

February 15 2008

This has been a year of many changes and accomplishments for taekwondo in Iowa.

Most noticeable change is ISU Karate club's move from its long time home in Beyer Hall to a new dojang in Forker.

The first ISU taekwondo tournament held in Forker was the 2007 Governor's cup last June. For this tournament, we also had a group of international competitors for the first time. They were from Tequila, Mexico and went home with a third place team trophy.

Another important change this year was the formation of the United States Taekwondo Federation.

At the organization meetings it was emphasized that **the purpose of USTF was to focus primarily on the martial arts aspects of Taekwondo. This is in contrast to the purpose of USAT, which is to focus on competition. USTF will also have competitions, but the vision is to focus on Hanmadang type events such as poomsae, self defense and breaking.**

Among the officers of USTF are some Pak Family members:

Master Anne Chase is a Vice President. Grand Master Yong Chin Pak is Secretary General and Dr. Master Irene Faass is a Deputy Secretary General.

In conjunction with the formation of USTF, GrandMaster Pak initiated the reforming of State of Iowa Taekwondo Association. The purpose of this organization is to promote amateur Taekwondo in the state of Iowa.

Another exciting accomplishment was the record-breaking number of blackbelts who tested last July. About 20 people tested for blackbelts. Including several for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> dan.

In closing, wanted to thank anyone here who taught at last Sept's SIBBA symposium. Many classes were offered for the first time and participants really seemed to be enjoying themselves.

It's been a pleasure to serve you this year.

Respectfully,  
Terry Fernando

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