

# USKK Bushido International Society Newsletter



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## IN THE NEWS

### USKA HOF Member Profile:

Mr. Rodney McPherson:



[L-R] Mr. McPherson, Mr. Galvan & Mr. Holmes – PKC Internationals – Indianapolis, IN - 2009

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Black Belt
- Former President of the Atlee Chittim Roll of Honor (1995 - 2005)

- Member of the US Karate Alliance Hall of Fame (2000 – Present)
- Member of the Atlee Chittim Role of Honor (1991 – Present)
- Instructor/Founder of D'Arbonne Martial Arts
- Seventeen-Time World Karate Champion (USKA & NBL)
- Earned first Black Belt rank in 1986



Mr. McPherson - Kobudo - 2009 PKC Internationals - Indy, IN

**“It is the responsibility of each generation of karate-ka to make the next generation of students better than 1 the current one” – Mr. Rodney McPherson**

In 1981, following his release from active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps, Rodney McPherson began training in Tae Kwon Do while a freshman at Louisiana Tech University under the instruction Dr. David Jordan. He pursued his martial arts training as a member of the La. Tech Karate Team while continuing in the Marine Reserve, as well as earning a private pilot's license, and degrees in History and English. Mr. McPherson earned his United States Karate Association sanctioned 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt in 1986 and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree just two years later.



[L-R] Dr. Jordan & Mr. McPherson

Upon graduation from La. Tech, Mr. McPherson moved to Monroe, Louisiana, where he opened and operated the Ouachita Valley Tae Kwon Do Academy, and hosted the Ouachita Valley Karate Championships for several years. Mr. McPherson was promoted to 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in 1990.



[L-R] Mr. McPherson & Mr. Eddie B. Bethea Jr.

In 1991 Mr. McPherson won the U.S. Karate Alliance National Points Title for Black Belt Kobudo, the first of six national titles. In the same year, he was inducted into the Atlee Chittim Role of Honor, an organization of exceptional Black Belts who have had a great impact on the competitive environment of the South Central region and have been the leaders for the Chittim/Jordan lineage of Tae Kwon Do. From 1991 to 1993 he was a member of the U. S. Karate Alliance National Team representing the Alliance at a number of world-class events on various competition circuits. Mr. McPherson was an incredibly successful competitor winning titles in kata, kumite, and kobudo at all levels on the U.S.K.A and N.B.L. competition circuits.



Worlds - 2008 - Mr. McPherson

**“It is the responsibility of each generation of karate-ka to make the next generation of students better than the 2 current one” – Mr. Rodney McPherson**

Mr. McPherson was promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in 1993; and then in 1995, he was honored by his election as the President of the Atlee Chittim Roll of Honor. In 1996, his wife Ellen gave birth to Kristin, their daughter, who seems to have grown up in a dojo. Working as a coach and teacher, Mr. McPherson relocated to Union Parish, Louisiana where he and Ellen work as professional educators: Rodney as a Technology Specialist, and Ellen as an English Dept. Chairperson. After competing heavily across the nation, he was promoted to 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in 1999. In the year 2000, Mr. McPherson was again the National Champion when he competed at the U.S.K.A. World Championships winning the Black Belt Master's Kobudo division. He followed with a win in Kata and a third place in Kumite. It was also in this year that Mr. McPherson was admitted to the United States Karate Alliance Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame, the most esteemed recognition granted by the U.S. Karate Alliance, is bestowed only on the top martial artists in the nation.



[L-R] Mr. McPherson & Mr. Tom Pisut

In 2005, after serving as the President of the Atlee Chittim Roll of Honor for ten years, Mr. McPherson felt that it was time for another to lead, so he stepped down from that position. He then worked with the Louisiana Tech Karate

team as a co-instructor for Dr. Jordan in Ruston. In 2007, Mr. McPherson opened the D'Arbonne Martial Arts Academy:

URL: [www.darbonnemartialarts.com](http://www.darbonnemartialarts.com)



[L-R] Mr. Larry Davenport & Mr. McPherson

It is located in Farmerville, Louisiana, which brings high quality traditional martial arts training to the students in his area. Through the inspiration of this new school, 2008 was another banner year for Mr. McPherson. In June, he was promoted to 6<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do; he won the U.S.K.A. National Points Championship for the fifth time; and in August was promoted to Black Belt in Okinawan Kobudo through the International Karate Kobudo Federation. In 2009 he was again National Champion and received a Nidan in Okinawan Kobudo. To this point in his career, Mr. McPherson has won over a hundred tournament Grand Championships. Mr. McPherson currently serves as the tournament floor coordinator at the U.S.K.A. World and National Championship tournaments.

Having achieved such competitive milestones, Mr. McPherson's current goal is to instill in his students a love for the martial arts and to pass on his vast traditional knowledge of karate-do. The

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intent is to help students mature into responsible citizens and successful black belts. It is the responsibility of each generation of karate-ka to make the succeeding generation better than the current one.



[L-R] Mr. Steve Flores, Mr. Lee Kittel & Mr. McPherson

I. Instructor: Dr. David Jordan, 9<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt

II. Style: Tae Kwon Do (Chittim/Jordan lineage)

III. Years of Study: 1981 to present

IV. Rank: 6<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt

- First Dan promotion – April 26, 1986
- Second Dan promotion – October 28, 1988
- Third Dan promotion – August 30, 1990
- Fourth Dan promotion – June 12, 1993
- Fifth Dan promotion – March 13, 1999
- Sixth Dan promotion – May 17, 2008
- First Dan Kobudo (IKKF) – August, 2008

V. Achievements:

- Admitted to Atlee Chittim Role of Honor – July 14, 1991
- Appointed to Atlee Chittim Board of Directors – October 22, 1994

- President of Atlee Chittim Roll of Honor – Aug. 12, 1995 – Aug. 4, 2005
- Admitted to Alliance Hall of Fame – July 29, 2000
- Member of 1991-92 United States Karate Alliance National Team
- Member of 1992-93 United States Karate Alliance National Team



[L-R] Mr. McPherson, Mrs. Susan Watts & Mr. Joe Dupaquier

- National Points Championships:
  - 1991 – First, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1992 – First, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1993 – Second, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1993 – Eighth, Black Belt Men Kata
  - 1995 – First, Black Belt Men Kobudo
  - 1995 – Seventh, Black Belt Men Kata
  - 1996 – Second, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1996 – Seventh, Black Belt Men Kata
  - 1997 – Third, Black Belt Kata
  - 1998 - Second, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1998 - Second, Black Belt Kata
  - 1999 – Third, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 1999 – Third, Black Belt Kata
  - 2000 – First, Black Belt Kobudo
  - 2000 - Sixth, Black Belt Men Kata

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- 2008 – First, Black Belt Kobudo
- 2009 – First, Black Belt Kobudo
- 2009 – Second, Black Belt Kata



**Mr. McPherson - Running KanKu Dai**

#### VI. World and National Championships:

- 1990 World Championships
  - Third, Black Belt Team Kumite (Kevin Herren, Scott Harrison)
- 1992 World Championships
  - Second, Black Belt Hard Style Weapons
- 1992 Alliance Nationals
  - Third, Black Belt Men Weapons
- 1993 World Championships
  - Second, Black Belt Hard Style Weapons
- 1993 Alliance Nationals
  - Third, Black Belt Korean Kata
- 1995 Alliance Nationals
  - Third, Black Belt Men Weapons
- 1996 World Championships
  - Second, Black Belt Seniors Kumite
- 1997 World Championships

- Second, Black Belt Seniors Kata
- 1998 World Championships
  - First, Black Belt Seniors Kata
  - Third, Black Belt Seniors Kumite
  - Third, Black Belt Men Weapons
  - Second, Black Belt Heavy Wt. Continuous Kumite
  - First, Black Belt Team Bunkai (Buster Cotton, Susan Watts, Jamie Todd, Eric Sullivan)
  - Second, Black Belt Senior Team Kumite (Kirk Bullock, Joey Lamartina)



**Mr. McPherson - Weapons - Eiku**

- 1998 PKC Nationals
  - Second, Black Belt Team Kumite (Kirk Bullock, Bruce Monjure)
  - Third Black Belt Senior Kata
- 1999 World Championships

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- Third, Black Belt Masters Kumite
- Second, Black Belt Senior Team Kumite (Kirk Bullock, Joey Lamartina)
- 2000 World Championships
  - Third, Black Belt Masters Kumite
  - First, Black Belt Masters Weapons Kata
  - First Black Belt Seniors Kata
- 2005 National Championships
  - Third, Black Belt Masters Kata
  - Second, Black Belt Masters Kumite
- 2007 PKC Nationals
  - Fourth, Black Belt Senior Kobudo



**Mr. McPherson - Weapons - Bo - Worlds**

- 2008 Alliance Nationals
  - Third, Black Belt Masters Kumite



**[L-R] Mr. Glenn R. Keeney (Judging), Mr. Steve Flores & Mr. McPherson - Kumite**

- 2008 World Championships
  - Third, Black Belt Masters Kobudo
- 2009 World Championships
  - Second, Black Belt Masters Kobudo
- 2007 PKC Nationals
  - First, Black Belt Self-Defense
  - Fourth, Black Belt Masters Kata



**Mr. McPherson - Kumite - Worlds**

#### **VII. Teaching Experience:**

- Louisiana Tech Karate Team – Assistant

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- Instructor 1986 – 1988, 2000 – 2006
  - Ouachita Valley Tae Kwon Do – 1989 – 1997
    - 13<sup>th</sup> ranked National Team of the Year 1991
    - 10<sup>th</sup> ranked National Team of the Year 1992
- Union Karate Academy – 1998 – 1999
- D'Arbonne Martial Arts – 2007 – Present

#### VIII. Judging and Referee Experience:

- Certified United States Karate Alliance Center Referee
- Center Judge and Arbitrator in numerous Alliance tournaments – including World and National Championships
- Tournament Coordinator USKA World Championships 2006, 2007, 2008
- Tournament Coordinator USKA National Championships 2008

#### IX. Black Belt Forms:

- Chul Gi I
- Chul Gi II
- Pal Sek
- Yun Be
- Ja On
- Ship Su
- Hangetsu
- Iron Claw
- Kanku Dai
- Chul Gi III
- Goju Shiho Sho
- Un Su



- Ro Hai
- Sei Pi
- Happoren

#### X. Kobudo Forms:

- Kuk Mu Bo
- Pyong An Bo
- Ja On Bo
- Kuk Mu Sai
- Pyong An Sai
- Kuk Mu Nunchaku (1-4)
- Pyong An Nunchaku (1-2)
- Shihonuke
- Choun No Kun
- Shioshi No Kun Ichi
- Kyian No Sai
- Nakamura No Sai
- Odo No Tunfa Ichi
- Odo No Tunfa Ni
- Odo No Nunchaku
- Tozan Noyama No Kama
- Odo No Tekko Ichi
- Tsuken Achicho No Eku
- Tsuken Achicho No Nunte
- Shioshi No Kun Ni
- Ko Bo
- Odo No Sai Ichi
- Bo Bo (2 Person Form)
- Bo Tonfa (2 Person Form)
- Shimi Guri Bo Ichi



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**[L-R / Front] Mr. McPherson, Mr. Kincaid, Mr. Kittel, Mr. Bethea, Mr. Venson, Me & Mr. Shaw / [L-R / Back] Mr. Pisut, Mr. Keeney & Mr. Musashi – 2000 – Worlds - Kobudo**



**[L-R] Mr. Johnny "Boom-Boom" Jones & Mr. McPherson - PKC Internationals - Indianapolis, IN – 2004**

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**Mr. McPherson - PKC Internationals - 2007 - Indianapolis, IN – Kata**

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Mr. McPherson - PKC Internationals - 2009 - Kobudo - Indianapolis, IN

Martially Yours,

H Eugene Talbott  
President, Bushido International Society

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