

"The Inspiration of Alexander, Domaskin, Theodore and Gioachino"

by Peter M. Carbone

(Many people have asked me, "What was my influence to become a Martial Artist. Musician and Wine Maker?)

My Great Grandfather, Alexander Yager, was highly educated in Europe. The members of my family referred to him as a genius and hypnotic musician. He started living with me at age six. He was a Master musician playing Piano, Guitar, Violin and Mandolin. I wanted to follow in his footsteps and at the age nine started my musical training. At age 18 I started my professional musical career, traveling across the USA as a professional musician, playing the Guitar and other instruments. He was also an artistic sculpture carpenter and accomplished martial artist. He studied an eclectic martial art very popular in Europe in the late 1800s early 1900s, "Bartitsu".

"Bartitsu" was founded by Edward William Barton-Wright (1860-1951) who named the style after his name "Bart" and added "titsu". During the late 1800s, Barton-Wright studied Jiu-Jitsu and Judo in Japan. While each individual martial art was good in its own right, he felt they were incomplete by themselves. He decided the martial art needed a combination of defensive and offensive styles to be realistically effective and complete. He combined European boxing, wrestling, Savate, and the grappling styles of Judo and Jujitsu. He also added the techniques of La Canne, British Fencing, Bayonet Fencing and Broad Sword fighting into the common walking cane and umbrella.

Alexander Yager never went anywhere without his bamboo walking cane. As a child my uncle explained how skillful my Great Grandfather was and had taken private instruction on self defense. This gave me an excitement to learn the martial art at the very early age of seven. Although wanting to learn from my Great Grandfather, he died when I was eight. Up until 18 I was raised by a Saint, my blind Great Grandmother, Tresa Yager.

My Great Grandfather, Domaskin, was the ruthless head of the Nadai Family. His Grand Mother was Japanese, possibly Okinawan. His # 1 son, my Grandfather, Theodore Nadal, killed his father's prize bull with a one punch to the head. Due to the outcome, he decided to leave home. Lying about his age, became a US Marine leatherneck at age 15. Eventually, made the rank of Sergeant. Twice, he was busted down to Corporal for fighting. After reading stories and seeing pictures of Mas Oyama, the bull killer, I appreciated the comparison to my Grandfather. Moshkiga Nadal, Domaskin's younger brother, was a powerful professional street fighter. His fights were managed by Domaskin. They were triumphant. Taking advantage of his younger brother, the family objected to Domaskin making so much money. These and many other stories were impressionable.

In 1960, at age 14, I started martial art training. At age 17 I was on the high school wrestling team. At age 25, I wanted the truth of the classical martial art, not sport karate, and began a serious study. I felt there was more than blocking, kicking and punching. Today at age 61, I have traveled to the orient on 26 occasions in pursuit of martial art knowledge and perfection. Through my training, investigation, and teaching I am trying to make a contribution to the martial art community by preserving the historical and cultural value of the antiquity study of weaponry and its relationship to empty hand technique.

In my life, I had the great honor of studying under four Grand Masters. I acquired the prestigious ranks of 8th Degree Karate, and hold the master teaching title of Kyoshi and the very prestigious rank of Grand Master 9th Degree Kobujutsu weaponry. with the highest master teaching title of Hanshi accompanied with Soke-Keizon, most respected. I have been Commissioned as the of President of the "Ryukyunate Dento Kobujutsu Kyokai", Traditional Weapons Preservation Society in America. based in Okinawa.

My Grandfather, Gioachino Carbone, was a wine maker, as so many Italian foreigners coming to America. It was part of their heritage and tradition. I lived with him from birth until age five. At age three he always gave me two small glasses of delicious wine with every evening meal. I was told as a child, the Carbone family may go all the way back to Noah making wine. It became my passion to continue the Carbone Family tradition.

As a child listening to family conversations, it made me very interested in my Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers. I realized with age, they were an immense influence on my life and set the guidelines for my future.

I made my life's pursuit a tribute to my Great Grandfathers, Alexander Yager and Domakin Nadai and Grandfathers, Theodore Nadal and Gioachino Carbone.