



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path



The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

October 2025



The Wheel Continues to Turn Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy October everyone! It was so nice in September to have Dharma School back in session. I usually give more doctrinal Jodo Shinshu messages in the adult Dharma talks on Sunday, but for Dharma School talks, I try to focus on some of the basic Buddhist concepts that are easier to grasp and understand. This does not mean I think less of the students' message, and in fact, I believe that adults can always use reminders here and there about where our Jodo Shinshu teachings come from too.

The Buddha taught that all of us are interconnected with one another. The Buddha taught the teaching of "skillful means" or teaching the Dharma in a manner that is based on who he was speaking to. The Buddha taught the concept of the middle way or not going to one extreme or the other. While these messages are easy to digest and listen to, it seems that time and time again, we as unenlightened beings fall short in regard to these basic concepts of Buddhism.

The Buddha taught us about interdependence, yet we have a tendency to think selfishly. One of the first questions we may ask in our heads when someone requests something of us, or if we are asked to help is, "what's in it for me?". When it comes to skillful means, if we don't like what we hear, we instantly turn off our ears and our brains. Or if we teach, we try to force the listener to agree with our own opinions. Or we refuse to adapt our methods because we are too stubborn to expand our style. As for the middle way, we often have a "my way or the highway" attitude. We want things either "Yes, or no". It's black or white. "You're either with me, or you're against me!" without realizing that multiple things can be true at the same time.

This is why the Buddha taught what he taught. It's amazing that a religion that was started over 2500 years ago still rings true to this very day. The Buddha realized that he would not be physically around forever and needed to make sure that the unenlightened beings of the future would need a teaching that was easy to grasp and to engage with. This is where the nembutsu comes in.

Namo Amida Butsu is one of the most precious teachings that the Buddha gifted to us, because of its timelessness. People long before us heavily recited and chanted "Namo Amida Butsu" regularly and we still chant it to this day. This is the continued call of Amida Buddha and Shakyamuni Buddha's wish for us to deeply listen and trust in the teachings. Us saying Namu Amida Butsu reaffirms our trust in the great wisdom and compassion. While we fall short

many times of actively living the concepts that the Buddha taught, like interdependence, middle-way, we can definitely say, "Namo Amida Butsu".

Remember, this is not a teaching that gives us permission to be lazy, apathetic, and selfish. This is the teaching that acknowledges and even embraces our human and unenlightened side and gives us hope that we are also able to engage in the teachings without having to become full on monks or nuns. We as laypeople and ordained clergy alike are able to partake in this teaching and say "Namo Amida Butsu". All of us are in this together, and walking the path of the nembutsu. How wonderful of a teaching is that?

Namo Amida Butsu



Senryu Poetry Judy Hittle, OBT President

*History is ours
We must learn or err again
Let us remember.*

Many of you are familiar with Haiku, but are you familiar with Senryu? I wasn't until now. Perhaps, I just wrote a Senryu poem?

Recently I was introduced to a book, *They Never Asked*. It's a collection of Senryu poetry from the WWII Portland Assembly Center. During a time of uncertainty and fear, many of the Japanese Americans turned to expressing their feelings using Senryu poetry. According to this book, Senryu poetry has the same rhythm as Haiku, - 5 syllables, 7 syllables, 5 syllables. Haiku is usually "the interaction of humans with the nonhuman world", i.e. Mother Nature, seasons, animals, etc. Whereas Senryu is "generally about human relationships or interactions with other humans".

This book has a partial collection of poetry written while the Japanese Americans were incarcerated at the Portland Assembly Center. Each Senryu poem that is shared is first presented in Japanese, then in romanized Japanese and finally in English.

Reading the selections of Senryu poems in the book may give the reader a sense of what the writer may have been feeling as he/she was creating the poem. It's a unique perspective of a difficult time for those who were forced to experience it. Perhaps the ease of writing Senryu poetry helped people cope with their situation, having no other choice.

When I first thought of writing about this book and Senryu poetry, I had a particular reason in mind, but as with time, it has flitted away. However, here comes another thought – how about using Senryu poems as a way for us to share our

(continued on p. 2)

"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: obtwebmaster@gmail.com website: oregonbuddhisttemple.com

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

Senryu Poetry (continued from p.1)

thoughts with the Sangha. Anybody interested. May I start?

*Hearing the Dharma
Though heard before, sounds anew
My ears must have grown.*

Perhaps, we can also use Senryu to reflect upon ourselves

and our shortcomings.

*Procrastination
I find I'm in a pickle
When will those words come?*

Thank you.
Judy Hittle (jasatohi@gmail.com)

October Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of October. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the October 19 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.

Albert Abe, 10/5/2022	Yoshio Kinoshita, 10/18/2005	Patricia Becky Onchi, 10/30/1953
Alfred Ando, 10/19/1989	Joichi Kiso, 10/11/1958	Masaye Ono, 10/15/2000
Masaki Ando, 10/6/1950*	Komojo Kiso, 10/30/1956	Torao Ozaki, 10/23/1970
Kanekichi Aoki, 10/18/1959	Hatsujiro Kitagawa, 10/02/1962	Helen H Sadamoto, 10/20/1994*
Mary Hisako Asakawa, 10/23/2009*	Satoru Kodama, 10/19/2009	Tamon Saito, 10/06/2001
William T Cheng, 10/31/1978	Mitsuru Koji, 10/22/1963	Tomoko Saito, 10/11/1950
Saroku Doochin, 10/23/1950	Hitoshi Kono, 10/22/2016	Kazue Shiraishi, 10/9/1995*
Seiji Fujita, 10/19/1982	Keiki Lawrence, 10/6/1963	Yoshihei Shiraishi, 10/8/1976
Haru Furukawa, 10/12/2015*	Jim W Lew, 10/25/1969	Mitsuru Shoji, 10/21/1963*
Ryokichi Furukawa, 10/3/1950	Makoto Maeda, 10/18/2009	Suetaro Sotomura, 10/17/1958
Yoshiomi Hashiguchi, 10/11/1958	Alfred Mar, 10/17/1992	Shizue Sugihara, 10/26/2012*
Misao Hasuie, 10/22/1977	Masajiro Masuda, 10/24/1965	Yoneko Sugimura, 10/6/1992*
Betty Heath, 10/8/1963	Kanechi Masuhara, 10/16/1950	Yozo Sunamoto, 10/3/1975
Frank Hrubant, 10/1/2019	Gary Matsuoka, 10/31/2009	Gohei Takabatake, 10/25/1969
Sahomi Tachibana (Doris Hrubant), 10/10/2024*	Yashiyo Matsuoka, 10/1/2001	Shiro Takasugi, 10/22/1982
Natsuko Iguchi, 10/2/2007	Richard Mishima, 10/17/2021	Kiichiro Takayama, 10/25/1952
Katsuzo Ikata, 10/21/1963	Ryonosuke Miura, 10/29/1962	Masumi Takeuchi, 10/3/1999*
Tomi Inuzuka, 10/6/1960	Nobuo Tom Nakano, 10/25/1993	Masao Tamiyasu, 10/19/1998
Sam Ishida, 10/23/1992	Mae Nakano, 10/9/2013	Lenora Tanaka, 10/21/2013*
Tomiko Iwasaki, 10/16/2010*	Miyuki Neishi, 10/1/1987*	Masako Urushitani, 10/15/1983
Yasukichi Iwasaki, 10/26/1968	Mitsunari Nishino, 10/6/1969	Hiro Wakabayashi, 10/30/2017
Kinu Kagawa, 10/31/1999*	Asayo, Noji, 10/21/1994	Tsuta Wakita, 10/21/1963*
Lily R Kajiwaru, 10/13/2015	Kichizo Noji, 10/2/1968	George Watanabe, 10/17/2017
Fumiko Kida, 10/22/2006*	Reiko Oda, 10/11/1990	Tokuji Yamaguchi, 10/01/2009
Joichi Kido, 10/30/1956	Mary Okita, 10/22/2013*	Daigoro Yoshida, 10/27/1971
Yashiyo Kinoshita, 10/19/1979*	Jujiro Omura, 10/31/1961	Fumiye Yuzuriha, 10/1/1978*

* OBWA member



Henry "Hank" Mishima
September 19, 1934 – August 13, 2025

Condolences to the family of OBT member Henry "Hank" Mishima who passed away August 13, 2025. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Eulia; his children, Henry and his wife Susan, Katherine and her husband John Abbenhouse, and Thomas. He is the uncle of OBWA Co-President Amy Peterson (husband John.)

He compassionately served the Gresham community as a dentist for 47 years and provided care for underserved communities through his volunteer work with Medical Teams International.

A celebration of life was held on September 6th. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to either the Japanese American Museum of Oregon or Medical Teams International.

Please see the full obituary at:

<https://obits.oregonlive.com/us/obituaries/oregon/name/henry-mishima-obituary?id=59312755>

Oregon Buddhist Temple August 2025 Donations

In memory of Ted & Martha Tamaki

S. Tamaki family

Dan Hasuike 1 year memorial

Henry & Betty Young

In memory of Harry & Elaine Gekko

John, Joann, Ethan, Christopher Ng

Lotus Circle

Dana Kakishita

SHOTSUKI HOYO**In memory of Hisako Kakishita**

Dana Kakishita

In memory of Seumatsu Ando**In memory of Sumiko Ando****In memory of Yoshii Fujii**

Diane Ando Harder

In memory of H. Tamiyasu

Janice Okamoto

Obon/Hatsubon Service

Connie Masuoka

Etsuko Osaki

Lynn Yoshihara Kanaya

Kiku Hondo

Special donationsKen Garner (*vehicle donation*)S. Tamaki Family (*Osaki Library*)Brenda Creed (*Thank you*)Skip & Tracy Yotsuuye (*Fall Bazaar*)**Obonfest**Cathlyn Yarne (*Donor Circle*)

Julia Yoshimoto & Surinder Singh

Cathy Shikatani

Alfred Ono

Toyoko Oguri

Chie Nakamichi

Tom Howard

Sonoko Kakizaki & Hirugohan

(Thanks for opportunity to perform)

Mary & John Crull

Anonymous (6)

2025 Annual Pledge

Junko Iwao Toll

Monthly/bi-monthly Pledge

Glenda Watson-Coly

Diane Ando Harder

Patrick Hammersmith

Tom Howard

Susan Endecott

**Donation acknowledgements
are mailed for donations of
\$250 or more, and to any
donor upon request.**

**Please inform us of any
significant error or omission.
Thank you.**

sjendecott@gmail.com

Please Join Us with Rev. Koyama :



Sunday October 12, 2025 10am

Sunday November 30, 2025 10am



OBT Services in October

	Officiant	Dharma Talk
Oct. 5	Brenda Fugate	TBD
Oct. 12	Rev. Koyama	Rev. Koyama
Oct. 19	Brenda Fugate	Ken Garner
Oct. 26	No Service - Fall Sukiyaki Bazaar	



Jean Akiko Matsumoto
September 25, 1934 – August 31, 2025

Condolences to the family of OBT member Jean Matsumoto who passed away August 31, 2025. She is survived by sister, Alice Ando; nephew, Kevin (Tammy) Ando; niece, Missy Eisaman; great niece, Kristina; and grandnephew, Lucas.

“Miss Jean”, as she was known to generations of Sunday/Dharma School students, warmly welcomed new visitors to OBT and treated everyone at temple like family.

She was recognized by the Buddhist Churches of America with the title of Honorary Ministerial Assistant. She was the first woman to serve on the OBT Board of Directors and later elected to be the temple's first female president.

Please see the full obituary at: <https://obits.oregonlive.com/us/obituaries/oregon/name/jean-matsumoto-obituary?id=59440192>.

Remembering Ms. Jean Matsumoto

Photos by Kevin and Tammy Ando, Maho Garner, Ann Shintani, Toyoko Oguri, Angie Hughes and OBT archives

I first got to know Jean when she and her sister Alice brought my brother Harold Iwamoto and I to Sunday School (now known as Dharma School) and service in the early 1950's. Jean and Alice were our Sunday School teachers, so we got to know them quite well. Back then the temple was called Oregon Buddhist Church and was located on NW 10th Street between Everett and Flanders. Shortly after my father began driving us to church, I remember our car ran out of gas and the three of us had to push the car off to the side of the street. That everlasting memory taught us to always be sure to have enough gas in the car before venturing off. We couldn't wait to tell Jean what happened, just to see her laugh and smile was always a treat.

Another memorable thing about Ms. Jean was that she shared her birth date of September 26th with my brother Harold, and Rev. Gregory Gibbs' son Sho.

In Gassho,
 Katie T.



So many people over the years have commented how Miss Jean took them to the temple so they would be exposed to the Dharma. From Ernie Takeda, to the Saito girls and many more I don't recall their names (I apologize). She directed the Dharma School for so many years so when she resigned that position we wrote a parody to the tune Jean by Rod McKuen sung by Oliver. I wish I either still had the words or someone remembers them. She learned to swim after she retired as well and hosted many Dharma School Swim Parties at her time at Holladay Park Plaza. My girls did the lifeguarding. She made such an impact on the youth at OBT that all she had to do was call to get them to volunteer and later while fundraising for the 50th anniversary building fund the students responded. The fund has even funded the recent upgrade around the temple like re-gilding the Amida statue.

Amy P.



Ms. Jean was one of my very first Dharma School teachers. She always wore beautiful blue or eye-catching bright eyeshadow and bold lipstick that I couldn't help but notice.

I used to swim competitively, and she even started swimming laps too. When I asked her for donations for my Swim-A-Thon, supporters would generously give about \$1 for every lap I swam during 2 or 3 hours. She donated a surprisingly large amount without realizing how much I was actually swimming—little did she know I finished much more than she expected!

Ms. Jean had such a warm, generous spirit, always wearing a smile that radiated kindness both on her face and in her heart. She would charmingly laugh at my dad's witty, but mostly snarky, remarks, making every moment with her even more special.

One of the first Dharma School readings I memorized was The Golden Chain-1, thanks to Ms. Jean. 🙏 I still have it memorized to this day ✨

Cheri Y.



As new members to OBT, Ms. Jean was warm and welcoming and always remembered my children's names each week. Even after she stopped coming to temple in person, she recognized us when she came for special events. We regret that we missed seeing her teach Dharma school as she would have made a significant impact. We are grateful to have memories of her and that we could be a part of her service by volunteering our time.

Kristen W.

Whenever I had a question about someone at the temple or in the Japanese American community, Jean was my go-to resource. She seemed to know something about everyone – not because she was nosy, but because she was INVOLVED with so many things.

Jean coordinated Toban for many years. I don't know if she was the first to translate "Toban" as "My Turn" but she was certainly responsible for keeping the notion alive for so

long. So, depending on how you feel about Toban, you can thank Jean for that, or not.

Years ago, when a Board member questioned the need for fresh flowers on the onajin every week (as a cost-cutting idea), Jean started the Lotus Circle to cover the cost of fresh flowers. Each week she would diligently contact possible donors who lost a loved one in that week in the past to ask if they would like to make a Lotus Circle donation in memory of their loved one to cover the cost of flowers. She then listed the donations in the newsletter. (The Lotus Circle donations far exceeded the cost of fresh flowers.) Lotus Circle donations dwindled when Jean was no longer able to maintain the regular contacts with donors, and also because the Shotsuki Hoyo memorials began to serve a similar purpose. But Lotus Circle donations continue to come to the temple from time to time. Some of us will always miss those gentle reminders from Jean.

Susan E.



I have many pleasant memories of Jean. Aside from our mutual activities at Oregon Buddhist Temple, there was a period of time that I swam with her in the pool at Holladay Park Plaza where she lived. She also was part of the group that planned a surprise 70th birthday party for me at the Holladay Park Plaza penthouse.

Shinya I.



As my husband, son and I drove across the country from New Jersey in 2017 for our move to Oregon, I looked forward to entering Oregon by I-84 and drive along the Columbia River Gorge to enter Portland, but the Labor Day wildfires forced us to take a southerly route through Idaho. I remembered vaguely that my mother mentioned living in Nyssa, Ontario, and Weiser post-WWII, so we drove towards Ontario. Not knowing anything about the town, we followed road signs to Four Rivers Cultural Center (4RCC). Imagine my surprise to walk into the community center to find a room with large photos of people I knew from Portland. The photos of Haru Ninomiya and Jean Matsumoto welcomed us with their familiar smiles and their oral history recording describing their lives in their familiar voices as part of the “Coming Home – Voices of Return and Resettlement 1945 - 1965”.



(<https://4rcc.com/event/coming-home-voices-of-return-and-resettlement-1945-1965-exhibit/>) Jean was instrumental in planning my mother's funeral in 2012 at OBT. At the time, Jean was working on a file to document the temple process for conducting funerals, so we corresponded extensively not only in planning my mother's funeral, but also on updating and editing her document for OBT. Of course, once we settled in Portland, we saw her often at the temple and Ikoi-no-Kai. Jean will always be remembered for the first one to “greet” us as we entered Oregon for our new life living in Portland.

Toyoko O.

Ms. Jean was the very first person to greet us at OBT when we first attended in January of 2008. Later, through many conversations, she was able to connect Ryan with his 1st and 4th grade teacher, Ms. Carolyn Rust (pictured), from Chief Joseph Elementary School during the 1980s. Ms. Jean graciously invited us to dine with her and Carolyn on several occasions at the Holladay Park Plaza and Ryan was so happy to have the opportunity to catch up with his grade school teacher, all thanks to Ms. Jean.

Angie H.



This photo was taken after the viewing of the BCA's 125th Anniversary Live Service on September 1, with few people who were chatting with Ms. Jean. She was crying as she entered hondo - happy crying, and I think everyone started crying happily to see her at the temple.



These photos are from the event, "Kodomo no Tameni" that happened on November 24th, 2018 at OBT. Jean spoke and introduced the late George Nakata to talk on the experience of Japanese incarceration - she was a major part of this event.

Maho G.



Most of you already know how devoted Jean was to serving our community. But perhaps nowhere will she be missed more than here at the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

As a child, Jean and Alice would walk me and my sisters to Sunday School. Miss Jean was one of our Sunday School teachers and served many years as our Dharma School coordinator. Plenty of us spent long hours working beside her on committees, the board, at conventions, temple functions, and in the kitchen. For a time she was affectionately called "Mother," frequently chaperoning youth activities - looking out for the next generation. In my early 20s Jean and I drove down to a 5 day retreat in San Luis Obispo followed by a day at Disneyland; our twenty-year age difference never mattered. Long before xerox machines and computers, (for years) Jean helped publish, print, and mail our temple newsletter and was instrumental in organizing our archives. She was ahead of her time — breaking barriers so women could respectfully hold board positions and serve as temple president.

Jean was a bridge between the old Issei ways and the resolve of the Nisei, while at the same time "going with the flow" and welcoming the Sansei generation. She was truly part of the heart and soul of the OBT — an immeasurable treasure whose kindness, compassion, leadership, generosity, and steady presence personally touch so many lives, young and old. She helped to define what this temple was and is today. I will miss Jean deeply, but her legacy will always be a part of this temple.

Carol S.



OBT Potluck Picnic at Kenilworth Park, Sept 7 2025
Photos by Maho Garner





***Guest speaker Rev. Cyndi Yasaki
at Sunday Service, August 31, 2025***



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Editor's Note: The article below by OBT board member Katie Tamiyasu is intended to help make the board more accessible to temple members.



What is Toban?

Katie Tamiyasu

Toban teams consist of members and attendees who help during an assigned month. Basically each team does monthly cleaning of the temple and annex, set up and take down table and chairs in the basement for Dharma Exchange, and provide refreshment after services.

At our September Oregon Buddhist Temple (OBT) board meeting, we discussed the subject of shrinking numbers of Toban helpers cause a hardship on the upkeep of the temple. It was brought up that we might have to start a monthly cleanup by all regular attendees.

Prior to covid there were twelve (12) Toban teams. Each team usually consists of a dozen or more helpers and serves one month out of the year. Due to a steady decline in membership, we currently have only six (6) Toban teams, which means each team must serve twice a year. The steady decline of membership, not just at OBT, but all ministries has become a hardship at times to serve the needs of the facility.

To explain or reiterate "Toban", I submit a page from our OBT Board Handbook, which was written and summarized by Jean Matsumoto, who was a matriarch of our temple and recently passed peacefully on August 31, 2025 while under hospice care. Namo Amida Butsu.

I have never asked what the word TOBAN meant (I don't know why), but I have been assuming all these years that it means "My Turn" to help clean the Temple - my turn coming up only once every 11 months. It not only means "my turn," but it is "MY CHANCE" to show my appreciation to all the men and women whose monetary donations and hard work (many of our members literally sawed boards and hammered nails and laid the foundation) resulted in this beautiful place to hear the Dharma. And it goes even further back to the old temple on NW 10th and Everett Streets. Maybe this is what they are talking about when they say "PAYBACK TIME," but how do you properly pay back people who are still helping with toban after 40 or 50 years?

Some of the Fujinkai (OBWA) members of our Temple started toban back at the old building and are still willing to pitch in. If we all join them in taking care of our building each month now while we are able, we can look forward to many more years of having a place to go to listen to the Dharma. So, I hope all of you will humor me and tell me that my interpretation of the word "Toban" is correct and join in this spirit of cooperation (remember, we want all ages, sexes, and groups to help each other out, so that the jobs are easier and will get done more quickly) to keep up the care of our Temple.

In Gassho,

Jean Matsumoto

Toban Coordinator, 1997-98, 2014-16



OBT Board of Directors Judy Hittle, OBT President

Please allow me a few moments to speak about the OBT Board.

What is the OBT Board? It's a group of sangha members who have been elected and have accepted the position of serving on the Board. The Board is responsible "to ensure that the OBT Sangha has the facilities, minister and other resources they need to share the Buddha Dharma in their daily lives and during their major life events".

To be eligible to become a Board member, one must establish Membership with the Oregon Buddhist Temple and continue to be a member throughout one's three year-term on the Board.

A major responsibility of being a Board member is the willingness to give one's TIME:

- to actively participate in discussions brought before the Board;

- to actively participate in supporting that which has been approved by the Board;

- to actively participate in temple activities.

We are looking for Sangha members who would like to join us and who are willing to run for the Board on the November 2025 ballot.

If you have any questions, please ask any of the current Board members: Ken Garner, Jayne and Shinya Ichikawa, Jack Kostylo, Carol Saiget, Katie Tamiyasu, Glenda Watson-Coly, Kristen Wong, Cathy Yarne, Cheri Yoshida and Judy Hittle.



OBT Board Meeting Summary Jack Kostylo, OBT Secretary

The OBT Board meeting was held September 3rd at 6:35pm. Motions were passed approving the purchase of a USPS-approved mailbox as well as providing a budget for fundraiser merchandising. Additional conversation were had about temple cleaning, future speakers, and special services. The meeting ended at 7:58pm.



OBT Annual Holiday Craft Fair Angie Hughes

You are invited to OBT's 10th Annual [Holiday Craft Fair](#) on November 22, 9am-3pm. Admission is free and all are welcomed!

Over 30 local artisans will be featured, including various handmade crafts made from wood, yarn, fabric, paper, clay, and many more. Please spread the word to your family, friends, and community, and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions, feel free to email the event coordinator, Mai Thi, at thirific@gmail.com.



OBWA Report Amy Peterson

The OBWA has been very thoughtful in handling their finances, caring for others, and activities for our members.

We are still looking at two major activities:

1) **NW District Convention** in conjunction with the **National Council meeting** in February in the Seattle area. We are not sure what our obligations will be yet, but we're poised and ready.

2) We continue to be asked how many people are planning to attend the **World Buddhist Women's Conference** Sept. 11-12, 2027 in Honolulu. The members are considering the amount of the offset for the registration to recommend. If you are or not a member of OBWA and interested in going, please let Jeanette, Amy or Jayne know so we can alert Hawaii Kodan.

Please note: the venue has changed to the **Hilton on Waikiki**.



Our organization continues to recognize needs around the temple and BCA and due to the excellent work of our members in various fundraising efforts and fiscal responsibility, we have recently donated to Dharma Forward and are awaiting information on the replacement cost for a new convection oven to determine how much of a donation.

If you know of an **older member that would like visitations**, please contact Jayne Ichikawa. We want to remember all of our past members or those who have moved to the area recently from other temples.

Our 3rd annual **Matsutake outing** is scheduled for Friday Oct 31st. (you'll be home before dark). Participants should be OBWA members. Please let Jayne Ichikawa know of your

interest. No cost for participation—only a potluck dish.

Ann Shintani is also seeking volunteers to research “**orphan gravestones**” at **Lone Fir Cemetery**, probably in Spring 2026, with assistance with JAMO, Japanese Ancestral Society, and OHS. Please contact Ann for more information. You don't need to be OBWA to participate.



Yasui Family Exhibit Tour Jayne Ichikawa

OBT will tour the **Yasui family exhibit** at the Oregon Historical Society (OHS), after Sunday service, on **Oct. 5, 2025**. Carpooling will be provided to OHS and we may get together at a restaurant if there is interest. If you are a Multnomah County resident and have ID to show it, admission is free. Please contact jayneichi@gmail.com if you would like to attend. For more info on the exhibit see [The Yasui Family: An American Story - ohs.org](http://TheYasuiFamily.AnAmericanStory-ohs.org)



Girl Scouts Amy Peterson

The girls are continuing to be active and came to the potluck the first day of Dharma School to help a little with clean-up before their troop meeting. We have some new girls interested in joining our troop.

We submitted the temple for recognition by the Girl Scouts for its continued support of the troop as well as the local service unit allowing them to use the temple parking lot during day camp, for the building for special events, the bottle drop donations that help fund some of our activities and food for our camping trips. This was presented on Sept. 27th. at the end of service.

Currently some of the girls are participating in the Fall product sale for nuts, chocolates, bark boxes, magazine subscriptions and more. If those sound interesting please send an email to gstroop43720obt@gmail.com and the girls will send you an email.

This is also our email if you want to be contacted for cookie pre-sale in January with cookies to be delivered in February.

Announcing our new cookie EXPLOREMores

NEW YORK (Sept. 9, 2025)—Today, Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) announced that Exploremores™, a rocky road ice cream-inspired sandwich cookie, will join the lineup for the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie season. Filled with delicious flavors of chocolate, marshmallow and toasted almond-flavored crème, Exploremores reflect the spirit of exploration at the heart of every Girl Scout. Girl Scouts across the United States will offer the Exploremores cookie nationally, both online and in person at local booths, during the upcoming 2026 Girl Scout Cookie season alongside fan favorites like Thin Mints® and Samoas®/Caramel deLites®.

You can get more info at this link:

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/footer/press-room/2025-press-announcements/new-exploremores-girl-scout-cookie.html>



Mottainai Craft Group Debi Shimamoto

August was a month of no scheduled meetups for the Mottainai Craft Group. Instead, it offered a time for our members to pause and reflect on their involvement in the group, their thoughts on ongoing projects, and their preferred personal working styles moving forward.

September's arrival brought members back and ready to begin anew. We welcomed some new additions to our mailing list and look forward to meeting curious newcomers who want to learn about repurposing kimono and yukata fabric into creative, handcrafted items.

Donations were also received and as we sort through the items, we often uncover interesting details on fabric and design that deepen our appreciation for kimono.

Looking Ahead: Holiday Craft Fair at OBT (November)

Mottainai Craft group will have a table with a variety of small, handcrafted items for sale. Two items featured in this post were made from leftover silk and cotton scraps, remnants from garments previously sold at the Kimono Booth during Obon.

Jean crafted an assortment of colorful hair scrunchies.

Mai Thi created intricate floral accessories made from silk that can be worn in the hair or on the lapel. A nice way to add a touch of color to everyday wear.

Ongoing Donations Welcome

We continue to gratefully accept donations of kimono, yukata, and Japanese-themed fabric. These materials are repurposed by our group and sold at temple events, with all proceeds benefiting the temple and women's group (OBWA). If you plan to donate, please let us know who you are so we can thank you properly.

Upcoming Meeting:

October 18 (Saturday), 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Future Meeting Dates:

November 19 (Wednesday)

December (No meeting)

Questions?

Email us at: mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com



Fill Out the Newsletter Survey and win an Amazon Gift Card! Jeff Ichikawa

To better meet the interests of the OBT newsletter readers, please consider filling out the online survey:
<https://forms.gle/DGH8osJhBjVR7Bcr5>

One lucky entrant will be chosen out of the survey respondents to receive a \$10 Amazon gift card. Watch for more surveys in future newsletters!



Want to receive this newsletter
or news about OBT events in your email?
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BUDDHIST VALUES and THE PROBLEM OF THE ENVIRONMENT**Saturday, October 11th, 2 PM at the OBT****Guest Speaker: Dr. Bidisha Mallik**

“The question is a challenging one: what positive role can religion play in a world that values corporate profit and power over ecological health and harmony between people and nations, forgoes truth creating unfettered disbelief about the reality of climate, and numbs our ability to pay attention to issues that matter most through the tyranny of cell phones and the internet?

Our focus today concerns Buddhism and could Buddhist values be a part of our solution to the environmental question? If so, how transformative are these values in initiating, realizing, and expressing human behavioral change from those of an isolated, alienated, and egoistic self to a relational one that acts out of compassion for all life and existence? In this seminar, we will consider the basic ethical values that Buddhist thinking and practices bring to the world in transforming our current deluded environmental practice by transforming ourselves to benefit all life that is around us.”



Dr. Mallik is an Associate Teaching Professor at the U of W, Tacoma where she teaches philosophy and ethics classes. She was recommended by Rev. Koyama, who crossed paths with her while attending classes at IBS.

Many thanks to the KeyBank, George and Kathleen Anderson Charitable Trust, for sponsoring this learning opportunity. No registration is required. It is free and open to the public.



*It takes many “hands” to support
the Oregon Buddhist Temple*

Make your 2025 Pledge today!

Thank you to everyone for your support

Pledge form is included in this newsletter and at
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/

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 the dates 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

Every week – Sun 10 AM

Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service) at 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=EeovjfEdmbgAgQUoFXpEC1RAQrzPP1.1>

Meeting ID: 884 4152 5686

Passcode: 804117



OBWA

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

Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266

Passcode: 574232

Sunday Bon Odori

last Sunday of the month (see below – specific date on calendar)

Bon odori is generally the last Sunday of the month at 1 PM in the basement. July/August are exceptions because of Obon and dancing at the Japanese Garden. And, on occasion there are OBT events on the last Sunday so see the newsletter or calendar for specific dates. This is for fun, exercise, learning new dances, re-learning old dances, and seeing your dance buddies.

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 Chris 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)

3rd Wednesday evening of month (see calendar)

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 Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM with a couple exceptions.

Zoom link:

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

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943

Rev. Koyama has invited us to participate in his Buddhist Education Class.

Jodo Shinshu 101 Class

Rev. Koyama leads this class the 2nd Wednesday every month, 6pm-7pm. Signup link is [here](https://www.tacomabt.org/) and also on the Tacoma Buddhist Temple website, <https://www.tacomabt.org/>

Once you are signed up, you will receive an email each month with the class info and zoom link.

OCT
4

Time: 2pm-4pm Seminar
Social Hour: 4pm-5pm
Optional Curry Dinner: 5pm-7pm
Cost: Seminar-Free
Dinner-\$15 suggested Donation
Register by QR Code:



TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2025 FALL SEMINAR REV. BLAYNE HIGA

Shin Buddhist Wisdom For Living In a Broken World

The Buddha taught that the fires of greed, anger, and ignorance are the cause of human suffering. Doesn't it feel like we are dealing with hotter fires and deeper darkness in our world today? From our politically polarized society to the destructive forces of hate and discrimination that threaten to consume us, we are struggling to find hope and light. In this time of crisis, we should reflect deeply on and strive to embody our Buddhist values to help alleviate the suffering we encounter. Let's explore how Shin Buddhism offers wise hope for living in our broken world.

Oregon Buddhist Temple presents
Bidisha Mallik, Ph.D

***Saturday,
October 11th
2025
from 2pm***



BUDDHIST VALUES and THE PROBLEMS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

“...could **Buddhist values** be a part of our solution to the environmental question?
If so, how transformative are these values
in **initiating, realizing, and expressing** human behavioral **change**
from those of an isolated, **alienated**, and **egoistic** self
to a **relational one** that acts out of **compassion for all life and existence?**”

Dr. Bidisha Mallik is Associate Teaching Professor,
Global Ethics Social Sciences,
at University of Washington, Tacoma

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR97202

**FREE
Open to Public**

Sponsored by George and Kathleen Anderson Charitable Trust

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

SUKIYAKI

(and more!) **FALL BAZAAR**



PRE-ORDER
ONLINE



oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

Sunday, Oct. 26, 12-3 pm



Early bird pricing through **August 31**



Questions? Email OBTwebmaster@gmail.com



Oregon Buddhist Temple - Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar 2025

Dine-in & Pick-up on Sunday, Oct 26, 12pm-3pm

Form Deadline: Sunday, Oct 19 | ***Other food items will be sold on the day of the Fall Bazaar



Item	Includes	Early Bird Price (form received/postmarked by Sunday, Aug 31)	Price	Quantity: Dine-in	Quantity: Pick-up
Beef Sukiyaki	Beef, tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konjac, dashi	\$22	\$25		
Vegetarian Sukiyaki	Tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konjac, dashi	\$22	\$25		
Tsukemono	Pickled cabbages	\$3	\$5		
Total \$ for food:				\$	
Additional donation: Oregon Buddhist Temple				\$	

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Optional: Select type of notification to receive:

☐ Form has been received by OBT. Phone number/email: _____

☐ Pick up reminders. Phone number/email: _____



OREGON BUDDHIST
TEMPLE 10TH ANNUAL

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Kick off the holiday season by discovering unique
handmade crafts, tasty treats, and festive
treasures from over 30 local artisans!

November 22, 2025

9 AM - 3 PM
FREE ENTRY

3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR 97202

For more information, please contact
obtwebmaster@gmail.com





**SUPPORTER OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
PLEDGE FOR 2025**

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 2025, 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 2025 and payments to:

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

Donate at the OBT website

[Oregon Buddhist Temple PayPal](#)

Donate with OBT Square



In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple