

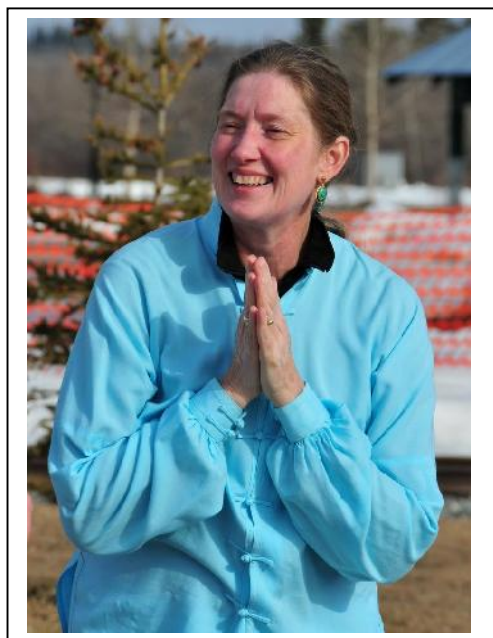


35 YEARS of  
**Tai Chi**  
**YUKON**

# TIMELINE



John Camp workshop on shores of Kluane Lake.



- 1989** Cheryl Buchan began teaching Tai Chi after moving to the Yukon from B.C. Due to high demand, she was soon teaching up to 5 classes a week.
- ca. 1990** Weekend workshop with Sam Masich and Marko Ostapkowicz.
- 1991** Tai Chi Association, Yukon became a non-profit society, our first AGM held 1992. Senior student Pam Boyde began teaching classes.
- 1990s** In the early to mid 1990s, several other senior students began leading classes: Daniele Heon, Ann Gedrose, Garret Henley, Bonnie MacDonald, Edna McPherson, Cathy Cottrell, Karon Danks, Dawn Brierley, Tory Russell, and Helene Dobrowsky.
- 1992** June, "Camp Camp." Visiting instructor John Camp taught a weekend workshop at Crag Lake.
- 1993** October, Sam Masich led a fall workshop teaching: qigong, TC basics, 5 section, and 24 movement form.
- 1994** Our "Elder" Jeanie started teaching up to three weekly classes for seniors until her death in 2001. To honour her memory, we continue to offer seniors classes at the Golden Age Centre at no charge.
- 1995** May, weekend camp with Chantal Fafard at Bahai Centre at Lake Laberge.  
Nov., Fall seminar with John Camp
- 1996** November workshop with Chantal Fafard.
- 1997** November, Chantal made her fifth visit to the Yukon for a fall workshop.
- 1998** Tai Chi Yukon took part in a martial arts demo at the Klondike Harvest Fair.
- 1999** 30 Oct., 10 Principles Workshop led by instructors of Tai Chi Yukon.
- 2000** TCY produced a booklet, a photo guide to 24 and 5 section forms.  
Pam Boyde made her first trip to China as part of a tour organized by PAWMA (Pacific Association of Women in Martial Arts).  
John Camp workshop in April.  
Second year of taking part in martial arts demo at Klondike Harvest Fair.



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# TIMELINE



TCY Board of Directors with Master Yang.



Tai Chi  
YUKON

presents ~

*Master Yang Jun*

6<sup>th</sup> Generation Direct Descendant of  
Yang Style Taijiquan

*Traditional  
Yang Style  
Taijiquan  
Hand Form  
Seminar*

*September 17-19, 2004*



For information contact  
Tai Chi Yukon

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- 2002** May, John Camp visits for weekend seminar.  
Pam Boyde travelled to Seattle to take a seminar with Master Yang Jun and Grandmaster Yang Zhenduo.
- Pam and Helene travelled to Seattle for seminars with Yang Jun. YJ agreed to teach seminar in Yukon the following year.
- 2003** TCY set up a website. Originally intended to promote the Yang Jun seminar, this became a useful tool for communicating with members.
- 2004** Grandmaster Yang Jun led a seminar in Whitehorse, an event that was a year in the planning, attracted a number of outside participants.
- Pam and Helene travelled to China to help celebrate the 80th birthday of Grandmaster Yang Zhenduo. Trip includes a tour, seminar with people from all over the world, and epic birthday celebration. Pam Boyde successfully ranked for Level 4 certification.
- 2005**
- 2007** Pam Boyde, Jo-Ann Gates and Lisa Pan travel to China for tour and international tournament. Jo-Ann and Lisa take part and earn the rank of Copper Eagle.  
Pam Boyde becomes the first Canadian to be certified as an instructor by the International Yang Family organization.  
Nov. John Camp returned to do an "Essence of Tai Chi" weekend workshop
- 2008** Jo-Ann Gates, Tory Russell and Helene partner with ElderActive to host a qigong workshop with people from the communities.  
August - Qigong seminar with Tanya Schmid.  
November weekend workshop with Nancy Lucero teaching 16 movement form.
- 2009** TCY celebrated 20th anniversary with many special events.  
Pam and Helene attend international tai chi symposium in Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2010** Weekend workshop at Sundog Retreat, organized by Jo-Ann Gates. Pam Boyde led a traditional form seminar.
- 2011** Six TCY members travel to Seattle area for long form seminar with Grandmaster Yang Jun: Joan Wilson, Janet MacLachlan, Lisa Pan, Jo-Ann Gates, Ken Andre & Helene D.





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# TIMELINE



Demo at Aging Well Seminar



Sundog Retreat

**2012** Pam travelled to China for Shanxi Yang Family Tai Chi Chuan Association 30th Anniversary Celebration and to celebrate Grandmaster Yang Zhen duo's 87th birthday.

**2014** TCY turns 25! Some highlights include a flash mob at Rendezvous, demonstrations at various events, and weekend seminar with Eric Madsen from Seattle. Pam and Jo-Ann attended International Tai Chi Chuan Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky, where Pam was accepted as a disciple of Grandmaster Yang Jun.

**2015** Pam and Lisa to China, visited the UNESCO heritage site, Jiuzhaigou; the Yang family's hometown, Guangfu, and memorial garden in Yongnian County, then attended Grandmaster Yang Zhen duo's 90th birthday.

Chief Instructor Pam Boyde began conducting Jie rankings on behalf of Yang Family Tai Chi. Many TCY students ranked under this system in 2015, 2019, 2023, 2024.

**2016** Chief Instructor Pam Boyde appointed 1st Vice President and General Manager of International Yang Family Tai Chi Chuan Association.

**2017** Pam Boyde attended the IYFTCCA China Headquarters grand opening, training and tour in Kunming, Yunnan province.

May, Jo-Ann Gates achieved IYFTCCA level 3 ranking and associate instructor certification. Eric Madsen seminar.

**2019** **TAI CHI YUKON TURNS 30!** Epic celebration on World Tai Chi & Qigong Day. Pam announced that TCY is now an affiliated school with the International Yang Family Tai Chi Chuan Association, the third such school in Canada.

Tribute in the Yukon Legislature, proclamation of World Tai Chi & Qigong Day by Mayor at City Council meeting.

Five tai chi members attended an international tai chi symposium and tournament in Selvino, Italy.



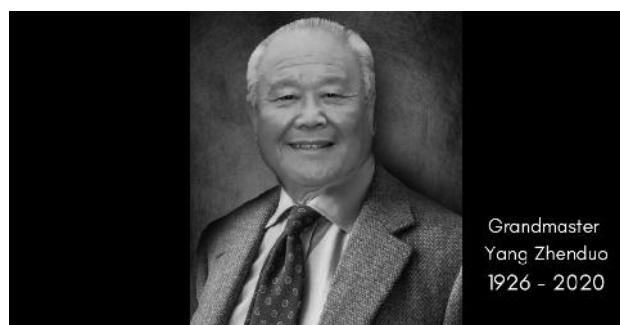
World TC Day & 30th birthday celebrations.





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# TIMELINE



**2020-2022** PANDEMIC! TCY Instructors and Board adapted to keep sharing tai chi: Zoom classes, outdoor classes, indoor classes with distancing, sanitizing and masks, and online registration.

November 7, 2020 - Passing of beloved Grandmaster Yang Zhenduo. Worldwide, Yang Family TC students took part in ceremonies to mourn his loss and celebrate his tremendous contributions. For the next 3 years, TCY members honoured his passing on the anniversary of his death and on his birthday, performing the 49 form that he developed.

TCY senior students compete in a virtual tournament, the Yang Family Tai Chi International Junzheng Online Cup. Their presentation of essential form by the Yukon River won silver for small group performance.

Yang Family Tai Chi supported international students with many online resources, classes, and even distance rankings. In 2021, Helene and Alison successfully ranked as Associate Instructors with the YFTC Association.

**2022** Nov., Pam Boyde attended inauguration of the Yang Family Tai Chi Brazil branch in Riberio Preto.

**2023** Marina McCready nominated for the City's volunteer of the year program to recognize her initiative in taking on extra tasks: teaching, organizing GAS classes, and volunteering to become TCY treasurer.

After many years serving as a board member, secretary and a few terms as president, Jo-Ann retired from the TCY Board but continues to teach and share her expertise. She is honoured with a special presentation at AGM.

**2024** TCY nominated Jo-Ann Gates for City Volunteer of the Year.

Feb., Pam and Alison attend Yang Jun seminar for Instructors and Directors, 5 days of push hands.

Summer, Alison attended a Yang Jun seminar in Michigan studying sabre and essential form. Pam and Helene studied sabre, sword, and senior form with Yang Jun in Seattle.

## 35 Years of Tai Chi Yukon!!

### Tai Chi Yukon continues to thrive:

- ) 90 members
- ) an active 10-member board
- ) seven instructors
- ) 11 weekly classes
- ) offering several outreach sessions every year
- ) MANY public demonstrations over the years for City, Chinese New Year, Run for Mom, Aging Well, etc., etc.