

TINO CEBERANO

IGK

Tino Ceberano- the name is synonymous with Martial Arts in Australia, especially Goju Karate. He is indeed known and respected in many countries and is back in Australia. Tino has been absent from these shores with work in the Phillipines for a few years and is making up for that time away by working with Instructors around the nation.

Yes the **Legend Returns** to create an even bigger impact upon the martial arts industry sharing new ideas and educational methods. Many would consider Tino as the Father of Goju Karate in Australia with his enormous contributions, dedication and innovative development and expansion of the art. "After 50 years in the industry he still looks and performs like a highly skilled instructor half his age"
The publisher's views after attending a recent Melbourne seminar with him.

The Ceberano family could be said to have been born with talent in many areas and continued to develop it over their lifetime. Music, TV, Movies, Publications, Teaching, Corporate and Government enterprises the Ceberanos have done it all and still are.

There is one element that the whole family have been involved in, you guessed it, martial arts. While Kate and Philip have specialised in the entertainment industry, Paul the eldest of Tino's three children, has pursued the martial arts to become a highly respected and experienced teacher. Paul, like all Ceberanos, doesn't follow in anyone's foot steps, including his father's. He has been paving his own way in amassing a huge following in the martial arts.

*Look out for an indepth interview with Paul next issue.
Kyoshi Tino Ceberano interview next pages...*



IMA When did you start your training Tino and what motivated you to do so?

In reference to my start in training as a martial artist, I can very well put it to my father's influence of when I was very young as with our entire family in the village where we came from in the island of Kauai in Hawaii. That of course began with our Filipino stick fighting and boxing as with the introduction of knife fighting. In was in 1951 in the local Judo club that I got my first training in the Japanese arts and in the 1956 during my teens that I started Kempo. Necessity was more of our motive in doing it as most local boys of Hawaii when we did our training as the norm of scuffles came naturally with multicultural existence. I believe though that it was an imposed cultural heritage that we locals did what we did as we grew into it rather than having personal choices.

IMA Are there any training methods from your early years that you still adopt in your regime today?

Yes there is and as many have experienced my very nature of movements with foot work and perhaps evasive movements that I recommend as practice standard in exercise of dexterity. I also have adopted by what was influence of my father's training when I was young and that is the resistance-training aide from the rubber cords. This is a standard practice that I have had for many years and successfully proven the results to be exceptional for cardio threshold development and improving skills of speed.

IMA What are the main changes in your training today as opposed to your earlier study?

The science, realistic training, the improved standards and the safety code of which not only improved skills, but have now sustained continued study without the dangers of injury and perhaps permanent disability that stopped many practitioners from past to pursue their careers in training.



IMA What sort of impact do you think the martial arts has had on the general public and how do you believe it is perceived now compared to 10 years ago?

This past generation of ten years has been interesting and very progressive indeed. The public has seen the extremes of one sort and another not naming the exact disciplines but for reasons of heightened improvement of promoting the arts and giving choice presentations to the lay person it has been an era of marketable expansion. In

aspects of what distinct traditional arts are about and how it stands as still a formidable practice, the converts are coming out of the woodwork now to re-establish connection to the source or even to those that exist with something to offer. The vast amount of eclectic styles or contemporary practice now exposes the short lived existence in that those new clients and the old that have remained will excel in the mainstay of learning the 'Art' rather than the ten easy lessons of how to get there and then be dumped for some other scheme. Education to this is now prevalent in the promotions and extended marketing of proper academies.

IMA In your opinion do students prefer the really hard physical conditioning or do they want a mix of intellectual explanation and a little bit of sweat?

This new presentation of Martial Arts rest on who and what is taught. Physical conditioning can be enjoyed and most certainly imposed if brought on with a purpose and with the science of teaching.

People are now educated to physical education and the science of learning, more so with personal litigation and correct coaching as we will describe this presentation must now set precedent to what people choose as opposed to old style of training where blind fate has proven to many undermining the intelligence and desire of those dedicated.

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IMA *There has been a lot of talk about new qualification to be introduced in the industry what are your views on this?*

I subscribed to it as personally qualified in the accreditation of the new requirements to being a bonifide teacher and coach in our activities proper. Many would think otherwise and they would be free to accept or reject this prescription in teaching, however what has been the case of irregularity in the Industry's record of past performance on injuries and liable cases that today would bring dire circumstances on litigation, we must consider the proper way our industry are being set up for the purpose of proper conduct and ethical operations regardless of disciplines. We are working with young and old alike who know nothing about the dangers that we encounter daily in our training, unless trained and taught of these dangers that lurk and what it is that we must handle aside from our arts as taught then we stand grave chances of surviving the elements.

IMA *As many people will be aware in Victoria you do not require any qualification or accreditation or even a legitimate Black Belt grade to teach martial arts. Do you believe that all Martial Art Instructors should have some form of government recognized qualification/ accreditation before they should be let loose on the general public?*

In the industry of Chiropractics we use as an example of imposed professional indemnity, bodies handled are delicate and treated much as a doctor with personal training and skills that are regulated by means of the 'Establishment'. Like it or not this will come and the means of corrective training may be imposed, I would like to qualify that statement of—maybe imposed, those who have no legitimacy in their grading standards may certainly obtain assistance to this by means of special training that can come from qualified sources.(This is one area that I am now into and will be available to those desiring to acquire my assistance)The government cannot and will not interfere with this very delicate situation. This has been proven by the failure of the past situation of what I have experienced personally of our former Martial Arts Board in Vic. However the format of accreditation and the teaching

process to bring enhancement to one's knowledge in imparting skills is of the importance that we feel will set precedent in the future instructors capability.

IMA *Do you feel that some form of legislation or control board to govern the martial arts industry would be a good thing to keep out pedophiles, rapist and other predatorily people?*

This again is a matter that will be handled when all authorities of our establishments i.e. Government or designate agents will be able to correctively monitor what is a pre-requisite



Above three generations of Goju Karate Ka right to left Tino, Paul, Philip nd Paul's son infront.

of the licensed instructor. Here in the State of Queensland we who teach at schools and other public facilities are now being asked to present our qualifications as accredited instructors, our blue card for teaching young people, our police abstracts for clearances of any serious records, and our insurance coverage on indemnity and liability. That speaks for itself, when this is brought to all responsible instructors Australia wide with the proper credentials, this industry will hold its head up high in what will be a responsible and very contributing element to our communities for what we believe to be an objective that will once and for all show the quality of our standards.

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Other styles means interpretations of relative importance and it means also the evolution in science to better ones presentation. A word in the Japanese language is 'Okuden' see reference to Hanshi Pat McCarthy's elaboration on the study of Kata. I believe on relative importance of what works and how one learns this method to retain the study of real techniques. The 'Art in Martial Art' speaks for itself. Lets no longer dwell on fabrication and story telling, our training is to know and not what is indoctrinated into our psych discover false sense of security. Understanding is knowing.

IMA Do you feel that there is no need to cross train with other styles?

If we based our needs of yesteryear to what is of today, we will forever go on with the notion that we are warriors of the era that no longer exist but in story books. It is good for history but science has it that improvements brought conditions of superior quality and no how that surpassed our peers with respect to what I mentioned of the Shuhari as written.

IMA What is the key philosophy you teach in your martial art?

'Its not the style but the man'. This has been my philosophy and my stand in my career that has molded me into what I have become, what I am, and what will become of me to my last breath.

IMA Do you adhere to a set syllabus for teaching your students or is it just a rough guide?



Much as in having training modules, the progressive study and advancement to expanded material on one technique to another, yes, rudiments are there for the purpose of basic standard tech and that must be learnt thoroughly or otherwise it takes longer to undo the right from the wrong. Remember, that we learnt the ABCs because it was written up for progressive development to reach a standard of understanding before the next level was to be release to make progress easier and meaningful.

IMA Does you style compete in tournaments and if so how much of your classes is dedicated to this practice?

I have now left the decision to the instructors of each dojo in participating in competitions as in Shiai for reason that I see very little need for this activity unless it is the desire for students to undergo a different type of training that will concentrate and provide this type of activity. In my classes here at the head quarters I do not teach the competition style neither do I impose rules of non-participation. I do however put to students that it is my sad experience that the practice of Competition proves many irresponsible motives that are contradictory to the ideals of the Martial Art Way. The argument to this is valid in both for and against. I reserve this very right to disengage in this subject as to what is defense first, and attack be reserved only for the response to defending oneself. Politics have ruined many a good martial artist, it has destroyed relationship and families, it proves the worst in people's ego and greed, and most of all the winning edge that supposedly promotes motivation plus from within the rank and file to practitioner's incentive growth. The failure of teaching the essence of humility and understanding the person's ulterior motive to character development often proves this very area to be abusive and very unbecoming. That is what I can say of the sport, unless there is a definite change to attitudes and the likes of our code of ethics we will always prove unworthy of our standards. I can and will state my reasons at another time when privileged to speak in public on this matter.

IMA 'Thank you very much for your time today Kyoshi, there is so much more to cover and we will endeavour to cram it for next issue along with the article with your son Renshi Paul'.