

Shihan Johnny Linebarger, Ph.D. (04/07/54 -) **Director of KoSho Karate - Centers for the Martial Arts**

- 2005 Promoted to 8th Degree Black Belt in Kobudo
- 2003 Promoted to 9th Degree Black Belt in Tai-ho Jitsu
- 2000 Received Robert A. Trias Lifetime Competition Award from the USA Karate & US Jujitsu Federations' Hall of Fame
Promoted to 8th Degree Black Belt in Karate
- 1998 Promoted to 3rd Degree Black Belt in Judo
- 1997 Inducted into the USAKF Hall of Fame
- 1996 Promoted to 6th Degree Black Belt in Kobudo
- 1995 Promoted to 7th Degree Black Belt in Karate
- 1993 Received Master Instructor - Teaching Certification in Tae Kwon Do
Promoted to 7th Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do
Received All-American Award from USAKF for Karate (3rd consecutive year)
- 1992 Ph.D. in Chinese Martial Sciences
Promoted to 8th Degree Black Belt in Chinese Martial Arts
Appointed as Head Coach for the USA Karate Team (USAKF)
Received All-American Award from USAKF for Karate (2nd consecutive year)
Won 80+ kilo division at USA Karate Team Trials and represented the US at the World Championships in Grenada, Spain
- 1991 Received the title of Shihan (Professor or Teacher of Teachers)
Promoted to 6th Degree Black Belt in Karate (from WUKO)
Promoted to 7th Degree Black Belt in Jujitsu (from International Jujitsu Federation)
Became member of the USOC Coaching Development Committee for Karate
Appointed as Assistant Coach for the USA Karate Team (USAKF)
Received All-American Award from USAKF for Karate
National Champion (80+ kilo) for the USAKF
- 1990 Began training with Hanshi George Anderson in Akron, Ohio
Became member of the USA Karate Team
Represented the U.S. in the Ippon Shobu division at the WUKO World Championships in Mexico City, Mexico
National Champion (80+ kilo) for the USAKF
Appointed as Chairman of the USA Karate Federation of Arizona
Became the first Martial Artist ever to receive an Outstanding Athletic Achievement Award from the Tucson Conquistadors
Promoted to 5th Degree Black Belt in Okinawan Shuri-Ryu Karate
- 1989 World Champion of All Black Belts - USKA
- 1988 World Champion of All Black Belts - USKA
- 1987 World Champion of All Black Belts - USKA
- 1986 Won the Triple Crown (1st places in Fighting, Forms and Weapons) at the USKA World Championships in Chicago, Illinois
Selected as a member of the Elite Trias International Society (the only person to ever be inducted by unanimous decision)
Promoted to 4th Degree Black Belt in Karate
- 1985 Won the Weapons title at the Panama Kempo Internationals in Panama City, Panama
World Champion (Light Heavyweight) for USKA
Promoted to Assistant Chief Instructor for all Shuri Karate by Grandmaster Trias
- 1983 Promoted to Tachi in Okinawan Kobudo (the first martial artist in the US to earn this title)
Promoted to 3rd Degree Black Belt in Karate
Opened KoSho Self-Defense Studio in Tucson, Arizona
- 1981 Formed Davis-Monthan Self-Defense Club
Promoted to 2nd Degree Black Belt in Karate
- 1980 Assigned to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and began training with Grandmaster Trias
- 1976 Joined the US Air Force and spent 3 years in Tokyo, Japan
- 1975 Promoted to 1st Degree Black Belt in Karate
- 1974 Opened the first KoSho Self-Defense Studio in Conover, North Carolina
- 1972 Began karate training with Master Kale Makaio in Hickory, North Carolina