



# Seagull Blackbelt Academy

## American Korean Tae Kwon Do Association

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August 26, 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

My name is Hieu Q. Vu, P.E, President Seagull Blackbelt Academy in Gladstone, Missouri, an organization of the American Korean Tae Kwon Do Association (AKTA). I began Tae Kwon Do (TKD) training with Grandmaster Choon S. Lee (9<sup>th</sup> Dan, President of AKTA) in 1992. The AKTA has produced more than 1,000 black belts of both genders and of all ages; and maintained a diversity of cultures, rich heritage of Master-ranked instructors, TKD Champions, Junior Olympic competitors, and outstanding martial artists. Due traveling requirement of my job, I left Choon Lee's Academy for a long while then returned to training during the past few years. Before training with Grandmaster Lee, I trained TKD in Vietnam when I was 10 years old.

In August 2009, I took over the control of the martial training at the Gladstone, Missouri facility and changed its name to Seagull Blackbelt Academy. The dojo name, Seagull, evolved around my long journey to the United States in 1979. You can find more information about Seagull background at <http://www.seagullenvirotech.com/background.html>. I attributed my continuing success in America to the TKD Tenets that I had learned, including *Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self Control, and Indomitable Spirit*. With Seagull Blackbelt Academy, my missions are to not only bring back the traditional TKD training, but also to reach out to many people of all ages, gender, and ethnic groups to promote TKD Tenets, which can be applied to our daily life, schools, and professional careers. My favorite quote is:

*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. Roosevelt Eleanor."*

Our Academy Headmaster, Master Lollas, 6<sup>th</sup> Dan, has been trained under Grandmaster Lee since 1976. Master Lollas has held several hundreds of competition trophies and awards, including six (6) consecutive First Place on AKTA National Championship. Providing training assistance to Master Lollas includes Mrs. Norma Lollas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan, and other high ranking AKTA black belts. Although the dojo name has changed, we still belong to AKTA, which means all belt promotion testings and tournaments will be administered under Grandmaster Lee.

In 2009, Seagull Blackbelt Academy facility underwent major remodeling to enhance martial training, making it the best martial-art-training facility in the Greater Kansas City area.

I am so proud of accomplishments of our students at both the Academy as well as at their respective schools. Thank you for your continuing support to our Academy. Please contact me at [hvu@akta.com](mailto:hvu@akta.com) if you have any suggestions.

Regards,

Hieu Q. Vu, P.E.

President of Seagull Blackbelt Academy

President of Seagull Environmental Technologies, Inc.