



OBT established 1903



Happy New Year! Hoonko, a Service of Gratitude Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy New Year, everyone! I am so happy to ring in the new year with you all. January always proves to be a very busy month. We never seem to start the year walking. Always running! January is the month that our temples of Nishi Hongwanji commemorate Hoonko. This is the special service that marks the date of Shinran Shonin's birth in the Pure Land.

This year we are able to celebrate this momentous occasion with a special service where many of the temples of the northwest come together at the Seattle Betsuin. We are also delighted to host Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi of Toronto Buddhist Temple as our special guest speaker for the Sunday service. This will be a special occasion as Rev. Ouchi was trained at the same ritual and chanting school as Rinban Kusunoki and myself. We plan to demonstrate and hold special services for the Sanghas of the northwest that are not often seen in the BCA.

The purpose of these special rituals as well as all of Hoonko is to honor the teachings and school of Buddhism that Shinran gifted all of us over 700 years ago. While I don't believe that Shinran would want all of the fanfare and services, we as students of this school have somewhat of an obligation to express our gratitude and show how much these teachings mean to us. In Kyoto, at our mother temple, Nishi Hongwanji, this service is observed for exactly one week long!

Shinran himself dedicated the Wasan, Ondokusan, to express his heartfelt gratitude to all of the teachers who had such an influence on his understanding of Amida Buddha. The translation of the hymn goes as follows:

*Such is the benevolence of Amida's great compassion,
That we must strive to return it, even to the breaking of
our bodies;
Such is the benevolence of the masters and true teachers,
That we must endeavor to repay it, even to our bones
becoming dust.*

We sing this Wasan in a lot of our services, usually the second version. While the melody sounds lovely and benign, I also see a deep and emotional quality to it. This helps to convey his gratitude and in a sense, mission to share the teachings that he had been taught.

Hoonko is one of the most important, if not the most important service in our tradition of Jodo Shinshu. As we return to our temples, and begin this new year, it is a great opportunity for us to start with a service that shows and expresses our sincere gratitude to our founder.

Namo Amida Butsu



2024 OBT President's Message Cathy Yarne

*"As we end the last chapter of the year,
stop to relish in the page-turning moments
and the ones that made you pause. Every
story is not always about the ending."*

I recently received a message from Jeff Ichikawa (newsletter editor) reminding everyone that articles for the January newsletter were due in 3 days. Yikes! Although my term as the OBT 2024 President begins in January, I forgot articles are due a week before the previous month ends. Having no ideas on what to write, Then I remembered our amazing mochitsuki.

After working the entire event, I came home feeling exhausted but also excited.

I volunteered to "mentor" four individuals to chair the 2023 mochitsuki (making and selling of mochi.) My hope is that they'd chair this event next year. Neither of them had chaired this event before, a few had only participated in this event once or twice, and only one person had experience chairing any activity at OBT.

Mochitsuki was a great success! Not only did we sell approximately 660 pounds, we also had a record number of volunteers. As in the quote, this was a "page-turning moment" that made me "pause." If there is such a thing as too many volunteers, it happened. This meant there was a lot of time/opportunities to chat with friends and new acquaintances.

Just like Obon, this year's mochitsuki attracted so many volunteers outside of our Sangha. To me, this is an indication that the Oregon Buddhist Temple is a well-established and respected organization in the Portland community. Based on their positive experiences I think we will see many of the new faces again.

Kudos to co-chairs: Surya Vadivazhagu, Debi Shimamoto, Ann Shintani, and Toyoko Oguri. Scott Winner and his rice cooking team deserve a big round of applause for a job well done!

I hope everyone enjoys their mochi and happy New Year to all!

Gassho, Cathy Yarne

"OBT welcomes all people regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identification, and political or religious affiliation."

Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 SE 34th Avenue Portland, OR 97202-3037 503-234-9456

E-mail: info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>

Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address.

January Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of January. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the January 14 Sunday service at 10 am. Please join us and offer incense in memory of your relative(s) or friends.

Listed below are the names of those who passed away starting from 1950. Oregon Buddhist Temple has records from 1904. Names of deceased prior to 1950 are added if requested. If a name is missing or incorrect, please notify the temple at 503 481-0699 or at obtlanterns@gmail.com.

Ukichi Abe, 1/13/1959	Kuni Kitayama, 1/24/1997*	Sachi Onchi, 1/27/2013*
Tora Akiyama, 1/10/1989	Riichi Kiyokawa, 1/19/1989	Tomikichi Osaki, 1/03/1971
Sakae Ando, 1/13/2009*	Yayo Kohara, 1/1/1972	Shizuko Ouchida, 1/25/2012*
Tsuruyo Aoki, 1/23/1992	Jean Kan Lee, 1/23/1989	Ryozo Owada, 1/13/1957
Iuemon Asakawa, 1/06/1960	Patricia Lindemaier, 1/16/2021	John Eldon Peterson, 1/06/2014
Keiko Tomitaka Byrnes, 1/28/2021	Giichi Maehara, 1/30/1950	Yoshiko Kobodo Ponton, 1/27/2023
Jack Kiyoshi Fujii, 1/01/1993	Kanshiro Makita, 1/14/1952	Haruno Saito, 1/06/1963
Matsu Fujinaka, 1/01/1978	Mikiye Matsumoto, 1/04/1999*	May Nobuko Saito, 1/31/2017*
Umeno Fukumoto, 1/25/1989*	Sakaye Mishima, 1/16/1987*	Betty Kasumi Sakurai, 1/05/2003
Shigeichi R Hasegawa, 1/29/1979	Setsuji Miyoshi, 1/05/1974	Saburo Sasaki, 1/08/1959
Kemy Hashimoto, 1/06/2007*	Shizuyo Morikawa, 1/26/1955	Nami Sasaki, 1/12/2015
Mas Hayashi, 1/22/1997	Keiko Morimoto, 1/17/1990	Nobuo "Nobi" Sato, 1/28/1996
Richard Dale Hoverson, 1/22/2005	Yoshio Muraki, 1/17/2004	Sidney Sato, 1/23/1987
Yone Ikata, 1/05/1964*	Hatsue Muramatsu, 1/01/1975*	San Shirahama, 1/07/1951
Clarence Hisao Ikeda, 1/12/2017	Shoji Muramatsu, 1/04/1975	Umeno Shiraishi, 1/02/1974*
Kimie Ikeda, 01/04/2007	Sonoe Muraoka, 1/18/2008*	Eiji Suzuki, 1/07/1963
Martha Masako Ikeda, 1/06/1978*	Anjiro Murayoshi, 1/21/1955	James Takashima, 1/06/2012
George Ishida, 1/10/1999	Takejiro Nagahama, 1/29/1982	Ben V Tano, 1/17/2016
Nobu Ishida, 1/15/1973	Joe Nagaki, 1/10/2006	Ruth Kumiko Tateishi, 1/03/2008
Tomeka Ishida, 1/19/1985*	Asajiro Naganuma, 1/11/1964	Fumie Toyooka, 1/26/2005
Masako Iwai, 1/23/2008*	Kisano Nakashimada, 1/05/1969*	Fukunosuke Toyota, 1/11/1957
Francis Iwamoto, 1/17/2008	Masao, Niemi, 1/05/1956	Takashi Uyeda, 1/16/1978
Ito Iwasaki, 1/11/1981*	Rui, Niiyama, 1/28/1954*	Eitaro Wakamatsu, 1/08/1966
Bobara Jones, 1/20/2012	Robert M Nishimura, 1/12/1996	Wayne Leroy Winner, 1/22/2015
Toshimi Kagawa, 1/07/1969*	Kaz Ochiai, 1/11/2007	Takeichi Yamada, 1/09/1951
Isa Kimura, 1/10/1983*	Arie Ohishi, 1/03/1964*	Dale Yamamoto, 1/22/1999
Ami Kinoshita, 1/06/2017*	Hisashi Okamoto, 1/22/1988	Aiko Yamanaka, 1/19/2001*
April Kinoshita, 1/29/2009*	Harry Okita, 1/24/2007	Utaru Eki Yumibe, 1/22/1952*
Tokuji Kinoshita, 1/18/1953	Fumiko Okubo, 1/26/2014*	

* OBWA member

2024-2026 OBT Board and 2024 Officers

Term Ending 2026: Ken Garner, Cathy Yarne (President), Judy Hittle (Vice President), Glenda Watson

Term Ending 2025: Shinya Ichikawa, Jayne Ichikawa, Katie Tamiyasu, Kristen Wong

Term Ending 2024: Marilyn Huh, Suniti Kumar (Secretary), Carol Saiget, Charles Reneau

Elaine Yuzuriha (Financial Officer)

2024 Memorial Services

Year of Passing	Memorial	Year of Passing	Memorial
2023	1 Year	2008	17 Year
2022	3 Year	2000	25 Year
2018	7 Year	1992	33 Year
2012	13 Year	1975	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements with Reverend Tadao Koyama at 253 627-1417 or info@tacomabt.org

Oregon Buddhist Temple November 2023 Donations

In memory of Susan Saito Toyoji

Alice Ando & Jean Matsumoto

SHOTSUKI HOYO

In memory of Sumi Ishida

Robert & Susan (Ishida) Yoneda

In memory of Toki Tachibana

Shoun & Grace Ishikawa

In memory of Richard Harder

Diane Ando Harder

Roberta Ando

In memory of Tomo & Bob Sunamoto

Dennis & Virginia Sugihara

In memory of Kikue Ando

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

In memory of Ramon Moro

Tasha & Marlene Moro

In memory of Pou & Bachan

Mika & Sayuri

Special donations

Katie Tamiyasu

J.J. & C.M. Yasaki

Rob & Mika Fetter

Chie Nakamichi & Paul Nist

Jean Matsumoto (*Obonfest*)

Jean Matsumoto

(*Special services*)

Jonathan Greenwood

Kiyomi Dickinson

(*Shotsuki hoyo*)

Eitaikyo

Etsuko Osaki

Jean Matsumoto

Connie Masuoka

Dana Kakishita

Pat Hokama

Diane Ando Harder

Alfred Ono

Janice Okamoto

Anonymous

Bodhi Day

Jean Matsumoto

Pat Hokama

2023 Annual Pledge

Jean Matsumoto

Yasuko Maekawa Fields

Cathy Shikatani & Willem

Stoeller

2024 Annual Pledge

Setsy & Chip Larouche

Monthly pledge

Glenda Watson-Coly

Diane Ando Harder

Susan Endecott

Donation acknowledgements are mailed for donations of \$250 or more, and to any donor upon request. Please inform us of any significant errors or omissions.

Thank you.

sjendecott@gmail.com

Excerpts from the book: Cocktails By Rev. Masao Kodani

Kōrō 香 爐
incense-burner

A vessel made of metal or ceramics for the burning of incense. Ashes are placed in the vessel so that stick incense can be burned in it. Jodo Shinshu does not stick the incense stick vertically in the ashes but rather lays it horizontally on the ashes. The stick incense is more of a ember on which to sprinkle ground incense called Oko. This burning of ground incense called Oko is called Oshoko or "Burning Incense" one of the basic rituals of Buddhism.



A reminder to encourage readers to continue donations for the below events and any other time.

January	Hoonko
February	Nirvana Day
March	Spring Ohigan
April	Hanamatsuri
May	Gotan-E Shinran Shonin Birthday Celebration
July	Kangi-e "A Celebration of Joy" Obon Service
August	Obonfest
September	Fall Ohigan
November	Eitaikyo - Perpetual Memorial Service
December	Bodhi Day
	Year End Gift for the Temple



Oregon Buddhist Women's Association
Jeanette Hager

Happy New Year! In reflecting back on 2023, there was so much that our OBWA and OBT Sangha joined together to do for which we are so grateful for. It was a crescendo of joyous events highlighted by our ObonFest, Fall Bazaar, Craft Fair and, ending the year with a flourish, our attendance of a wonderful holiday concert...

On December 6, 2023, eighteen OBWA members and four friends were joyously entertained when they attended the Holiday Brass Concert at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Members of the Oregon Symphony brass and percussion section including our OBT President, Charles Reneau who played his base trombone with his outstanding talents, were featured. Please view the two happy photos of the attendees and Charles. Missing in the photo were Ray F, Randy C, Nancy W, and Jeanette H.

Our last meeting of the year was on Saturday, December 16th, via Zoom. At this meeting, the OBWA Board election results were announced for the open positions of Co-Presidents (Amy Peterson and Jeanette Hager) and Vice President (Jayne Ichikawa). We also voted on the year-end Orei gifts for Rev. Koyama, the Minister Assistants and the OBT Dharma School, as well as voting on which local organizations to donate to.



To celebrate the end of the old / beginning of the new year, OBWA volunteers will be serving Toshikoshi Soba after New Year's Eve (Joya-E) evening service and Ozoni after the New Year's Day morning service.

For 2024, we have already started planning on doing more together. It is through being together that we have more joy and more to be grateful for. Please stay tuned and we hope that many of you will join us in supporting OBT, our Sangha and each other as we work, play and create a tapestry of activities for the new year. [BTW if anyone is buying a new sewing machine and would like to donate your old one to our craft group, please let us know.]

Two women in our Jodo Shinshu history who inspire us are Lady Takeko Kujo and Lady Yoshiko Otani. OBT will hold a memorial service dedicated to Lady Kujo and Lady Otani on Sunday, February 11th. February is the time that we remember these women and the work that they did to make the world a better place. It is because of their contributions that our Buddhist Women's Association (BWA) has grown to encompass members world-wide. Fuse no Hi/Kisaragi-ki is also an opportunity to honor those members from OBT who have generously worked to support our OBT Sangha and community. In that spirit of caring for others, our OBWA members led by Jayne Ichikawa, volunteer to visit and help our homebound members and ensure that all our members continue to keep connected with each other.

An OBWA meeting is an opportunity to gather together each month. We are so excited to be planning an OBWA 2024 New Year's celebration. More details to come. In the meantime, please mark your calendar for

our next OBWA meeting on Saturday, January 20th at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. An email will be sent to our OBWA members along with the agenda and meeting reports. We look forward to seeing you there!

The OBWA membership dues for 2024 are due. We encourage you to renew if you are an existing member and if you are new to OBWA, we welcome you to join us. Our group is dedicated to supporting the Oregon Buddhist Temple in various ways, to providing social services, and, most of all, to enjoy spending time with each other. The cost is \$20 per year. Please make your dues payment out to "OBWA" and send it to the temple address **or you can pay your dues in person at the New Year's gathering**. Members who are 88 years or older are exempt from paying dues. If your mailing address, phone number or email have changed, please let us know.

Gassho,

Jeanette Otsuji Hager
OBWA Co-President

On behalf of OBT's members led by our 2024-2025 OBWA Board:

Co-President Amy Peterson

Vice President Jayne Ichikawa who also leads us in Caring for Others

Diane Harder, Treasurer, Membership (and half of the talented Chefs extraordinaire team
with Robbi Ando)

Nancy Kajitsu and Yasuko Fields, Corresponding Secretaries

Kiyomi Dickinson and Ann Shintani, Recording Secretaries

Thank you so much for all your dedication and support in so many ways!

TO RENEW YOUR 2024 OBWA MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE SEND \$20 TO:

OBWA

3720 SE 34TH AVE

PORTLAND OR 97202

Please include your name, address, phone number and email. Thank you!

Wishing everyone a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

~ Oregon Buddhist Association Members



2024 Oregon Buddhist Temple Supporting Pledge

Jeanette Hager, OBT Membership Committee

Happy New Year! We are grateful for your support in 2023. We appreciate all the ways that you support the Oregon Buddhist Temple and our Sangha. It is through your participation and contributions that OBT can continue to be a part of our lives. In 2023, we resumed in person Dharma services and activities. We are so grateful to be together again. Our interconnection of each of our Sangha members and our community is so precious.

Your financial support is critical in supporting the Oregon Buddhist Temple services, the Dharma teachings and our activities as well as those programs conducted through the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) as a part of your OBT annual pledge of \$300 per individual which also includes your BCA annual membership dues. Any pledge amount above \$300 is greatly appreciated as it will benefit our Temple directly. Please see the pledge form on page 13 in this newsletter.

Please send your pledge form and one-time payment amount (or if in multiple payments, first payment) to:

The Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97202-3037

If paying via PayPal, please mail the form to the above address so that we know to apply your PayPal payments to your pledge. If your PayPal donation should be applied for another purpose, please send us an email or note to let us know.

In deepest gratitude for being a part of our Sangha family.

Gassho,

Jeanette Hager
OBT Membership Committee

Bodhi Day service and Jesuit HS visit – December 10, 2023



Rev. Koyama presents Dharma talk which included his favorite scene from "The Empire Strikes Back"



Welcoming Jesuit HS students, Rev. Koyama explains the meaning of various portions of the onaijin during Dharma Exchange



Dharma School Ann Shintani

I am grateful for the beautiful and mild weather...seemingly mundane acts of making soup and other comfort foods brings me so much joy in the present moment.

Bodhi Day Service and Potluck with Rev. Koyama was on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 6:00PM. We wished to gather again and we were not disappointed. Maki Winner (sophomore), and Avery Hughes-Davis (junior) were our youth speakers. Maki spoke about attending the Buddhist Youth Retreat held in the Jodo Shinshu Center, Berkeley, CA, and the importance of inclusiveness and being accepted just as you are; Avery shared his family's tradition of remembering and honoring loved ones by making special recipes and honoring family heirlooms. Rev. Koyama appreciated the interconnections that both speakers shared in their messages. We had a wonderful potluck afterwards!



Girl Scouts Mochitsuki Thank You! We thank Amy Peterson and our temple Girl Scout Troop for being available to provide children's activities during our temple Mochitsuki fundraiser on Sunday, Dec. 17. We were given gifts of miniature Kagami Mochi in bright clay, and understand that they made their own rice cake treats.

Free Karate Class for Sangha Youth. Avery Hughes-Davis offers to lead class to our Sangha youth on karate and

general wellness starting in January... just in time for the New Year! These classes will be in place of Dharma School classes, so I hope we can support your students in participating. Thank you Avery for sharing your karate skills and supporting the well-being of our Sangha families!



Healthy Body + Karate By Avery Hughes-Davis

Beginning on January 14, 2024, I will periodically be teaching free wellness lessons after service to interested Dharma School students. This class will be called Healthy Body + Karate and will be a combination of basic karate moves and overall practices in wellness. I will focus on very basic karate stances and forms and also on mental discipline, self-care, stretching, and positive thinking. These classes will be available to students in the following age ranges: 11 and under and then 12-17. The younger class will go first, directly following Sunday service, and then the second group will be invited to attend right after the younger group finishes.

A little bit about my experience! Having studied karate for over 10 years, culminating in reaching Black Belt status through Krav Maga at East West Martial Arts in Vancouver, I have had time to receive many teachings from a variety of skilled instructors. I attended karate three times a week, participated in demonstrations, attaining the belt levels along the way to Black Belt, and loved what I learned there. This should be a fun experience for all involved and I will strive to help students gain a better understanding of karate while also promoting a healthy body philosophy.

Parent/guardian visitors are encouraged to watch class (but not required) and each participating student and their parent/guardian will be asked to sign a waiver in order to participate. Class will not be strenuous or dangerous in any way, but a waiver will be in place to protect all involved.

We hope you'll join us for this fun and new experience at OBT. Students should be dressed in casual, athletic wear. Please contact Avery Hughes-Davis at averymhd@gmail.com with any questions and we'll look forward to meeting you for Healthy Body + Karate on January 14, 2024 in the OBT basement space directly after service. Please check the newsletter calendar for updates. Thanks for your interest!



Rev. Sugahara Family's visit - November 21, 2023



Rev. Yuki Sugahara plays Seiya (Rock version)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8aX5Bi2mOo>

Seiya (Peaceful Night)

How beautiful the starry sky!
 Who could know the mystery of the heavens?
 When these countless eyes shine brilliantly,
 My heart is filled with joy!

More numerous than the sands of the Ganges
 are the Buddhas.
 When I hear that they watch over us night and day,
 my heart is filled with peace.

Music by Shimpei Nakayama
 Lyrics by Takeko Kujo



Girl Scouts Update

By Amy Peterson

The girls prepared and practiced for babysitting for the temple Mochitsuki, but no one signed up. Not to be deterred they went through the activities as if there were kids as well as completing some of their badges.

They prepared for the 2024 cookie season. There is only a week to take pre-orders in January so we'll be available after service to take orders January 21st. For those of you not attending the temple New Year Party you can send us your email address to gstroop43720obt@gmail.com and when the site is up and running you'll receive an email from one of the girls. We'll let you know which girl will be sending you an email. Cookies will then be available for pick up at the temple on or after Sunday Feb 18th. The girls have an ambitious goal this year to finance their camping plans.



Scholarship applications are due (must be postmarked) by March 1, 2024!

The Class of 2024 Japanese American Graduation Banquet is on Sunday, April 21st, 2024 at 1pm. Please let the committee know if you have a Japanese American senior in the Class of 2024 so we may extend an invitation for the banquet. The Oregon Buddhist Temple's contact is Elaine at e.yuzuriha@comcast.net.

The Bon Odori Props Project 2023

Chris Dart



We had a full and successful year for Bon Odori in 2023 – Sunday Bon Odori, Obon, and Japanese Garden Bon Odori. Attendance was great and we had a much larger than expected crowd at Obon. In 2019 and last year, 2022, we ran out of a lot of our dance props – kachi kachi, tenugui, and uchiwa. So, 2023 became prop year and we had folks helping out.

Susan Endecott, this year and for the last several years has been taking care of our tenuguis. She washes and irons to make sure they are all clean and ready to go. She also buys fabric and makes more tenugui. This year, in addition to all of her tenugui work, she also got more kachi kachi for us. I got some more fabric for Susan but I bet if she had some volunteers to help with tenugui, she would be grateful. Thank you Susan!

Cecilia Eng who wrote and performs the Bon Odori song for us, donated many cute kids kachi kachi (which the kids nicely share with the grownups :-)). Thank you Cecilia!

Dan Snyder took all of our broken kachi kachi home and put on new strings and bells. After Obon, he took another batch for repair. He also is our chief organizer. I bought some more kachi kachi, uchiwa, and Sterlite storage bins. Handed them to Dan and he got them all organized and ready for Obon. Ty Fredette has been handing out all the props by himself at Obon for many years. However, because we now have many more dancers we have enlisted more helpers. If I remember, our crew is Steve Baer, Jana Nytko, Dan, Ty, and Cheri Yoshida. We also use 4 bins per item so the full crew can all be handing out or collecting props at the same time.

Because of all of this, all the dancers quickly had kachi kachi and uchiwa, and most had tenugui which reduced the transition time between dances.

When all the dust settled, Dan and I got together to get everything organized and stored together, with labels, in the storage room by the Onaijin. Dan made nice looking labels and my task is to print them out and replace the handmade labels. Thank you Dan!

It took a village but now when we have 500 + people here for bon odori, we have props for everyone. And if we don't, we will fix that.

I am grateful to all who helped with this project. You made a big difference. So many helped with the bon odori and it takes all of us to pull off this event. So, thank you all!

In Gassho, Chris



OBT 2024 New Year's Party – Jan 21

Carolyn Saiget

Join us as we celebrate the New Year. The luncheon will be right after Sunday service on January 21st. This year's bentos will again be prepared by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki (see order form below). Please note:

- all bentos must be preordered by **Jan. 10th**
- there is a vegetarian option
- pizza will be offered for children not ordering bento (\$5 suggested donation - see order form on page 16)
- participants are welcome to bring their own "bento"

Come join us for some good food, conversation, and entertainment!



Attention Japanese American High School Seniors Class of 2024

Elaine Yuzuriha

The applications for the Japanese American Community High School Graduation Scholarships are available online at the following link:

<https://www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships>

Note that you or your parents should be a member of one of the 11 Portland area Japanese American sponsoring organizations on or before December 17, 2023 to qualify for a community scholarship. Please see the scholarship application for the complete requirements.



Bon Odori Schedule 2024
Chris Dart

Bon Odori is scheduled through the end of 2024. Japanese garden Bon Odori will be on Saturday, August 31, 2024 (in the cooler afternoon) with a practice for the garden to be scheduled. Sunday Bon Odori is the last Sunday of the month at 1:00 in the basement with a couple of exceptions - no Sunday Bon Odori in July or August. Practice for Obon is the same as it always been – the 3 weeks before Obon, on Tuesday and Thursday, at 7 PM, in the basement.

Please watch the email list and the main webpage of the temple for any last minute cancellations or changes.

2024 Sunday Bon Odori dates

January 28 th	June 30 th
February 25 th	September 29 th
March 31 st	October 27 th
April 28 th	November 24 th
May 26 th	December 29 th

OBON

Leader practice – Sunday July 14th, Basement, 1 PM
 Dance practices – Tuesday and Thursday, 7 PM, in the basement
 July 16th, 18th, 23rd, 25th, 30th, and August 3rd
 Obon is August 3rd

Japanese Garden practice at OBT is TBD
 Japanese Garden Bon Odori is August 31st

**Hoonko (Memorial honoring Shinran Shonin) – OBT
 January 28, 10am with Rev. Koyama**

Repay-indebtedness-observance

The most important Jodoshinshu observance of the memorial for Shinran Shonin, set as January 16th by Nishihongwanji.
Cocktails, by Rev. Masao Kodani

OBT Hanamatsuri Changed to April 7

The date of the OBT Hanamatsuri service has been changed to April 7 (originally listed as April 14.)

Flower Toban, December 29, 2023



Etsu O., Jayne I., Junko I. prepare flowers prior to Joya-E and New Year's Day services

The article below by OBT board member Shinya Ichikawa is intended to help make the board more accessible to temple members.



Arigatai - Thankful, Once Again Shinya Ichikawa

OBT President Cathy Yarne requested that Board members write an article each month for the OBT newsletter. And as the most senior member of the Board, she selected me to write the first article. In the February 2022 Newsletter, I wrote an article entitled Arigatai – Thankful. Thus, the above title.

I was born in Seattle December 9, 1941 under a flashlight. It was two days after Pearl Harbor and the entire west coast was blacked out at night for fear that Japanese airplanes would attack. Both my parents come from a long line of Buddhists priests from Japan, going back well over 20 generations. They immigrated to this country in 1928. My father was the second son in his family. His older brother took over the temple in Japan so my father decided to come to America.

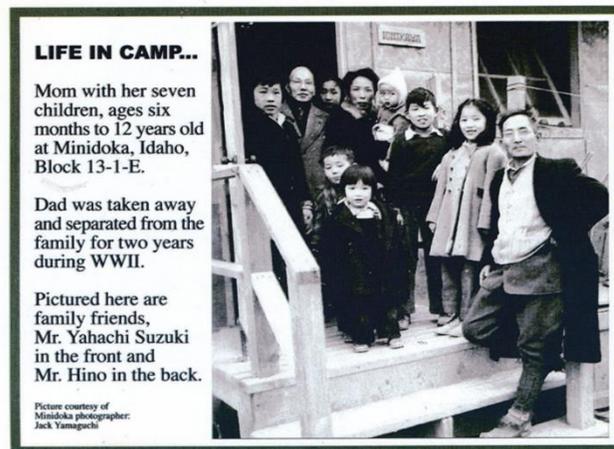
My father was first a priest in Fresno, CA. He returned to Japan briefly with my mother and three children when his mother died in Japan. On their return to America in 1936 he was assigned to the Seattle temple. When war was declared with Japan due to the “Day of Infamy” my father, being a Buddhist priest, was arrested by the FBI in early 1942, being declared a dangerous alien to the country. He was sent to various inland camps in Missoula Montana, Livingston Louisiana and Santa Fe New Mexico. My mother, with seven children, I being the youngest, was sent from Seattle to a War Relocation Authority camp in Minidoka, ID. My wife who is a



Minidoka 1943. Yasashi & Shinya Ichikawa (L)
Jayne & Ami Kinoshita (R)

year younger than I was born at the Minidoka camp. Sometime in 1944 the family moved from Minidoka to the Crystal City Family Reunion Camp in Texas. In February 1945, my father joined us in Crystal City from Santa Fe. The war with Japan was officially over in December 1945 and we returned to Seattle in February 1946.

In Seattle I was raised in a very racially diverse neighborhood and schools, including kindergarten through high school and the University of Washington. Our family lived in a house directly behind the temple. I attended Sunday services, classes, weddings and funerals at the temple. I left Seattle in 1964 but frequently visit family and friends there.



Above description by oldest brother, the late Sat Ichikawa

The temple in Portland was first organized in 1903. The current temple building was constructed and dedicated in November 1966. Ours was the first wedding in the newly constructed temple in June 1967. Reverend Kazuo Nakagami officiated. I believe it was his first wedding to officiate and he seemed as nervous as we were. I have served on the board of directors at the Oregon Buddhist Temple for many years, and was president for one tumultuous year. My retirement since 2006, 17 years ago, allows me to spend more time with my favorite activity which is to play tennis 3 or 4 times a week.

We have two sons, Jeff 53 and David 50 years old, both born in Portland. They attended the Oregon Buddhist Temple growing up. Jeff graduated from UW. On his work assignment, he was sent to Japan for a year and met the girl he would marry. They also had an American wedding in Portland at the Oregon Buddhist Temple officiated by Reverend Julie Hanada-Lee. They live in Austin, TX and have two sons.

Our younger son David graduated from University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. He met his wife-to-be there and they were married at the Seattle Buddhist Temple with retired Rinban Don Castro officiating. They have a daughter and son.



Family at Joshua Tree National Park, Saturday February 18, 2023
Left to Right: Seattle: son David, grandson Alex, daughter-in-law Jenna, granddaughter Mika, freshman at Claremont McKenna
Portland: Jayne, Shinya; Austin, TX: Jeff, daughter-in-law Junko, grandsons Martin, freshman at Texas Tech, Shawn, senior at Oregon State

OBT Events and Meetings

Links to and list of recurring events and meetings. Because most events are now live at OBT, this table will contain only those events/meetings with zoom links. Check the newsletter calendar for a list of everything that is occurring at the temple. For questions: obon.oregonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com (goes to Chris).

Please check our website for any last minute updates (like weather, funerals, or cancellations).

OBT Regular Service

Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service)

And occasional special events that are held in the Hondo right after service like the general meeting.

Every week – Sun 10 AM

Every other week – Sun 11 AM

Link below to website for the filmed services:

<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/>

This link is to zoom for the live Sunday Services and Dharma Exchange:

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88441525686?pwd=EeovifEdmbgAgQUoFXpEC1RAQrzPP1.1>

Meeting ID: 884 4152 5686

Passcode: 804117

OBWA

3rd Sat, mid-month, each month – 10 AM (see calendar for specific date)

Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjl5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09>

Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266

Passcode: 574232

Sunday Bon Odori

Bon odori is back! Last Sunday of the month at 1 PM in the basement. July/August are exceptions because of Obon and dancing at the Japanese Garden. See calendar for specific dates. Masks optional and we try to distance. See Chris for details or to be added to our Japanese Stuff list that we use to notify dancers --- obon.oregonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com email comes to me and I can answer questions or add you to the list.

Zoom link if you can't make it in person.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81054749182?pwd=aHBjNXhERzNyT3hUU0E5Wmw2cUliZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 5474 9182

Passcode: 113529

BEC (Buddhist Education Committee)

This is the group who figures out the educational activities for the temple like the Sunday Services, Dharma Exchange, the Library, the videos and Sunday slide show presentations, and other tasks. We are always busy especially since we are currently without a resident minister. You are welcome to visit and listen in on the decisions or volunteer 😊

Meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7 PM with a couple exceptions (like during bon odori practice dates).

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97807303590?pwd=MU90SkZHUnpJUXVxd0EvVGZDYUo4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943



**SUPPORTER OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
PLEDGE FOR 2024**

Name: _____

Address : _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

All individuals who make a pledge will be listed as a Supporter of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

For individuals who pledge \$300 or more:

- A portion of your pledge will be forwarded to the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) for BCA membership
- Eligible to be nominated to be on the Oregon Buddhist Temple Board of Directors
- Eligible to vote for the Board of Directors of Oregon Buddhist Temple and other issues that are presented at the General Meeting.

I will pledge for 2024, the amount of \$ _____

_____ The above amount is to be given as a one- time amount of \$ _____ or

_____ The above amount is to be given in payments of \$ _____

_____ Monthly

_____ Quarterly

Please send this completed Pledge for 2024 to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Avenue
Portland, OR 97202-3037

Pledge payments can be mailed to the above address or made via PayPal at
OregonBuddhistTemple.com

In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple

2024 NORTHWEST DISTRICT HO'ONKO SERVICE JANUARY 13 & 14



REV. KATSUYA KUSUNOKI

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple



REV. TADAO KOYAMA

Tacoma Buddhist Temple



REV. CYNDI YASAKI

White River Buddhist Temple



REV. YOSHIMICHI UCHI

"Toronto Buddhist Temple"

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT SEATTLEBETSUIN.ORG

SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE
1427 S MAIN ST
SEATTLE WA 98144

2024 Seattle/Tacoma/White River Joint Ho'onko Service

"Our Founder Shinran Shonin's Memorial Day Observance"

Saturday, January 13th

9:30 am

Workshop 1: "On Goeden Scroll 'Who is Shinran?'" - Rev. Kusunoki

10:00 am

Workshop 2: "Chanting Practice of Hymns of Birth in the Pure Land Ojoraisan)" - Rev. Ouchi

10:40 am

English Dharma Talk - Rev. Yasaki

11:00 am

Special Hoonko Ritual "Ojoraisan" - Chanting Leader: Rev. Kusunoki

12:00 pm

Workshop 3: "Tour of the Altar (Naijin)" - Rev. Kusunoki



Sunday, January 14th

10:00 am

Hoonko Service "Shuso Sango Saho Music service" with Gagaku, Taiko and Keyboard

Chanting Leader: Rev. Yasaki

English Dharma Talk: Rev. Ouchi

10:50 am

Japanese Dharma Talk: Rev. Ouchi

Combined English Dharma Exchange: Rev. Koyama

11:30 am

'Otoki' - Light refreshments in the Gym



Come celebrate the New Year
OBT NEW YEAR'S SERVICE & PARTY
Sunday, January 21, 2024

10:00 A.M. Service & 11:30A.M. Party

Bento Lunch prepared by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki
\$30 per person

Everyone is encouraged to bring their grandparents, children, and friends, young and old.
An alternative lunch (pizza) will be offered for children not ordering the bento.

Please use the form below for ordering your bento.
DEADLINE: all orders must be received by January 10th.

OBT New Year's Bento Order Form
please mark { X } for vegetarian option

Participant's Name (please print)

Participant's Name (please print)

_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }

Use { X } to indicate VEGETARIAN option

_____ x \$30 = \$ _____
of BENTOS \$ enclosed

Oregon Buddhist Temple

Make checks payable to the OBT. **Order & Payment due by January 10, 2024**

3720 S.E. 34th Ave.
Portland, Or. 97202

_____ individual placing this order (please print)

_____ phone number

Please specify # of children NOT ordering bento: _____ (suggested donation \$5 per child)

Adults not wishing to order a bento are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

For questions, please contact Katie Tamiyasu: 503 781-9162 or kekik@comcast.net