



# BANDO



Greetings,

Hope all is well, and you are enjoying the summer days. As a friendly reminder, we are roughly three weeks away from the August 14th Military Stick Clinic/full contact exhibitions matches. As previously stated, the upcoming clinic's purpose is basically three-fold: 1. To return Bando group functions as COVID-19 eases up 2. To learn, refine or refresh of the functional drill sets 3. Not to forget the reason this organization was established; to honor our current and past veterans and our first responders/law enforcement personnel.

Saya Dave Peluchette, Sayaji Eugene Johnson and his son and I recently made a trip to Baltimore to see our great Grand Master, Dr. U Maung Gyi. He is happy to see any of us. He was in good spirits and his wisdom is always second to none whether it be mentally or physically. Dr. Gyi approved of the upcoming clinic, as well as the drills being instructed. We are sure to remember these drills were originally organized by Grand Master Bob Maxwell and instructed by Sayaji Al Cook and the late Sayaji Ron Meekins to the Jordanian Military and Police.

Place, time, and cost (\$35 members, \$60 nonmembers) are as stated in the previous announcement. Feel free to review the previous announcement for a reminder. The military stick should be approximately from your hip to the floor in length. If not current on your dues and if possible, I encourage all members to renew at the clinic. We plan to continue with the criteria of member benefits versus nonmembers. I would also like to add that Sayaji Kenny Corl will be attending and to my latest knowledge, he will be bringing various Bando merchandise to be purchased. The purchasing of any of the items will be an input to the ABA/NBAA organization. If anyone would like to obtain a new Black Belt Certificate, I will try to accommodate.

As a request per Dr. Gyi, himself, the following members have been promoted: Sayaji Mike Martin to the 9<sup>th</sup> Level of Achievement and Sayaji Dave Daniel to the 6<sup>th</sup> Level of Achievement. Sayaji Martin is a previous ABA President/Director in the early 1990's. He has spent the past 12 years living on the Thai-Burma border implementing his knowledge and skills to many organizations. Dr. Gyi told Sayaji Martin many years ago, "Bando is more than kicks and punches" and he has done a great job living by that. Sayaji Daniel has been a loyal member to our organization as he previously served as treasurer. We want to thank these guys for their hard work and dedication.

I would also like to recognize the members from Wheeling Bando that were recently promoted. First, Sayaji Buzz Evans (Naban Grappling Master) was promoted to the 8<sup>th</sup> Level. Sayaji Evans was recommended and approved by Dr. Gyi himself. To keep the criteria intact, he agreed to perform at the test by learning and doing the 12 Fighting Cane sets. He is a true Bando practitioner. Emel Vujonivcs was promoted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of achievement. Promoted to the 1<sup>st</sup> level of achievement was Dan Dimmick. Additionally, Philip Alig, Nick Sorkin, Samantha Fordyce, Dick Ferda, Greg Vasey, Brady Hupp and Madison Zoladz were promoted.

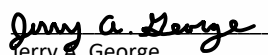
Sayaji Cordell Blackshere from Weirton Bando and Sayaji Dave Decker and Saya Brandon Brooks from Steubenville Bando were in attendance to assist in overseeing the promotions. We thank each of them for their time and effort into our system.

All the above that were promoted upheld the mantra of Wheeling Bando which is 1. Participate, 2. Practice and 3. Perform. If you say you can do it, we need to see it.

Do not hesitate to reach out if there are any questions about the clinic. You can contact me via email ([abanbaageorge@gmail.com](mailto:abanbaageorge@gmail.com) and/or [jageorge3@aol.com](mailto:jageorge3@aol.com)) or phone/text 304-231-8936.

Thank you and I look forward to getting together.

Respectfully,

  
Jerry A. George  
Current ABA/NBAA President

