

AMERICAN KARATE-DO SHOTOKAI

April 2017 Announcement



Special Announcement from AKDS...

Dear Karateka,

Last year was an eventful one with great courses at BYU and the Greenwald Dojo! Both Simon Prince and Jared Greenwald trained in Europe last year, and will be passing on their knowledge at upcoming courses. In addition, Jarom Jackson and his wife Amber, Andy Thompson and I all attended KDS Winter School in Wales, celebrating Sensei's 88th birthday with over 140 karateka from around the world!

I was honored to stay at Harada Sensei's home for a week – learning from the master, and practicing in his dojo with expert karateka. To receive my fifth Dan from Harada Sensei and the 5th Dan Technical Executive was an unexpected honor for which I will be ever grateful.

As we begin a new year of practice, I'd like to share two ideas: (1) Training is hard. I heard this more times than I can count while in Wales. What we get out of something is directly dependent on what we put into it. (2) Make your karate your own. The focus required to work within the laws that govern movement while simultaneously striving to find your own karate is intense, but improved mental effort during each practice exercise will benefit us all.

Lastly, we want to thank Dustin Passey for his excellent service in the AKDS Presidency, and welcome Jared Greenwald as the new Vice-President of AKDS! We look forward to Jared's service

and also to practicing with Dustin again when his life situation is less hectic. We also welcome Stanislav Ponomarev as our new website administrator and thank him for hundreds of hours of work behind the scenes on our new site which about to go live!

I am very proud of what our organization has become and can say with confidence that the belt grades each of you have earned are well deserved and absolutely on par with any other KDS karateka in the world. Here's to a great 2017!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Crook, 5th Dan, President AKDS



Sensei explains the finer points of KDS practice

(L to R: Andy Thompson, Mitsuake Harada Sensei, Jarom Jackson)



Jeremy Crook becomes the first 5th dan in the USA

(L to R: Roy Margetts, Jeremy Crook, Mitsuake Harada Sensei, Marie Kellett, Mark Hallam)



Jared Greenwald

(New Vice-President of AKDS)