



## **Amerikick announces merger with World Champion Karate**

In what has been called the martial arts merger of the year, Amerikick Inc. and Champions Choice Inc., dba World Champion Karate have collaborated and will now be operating together under one banner. This merges two of the premiere martial arts companies in the United States which will now operate together as **Amerikick Martial Arts Inc.**

Dennis Tosten, founder of Amerikick Inc, and Bob Leiker, founder of Champions Choice Inc., will combine over eighty years of martial arts experience and training under the name Amerikick Martial Arts to facilitate regional and national growth for franchise recruitment and development. Both founders, along with their highly trained black belts, represent the utmost in integrity and professionalism in addition to world champion status.

Grandmaster Bob Leiker has been teaching and training in the martial arts styles of Tae Kwon Do, Ju-Jit-Su, Karate-Do, Go Ju Ryu & American Kick Boxing for over forty years. Mr. Leiker holds Masters Degrees in Public Administration and Guidance Counseling from Fort Hays State University and was the former Director of Probation & Parole Services for seventeen counties in Kansas. He was honored with a Governor's Appointment to the Kansas Sentencing Commission and recognized for his martial arts contributions by the Kansas House of Representatives. Mr. Leiker has coached and trained professional athletes in the NFL for a number of years with the Kansas City Chiefs and has lead an unprecedented number of individuals and teams to world champion status in the sport karate arena. He himself has garnered 6 world titles in forms and fighting and for over three decades the Leikers' have produced and promoted quality events, championed referee training and worked to consistently contribute to the improvement of their arts.

Mr. Leiker has satellite schools in Wisconsin, Kansas, Arizona, & Missouri. He has trained and developed quality black belts to varying levels; chief among them is his wife, Jill Leiker, 7<sup>th</sup> degree black belt. Mrs. Leiker is the Executive Director of the Alexandra Kemp Educational (T.A.K.E.) Foundation that honors the memory of Ms. Kemp, a young woman murdered at the hands of a predator in 2002. The foundation provides self defense programs to girls and women ages 12 years and older. T.A.K.E. Defense is a federally trademarked, not for profit 501C3 Corporation and has been featured on Americas Most Wanted, ABC's Prime Time, A Current Affair & countless regional and

local broadcasts. Mrs. Leiker also serves as the Corporate & Community Wellness Manager for Johnson County Park & Recreation District, a nationally accredited leader in recreation services. Mrs. Leiker holds degrees in Human Resource Management & Leadership Studies from Fort Hays State University and Friends University.

The Leikers have two sons, Jason Leiker 25, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt of Phoenix, Arizona, who began his study of the martial arts at age 3. Jason continues to be active refereeing and judging on the sport karate circuit. Jarrett Leiker 21, 4<sup>th</sup> degree black belt and 6 time sport karate world champion is a current top rated competitor in every sport karate league today. Jarrett attends college at Rockhurst University in Kansas City where he is an honor student majoring in history and pre-law. He manages the daily operations at the main school in Overland Park, Kansas.

Grandmaster Dennis Tosten has been teaching and training in the martial arts styles of American Kenpo, Chinese Kenpo, Phillipino Arnis, American Bando, Shotakan and kickboxing. He has trained for years with the top Grandmasters in the nation and has been promoted to the rank of master or above directly by Ed Parker, Remy Presas, Joe Lewis, George Dillman and Dr. Muang Gyi. He was a nationally ranked competitor for over 30 years and has traveled extensively to train with masters from SIX continents with his most recent training trip to China and the Shaolin temple in 2007. Mr. Tosten has trained and developed countless black belts to all levels, and has produced top level competitors in full contact kickboxing and sport karate.

Mr. Tosten started his first karate school in 1968 and founded Amerikick in the 1990 along with his wife Sharon Tosten and long time student Mark Russo. Sharon is now an 8<sup>th</sup> degree black belt, director of the martial arts film KICK and writer of the award winning book series Troy's Amazing Universe K for Karate. Mark Russo is a 6<sup>th</sup> degree black belt and former world champion competitor and coach, member of the black belt hall of fame, former stuntman and promoter of a national karate tournament. Mark Russo also was key to bringing Amerikick to the ranking of World's Number 1 sport karate school in 1999.

Amerikick currently operates seventeen locations in four states including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Texas. Amerikick franchise owners include some of the most successful schools in the business and include the most experienced and knowledgeable owners and operators including Mark Russo, Justin Smith, Alex Davydov and Chris Millares. Amerikick is noted for being one of the top benefactors to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the American Cancer Society in addition to appearances on national television shows such as: CN8 Good Morning, The Regis and Kelly Show and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. "We feel this merger will help make the world's best martial arts training available to every city in America," said Mark Russo -Director of Expansion for Amerikick Martial Arts.

***If you want to be a part of the fastest growing martial arts organization in the country; please submit your resume to Mark Russo@ amerikick.com. We are now seeking one representative per state as a director for Amerikick Martial Arts. Qualified candidates***

*will receive national advertising, weekly support, an instructor recruitment program and a designated territory. All applicants must have black belt ranking of second degree or above in a minimum of three martial arts systems, have competed on a national level, and have at least 200 active students in a full time location. If you meet these qualifications, you may submit your resume to [markrusso@amerikick.com](mailto:markrusso@amerikick.com). Or call for more information at 1 866-38 KARATE*