact the Program Manager Leanna Bidingger at lbidingger@cjtc.state.wa.us or Registrar Sacheie Coaxum at scoaxum@cjtc.state.wa.us.

Basic Law Enforcement Academy Update

By Lieutenant Rachelle Heinzen, Assistant Commander

TAC Officer Mark Best Returns!

On January 3, 2012, Officer Mark Best of the Tacoma Police Department returned to the Basic Law Enforcement Academy as a TAC Officer. Officer Best had been assigned as a TAC Officer at BLEA from 2006-2010 and taught Crisis and Traffic. He returned to Tacoma last year.

Officer Best has worked for the Tacoma Police Department since 1994. Prior to working for Tacoma, Officer Best worked for Sumner PD and was a Reserve Officer for Orting PD. Officer Best has experience in many different areas of patrol, investigations, and training. We are excited to welcome Officer Best back to BLEA. He will be teaching Criminal Procedures and helping with other core blocks as necessary.

Welcome back Officer Best, we are happy to have you back on board!



BLEA Challenge Run

The Challenge Run is a series of runs on Mondays and Wednesday evening that begin at 16:35 hours. The purpose is to get together as a group to begin working on building cardio-vascular strength and endurance. The runs also build team work and give recruits and an opportunity to relieve stress.

During the final week of the Academy there will be a final Challenge Run, which is approximately 5.5 miles in length. This will be run on the morning of the final day of mock scenes.

If a recruit participates in 15 of these runs in the 19-week academy, and they complete the Challenge Run, they qualify for a BLEA Class Brick. There is no charge for this extra-curricular activity, and recruits are required to keep track of their own participation.

Recruits may substitute 10 morning PT sessions for five evening runs. Thus a recruit would qualify for a brick with 10 morning PT sessions, 10 evening runs, and a final 5.5 mile challenge run **OR** recruits may run 15 evening runs and a final 5.5 mile challenge run.

Challenge Runs are done as a group event with participation from TAC Officers, and WSCJTC Staff. The group stays together during the final run and carries their Class Guidon.



Special thanks to BLEA Class 677 and TAC Deputy Rebecca Lewis for their participation and support in getting this program started!

Leadership Under Fire Training

The WSCJTC is offering a unique and **FREE** training opportunity the last week in January. We have partnered with Dr. Dale Henry an interactive and engaging speaker who uses humor and life situations to keep his audiences engaged. Author of two bestselling books he speaks to and trains over 250,000 individuals a year and presented over 3,000 programs for everyone from Harvard to Wal-Mart. FBI Director Robert Mueller says, "Dr. Henry is a regular favorite and the constantly highest ranking speaker by our people, if he is not presenting at one of our programs, everyone asks when he is coming back." Don't miss out on Leadership Under Fire. The officers in your department will grow and help those grow around them.

Dr. Henry will be making a tour through Washington State with the help of the WSCJTC and the Thurston County Sheriff's Office, Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Anacortes Police Department, and Chelan County Sheriff's Office. Please see our training page for details regarding dates, times, and locations. The tour wraps up at WSCJTC on Friday, January 27. Seats are limited in all locations, so please register today. This is a great opportunity for quality leadership training, it is completely free, and these six hours count toward electives for Career Level Certification and the required annual 24 hours of in-service training.

If you have questions about the Leadership Under Fire series, please contact the hosting location or WSCJTC Program Manager Leanna Bidinger at lbidinger@cjtc.state.wa.us.