



## New Years Greeting Reverend Yuki Sugahara

*If, when I attain Buddhahood, the sentient beings of the ten quarters, with sincere mind entrusting themselves, aspiring to be born in my land, and saying my Name perhaps even ten times, should not be born there, may I not attain the supreme enlightenment. Excluded are those who commit the five grave offenses and those who slander the right dharma*

*-The 18<sup>th</sup> Vow of Amida Buddha (CWS, p. 80)*

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you are enjoying the beginning of a new year. Last year was the first full year without having any in-person Sunday services, but thanks to the internet technologies, we were able to have services online and many of you were able to see me almost every Sunday or almost every day for some of you. Thanks to everyone that I believe Oregon Buddhist Temple is the second BCA temple to have over 1,000 subscribers on YouTube channel. As of December 26, we have 1,109 people subscribed to our channel, following Orange County Buddhist Church's 1,280 people. But I wish we had more viewers of the video. We have averaged around 100 viewers for the Sunday services and 30 viewers for the morning services. Since we have over 1,000 subscribers, it would be nice to have more views on the videos. Perhaps I should give more engaging talks.

I might have shared these words of Jitsuen Kakehashi Sensei before who said "Creating the number is the act of the human beings." We care about how many years we have been Buddhist, how many years we have been practicing something, how many subscribers we have on our YouTube channel, and how many views of videos we have on average. We often attach to numbers and make numbers as an issue.

The teaching of nembutsu is the teaching which does not require any numbers. The Primal Vow of Amida Buddha, states "say my name perhaps even ten times". This actually means that the number of recitations of the name Namu Amida Butsu is not an issue. Kakehashi Sensei continues that "the number is not the issue because the recitation of the Name is not the act of human beings." We recite Namu Amida Butsu, but it is actually in response to Amida Buddha's calling to "entrust yourself to my working." Amida Buddha's calling reaches us first and we respond to it as "Namu Amida Butsu

(thank you Amida Buddha)". The numbers become an issue if we have to accumulate merits through our self-power, but because nembutsu is the directing of virtue from Amida Buddha, the number of the recitations is not an issue.

Tomoyasu Naito Sensei shared the metaphor of swimmers. Good swimmer or bad swimmer, it does not matter if they are all aboard a ship to carry them across the ocean. The number of recitations from our side, however good or bad, does not matter because we all ride on the power of the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha.

I was not planning to talk about this kind of thing. I just wanted to write a new year's greeting. But I believe it is a great way to start a new year listening to the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha.

I am hoping that this year will be the year we are able to gather again at the temple to listen to and enjoy the teaching and the companionship. Until then, please stay safe and well and I am looking forward to seeing you in-person!

Gassho

## New Year's Day Service (Shuso-e) – January 1

OBT - Saturday, January 1, 10 am

## Oshogatsu (first month)

Japanese New Year (*Shogatsu* or *Oshogatsu* お正月) is the most important holiday in Japan. Since 1873 in the Meiji era, the official New Year has been celebrated on January 1st due to Western influence, instead of the New Year based on the lunar calendar (a.k.a., Chinese New Year).

*"New Year comes only to those who welcome it. After all, it is we who make the new year"*

Everyday Suchness, Rev. Gyomay Kubose

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

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e-mail: [info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com](mailto: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.

## Online Services

Reverend Yuki conducts daily on-line services including Sundays at 8 am. On Sundays he also conducts a service at 10 am. Go to the Oregon Buddhist Temple web site and “Check out the

**[YouTube Channel of Oregon Buddhist Temple](#)**

Or click on

**[Oregon Buddhist Temple - YouTube](#)**

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### **Incoming OBT President Charles Reneau**

#### **Grief and Renewal**

When we become Buddhists, we take refuge in the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. For much of the past two years, however close we may have been to the Buddha and the Dharma, proximity to our Sangha has been more challenging.

The disruptions of the pandemic have been necessary: we are obligated to protect each other from harm- especially our more senior members.

Luckily, these disruptions have not been total: the Buddha is never farther away than one hand is from the other. As soon we put our hands in Gassho and chant namo amida butsu, we can remember that we are never truly separated from the compassion of the Buddha.

Also, for many of us, we’ve had the opportunity to learn the Dharma from Reverend Sugahara at online services and classes, and also through the dedicated work of many volunteers, in the form of Temple resources such as the Dharma School and the monthly newsletter. Maintaining these activities during a pandemic shows the true nature of our Temple and its members. I’d especially like to recognize Reverend Sugahara, Ken Garner and Cathy Yarne, for all of their hard work over the last several years.

But I’d be lying if I didn’t write that we have also lost so, so much of our Sangha life together. I have personally missed out on activities that mean a lot to me, from packing up the shed after Obon with my buddies, to washing dishes with my toban, to offering incense and chanting in unison at services. Simply greeting each other with a smile at Temple is an important Dharma practice.

I personally feel deep grief for these lost moments, and I tear up every time I think about this.

This year, though, we will return to in-person services at the Temple. With our basement repair and renovations nearing completion, we will have access to our facility. With the widespread availability of excellent vaccines and high quality face masks, as well as new medicines and increased medical knowledge, the margin of safety is higher. We know so much

more about how to operate safely, and have the ability to greatly reduce risk of Covid transmission on the Temple grounds. Of course, we must also remain aware of the changing situation: uncertainty about the nature and timing of an omicron surge in our region is still high.

So, after the grief of our shared loss, we can look forward to the joyous renewal of regular in-person activities.

This year, I am humbled to be serving as the Temple’s President. Ken and Cathy have each served so many terms as President that I think it’s only fair of the Board to shove someone from the bench out onto the court for a change.

As President, I’d like to offer, when safety allows, a big warm hug to every temple member who wants one. There will be time, this year, for epic Board meetings and disagreements large and small (are we really going to charge that much for water at Obon!?) but for now, I just want to say that I miss seeing you all so much, and I can’t wait to see you again.

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### **Outgoing OBT President Ken Garner**



*Life is not what it is supposed to be. It’s what it is. The way you cope with it is what makes the difference.*

*Virginia Satir*

Welcome to 2022! I trust that you all had a wonderful holiday season and are ready for the new year. When I accepted the mantel as OBT president for 2021, I never expected a year like 2021. A year without in-person services. A year of Zoom and YouTube. A great Hoonko seminar and a wonderful convention both held completely on-line. A year of hearing more fantastic dharma teachers than I have ever had the opportunity to before albeit never in the presence of the speaker. A year of missing being with you, my dharma friends.

Who knows what 2022 will bring? I expect that at some point we will be able to have in-person services and events, although to be truthful, I expected that for 2021. Whatever comes our way, I have no doubt that we will cope with it just fine. I want to express my thanks to Jayne Ichikawa and Mai Thi La for serving as the temple Vice President and Secretary respectively. I welcome Charley Reneau, Amanda Stein, Marilyn Huh, and Suniti Kumar who will be joining our outstanding board. Thank you to Charley for not just re-joining the board but for coming in as the president. The temple will be in great hands.

In Gassho,  
Ken

## January Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of December. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held January 9th at the 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 Jean Matsumoto, Etsu Osaki, or the temple.

Abe, Ukichi 1/13/1959	Kitayama, Kuni 1/24/1997 *	Okubo, Fumiko 1/26/2014 *
Akiyama, Tora 1/18/1989	Kiyokawa, Riichi 1/19/1989	Onchi, Sachi 1/27/2013 *
Ando, Sakae 1/13/2009 *	Kohara, Yayo 1/1972	Osaki, Tomikichi 1/3/1971
Aoki, Tsuruyo 1/23/1992	Lee, Jean Kan 1/23/1989	Ouchida, Shizuko 1/25/2012 *
Asakawa, Iuemon 1/6/1960	Lindemaier, Patricia 1/16/2021	Owada, Ryoza 1/13/1957
Byms, Keiko 1/29/2021	Maehara, Giichi 1/30/1950	Peterson, John Eldon 1/6/2014
Fujii, Jack Kiyoshi 1/1/1993	Makita, Kanshiro 1/14/1952	Saito, Haruno 1/6/1963 *
Fujinaka, Matsu 1/1978	Matsumoto, Mikiye 1/4/1999 *	Saito, May Nobuko 1/31/2017 *
Fukumoto, Umeno 1/25/1989 *	Mishima, Sakaye 1/16/1987 *	Sakurai, Betty Kasumi 1/5/2003
Hasegawa, Shigeichi R 1/29/1979	Miyoshi, Setsuji 1/5/1974	Sasaki, Nami 1/12/2015
Hashimoto, Kemy 1/6/2007 *	Morikawa, Shizuyo 1/26/1955 *	Sasaki, Saburo 1/8/1959
Hayashi, Mas 1/22/1997	Morimoto, Keiko 1/17/1990	Sato, Nobuo "Nobi" 1/28/1996
Hoverson, Dale 1/22/2005	Muraki, Yoshio 1/17/2004	Sato, Sidney 1/23/1987
Ikata, Yone 1/5/1964 *	Muramatsu, Hatsue 1/1975 *	Shirahama, San 1/7/1951
Ikeda, Clarence Hisao 1/12/2017	Muramatsu, Shoji 1/4/1975	Shiraishi, Umeno 1/2/1974 *
Ikeda, Kimie 1/4/2007	Muraoka, Sonoe 1/18/2008 *	Suzuki, Eiji 1/7/1963
Ikeda, Martha Masako 1/6/1978 *	Murayoshi, Anjiro 1/21/1955	Takashima, James 1/6/2012
Ishida, George 1/10/1999	Nagahama, Takejiro 1/29/1982	Tano, Ben V 1/17/2016
Ishida, Nobu 1/15/1973	Nagaki, Joe 1/10/2006	Tateishi, Ruth Kumiko 1/3/2008
Ishida, Tomeka 1/19/1985 *	Naganuma, Asajiro 1/11/1964	Toyooka, Fumie 1/26/2005
Iwai, Masako 1/23/2008 *	Nakashimada, Kisano 1/5/1969 *	Toyota, Fukunosuke 1/11/1957
Iwamoto, Francis 1/17/2008	Niemi, Masao, 1/5/1956	Uyeda, Takashi 1/16/1978
Iwasaki, Ito 1/11/1981 *	Niiyama, Rui, 1/28/1954 *	Wakamatsu, Eitaro 1/8/1966
Jones, Bobara 1/20/2012	Nishimura, Robert M 1/12/1996	Winner, Wayne Leroy 1/22/2015
Kagawa, Toshimi 1/7/1969 *	Ochiai, Kaz 1/11/2007	Yamada, Takeichi 1/9/1951
Kimura, Isa 1/10/1983 *	Ohishi, Arie 1/3/1964 *	Yamamoto, Dale 1/22/1999
Kinoshita, Ami 1/6/2017*	Okamoto, Hisashi 1/22/1988	Yamanaka, Aiko 1/19/2001 *
Kinoshita, April 1/29/2009 *	Okita, Harry 1/24/2007	Yumibe, Utaro Eki 1/22/1952 *
Kinoshita, Tokuji 1/18/1953		

\* OBWA member

## 2022 Memorial Services

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2021	1 Year	2006	17 Year
2020	3 Year	1998	25 Year
2015	7 year	1990	33 Year
2010	13 Year	1973	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements with Reverend Sugahara at 916-836-7350 or [ysobtoportland0612017@oregonbuddhisttemple.com](mailto:ysobtoportland0612017@oregonbuddhisttemple.com)

## Hoonko (Memorial Honoring Shinran Shonin) – January 16

*Repay-indebtedness-observance*

*The most important Jodoshinshu observance of the memorial for Shinran Shonin, set as January 16<sup>th</sup> by Nishihongwanji.*

Cocktails, by Rev. Masao Kodani

OBT – Sunday, January 16, 10 am

報恩講  
HOONKO Seminar  
Saturday, January 22, 2022  
11am  
**Awakening to Imperfection:  
Shin Buddhist Wisdom for Living**




by Rev. Blayne Higa  
(Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple)

for more information,  
please go to our website:  
[www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com](http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com)

### 2022-2024 OBT Board and 2021 Officers

**Term Ending 2024:** Marilyn Huh, Sunita Kumar, Amanda Stein (Secretary), Charles Reneau (President)

**Term Ending 2023:** Angie Davis, Jeanette Hager, Judy Hittle (Vice-President), Cathy Yarne

**Term Ending 2022:** Erik Ackerson, Jayne Ichikawa, Katie Tamiyasu, Christine White

Elaine Yuzuriha (Financial Officer)

### 2023 Japan Trip Reverend Yuki Sugahara

We are celebrating the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jodo Shinshu's establishment and the 850<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth at Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. May 10 is the designated day for the Oversea District to attend the service at Nishi Hongwanji. This is a once in 50 years occasion that I strongly recommend you think about going to. Also, we are having World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto around the same time.

Since we do not have many occasions to travel together, I would like to travel the southern part of Japan including Okinawa after the events with you. Dates are subject to

change, but we are planning to leave Portland on May 7 and return to Portland on May 24, 2023.

If you are interested in attending the tour, please register from the registration form at the below link. Since I want to keep it to one bus to travel, I would like to limit the tour to a maximum number of 40 people. We have close to 20 people who have shown interest in joining so far.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeb6Ih2FaiPbM5P8a2MTdr0hGgXYof7d1RozZv-ukUpTmlgdw/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

The approximate cost is \$7,500 - 8,500/per person including airfare. I thought this is expensive, but looks like another temple's tour costs about the same.

Thank you!  
Gassho,  
Yuki



### Oregon Buddhist Women's Association Marilyn Achterman

In my years growing up (65 years, now), I never saw my dad reading a fiction book. He read books on Judo and Buddhism. This is a picture of my dad, 95 years old reading Bishop Harada's book. Call it coincidental or ironic or karmic conditions; Bishop Harada's family and our family are from the same farming community in Eastern Oregon. Our homes were surrounded with fields. Peering out our front windows, toiling the soil, we witnessed the planting of a seed to the harvest of sugar beets, wheat, onions. This transition of change we didn't think of as a Buddhist teaching. We called it hard work. Though, now, I realize this is where the seeds of Buddhism were planted.



Next month's reporter is Jayne Ichikawa



### Dharma School Ann Shintani

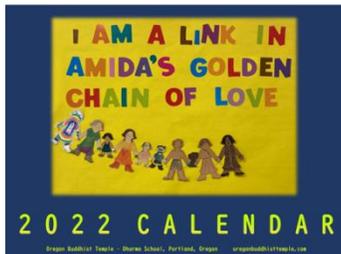
Dharma School in 2021 was mainly virtual, with on-line classes every other Sunday. Many students were not able to join us, and we look forward to seeing them when we are able to meet safely. I am grateful for Sugahara Sensei and our teacher volunteers for their time, efforts, experience, and creativity. It is a challenge for us to negotiate with technology and devices to connect

with students and families, but we are learning and know families appreciate our efforts.

Lumbini and Bodhi/Sangha classes met in-person in mid-December in our renovated dining room. We are learning "Golden Chain" song, decorated a Bodhi tree and enjoyed meeting in person. Separately, the Dana class started on a THREE Treasures art project.



**Dharma School 2022 calendars are now available** – the name of our 2022 calendar is "I am a Link in Amida's Golden Chain of Love", and shows images of Dharma School and OBT activities in 2020-2021. We have a limited number available for suggested donation of \$10. Please contact Ann for your copy.



### Girl Scouts Amy Petersen

The Girl Scout troop is moving into in-person indoor meetings next year as well as completing some activities that have been on hold for a couple of years, if Covid cooperates.

Most recently the girls made cards for a local memory care center as part of the National, Girl Scouts Give Back: Letter-Writing Service Project. The girls wrote cards to people in a local memory care facility where one of our Sangha members resides. Although this is something the girls periodically do, it's nice that we can get the girls a little recognition nationally.

The girls will soon be sending emails for cookie orders. The newest cookie, Adventurefuls is "An indulgent brownie-inspired cookie with caramel-flavored crème and a hint of sea



salt, Adventurefuls take cookie lovers on a delicious taste adventure just like Girl Scouts go on their own amazing adventures all year long."

They are an addition to the eight flavors from last year. Some that have tasted them said they're the new favorite cookie. All you have to do is email the troop at [gstrop43720obt@gmail.com](mailto:gstrop43720obt@gmail.com) and one of the girls will add you to their email list to contact you after January 7th. Cookies can be delivered, picked up or mailed. Payment can be made online by card on our digital cookie site, by Venmo, cash or check. Cookies will be delivered after February 12th.

We'll finally be able to donate cat toys to the Oregon Humane Society and also go horseback riding.

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### Amy Peterson Visits Mae Watari



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### An Awakening to the Middle Path Naruhodo (Indeed! It is true)



Rev. Harry Bridge, Buddhist Church  
of Oakland

[Dharma Family Service - Bodhi Day - December 5, 2021 - YouTube](#)

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### Moon River



[" Moon River - Breakfast at Tiffany's " \( Play with Me n.15 \) - Andrea Giuffredi - YouTube](#)

## Akemashite omedetou gozaimasu! (Happy New Year!) Katie Tamiyasu, Pat Hokama



As outgoing Co-Presidents, Pat Hokama and I wish to thank our entire cabinet who have supported us over the last five (5) years: Janice Okamoto (Vice President), Ann Shintani (English Secretary), Kiyomi Dickinson (Japanese Secretary), Judy Yamauchi (Treasurer), Nancy Kajitsu (English Correspondence Sec.), Yasuko Fields (Japanese Correspondence), Jayne Ichikawa (Caring for Others), Robbi Ando (Community Outreach).

The biggest challenge Pat and I encountered was in 2018-2019 we found ourselves the presiding cabinet of the Northwest District Buddhist Women's Association (NWD BWA). This experience enabled us to meet dedicated women from the other five (5) chapters, Seattle, Tacoma, White River, Yakima and Idaho-Oregon to share in a common bond. We will also remember our trips to meetings in California, which allowed us to experience the importance of the Buddhist Women's Associations and to bring this inspiration back to our Chapter.

We congratulate the incoming cabinet members, Co-Presidents Jeanette (Otsuji) Hager and Amy (Mishima) Peterson, Vice President Nancy Walseth, and Treasurer Diane (Ando) Harder, and wish them the very best in their new positions. We also wish to thank the remaining cabinet members, Ann Shintani, Kiyomi Dickinson, Nancy Kajitsu, Yasuko Fields, Jayne Ichikawa and Robbi Ando, who have chosen to remain on the board to support the new cabinet members.

With our Gratitude and Best Wishes to all for a Safe and Healthy New Year.

Gassho,  
Pat Hokama and Katie Tamiyasu

## Mochi for the Sangha Cathy Yarne



Thanks to the special efforts of 19 individuals, our temple was able to offer fresh mochi to our Sangha. Scott Winner and his crew (Carl, Dyan, Mika and John) washed, cooked and machine pounded 95lbs of rice. Robbie, Pat, Toyoko, Amy, Jayne, Diane, Ann, Nadine and I shaped the mochi into individual pieces. Katie, Al and Marilyn arrived two hours later to dust, weigh and bag it all. Sara braved the cold for an hour and a half while taking charge of the pickup at the back door. Carolyn came later to run the dishwasher. Since we only had one shift, everyone helped with the cleanup.

The volunteers were lucky to be treated to Robbie and Diane's impressive, holiday assortment of cookies and snacks. Ann also brought a box of donuts and Amy and John shared some tangerines.

Once again I am truly grateful to all of the volunteers. Not only do I appreciate your experience, skills and generosity, I also enjoyed your company!



For this activity Covid precautions dictated most of our decisions, making this very different from previous OBT mochitsuki. As easy and enjoyable as this was, I hope next year we can return to our traditional temple mochitsuki.

## Supporting Our Students Jayne Ichikawa

Our OBT Outreach Committee thank you for your kind and very generous donations to help our fund drive, Supporting Our Students at the Portland State Food Pantry. The total weight of the donated food amounted to over 700 lbs. and the monetary donation was over \$1,000! Your positive generosity will certainly help these struggling students to complete their educational goals and become successful citizens.



Gassho,

The OBT Outreach Committee

Cathy Yarne  
Jeanette Hager  
Robbi Ando  
Jayne Ichikawa  
Ann Shintani  
Connie Masuoka



A New Neighbor to Oregon Buddhist Temple



[SymbiOp Garden Shop & Landscaping For People & Planet](#)

My Favorite Radio Station

1. It's FM
2. It plays classical music
3. It's frequency is 98.9
4. Guess what the DJ played on Wednesday December 1 at 3:50 pm.

Answer on page 9

Past Months' Newsletters

Can be viewed at the below link.

[Newsletter | oregonbuddhisttemple](#)

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

**Reminder**  
**Sho Bento pickup date and time**  
**Sunday January 9, 2022**  
**12:15 – 2:15 pm**

## OBT Services, Events, and Meetings by Date

Links to Recurring Events – special links in table following For questions: [bec@oregonbuddhisttemple.com](mailto:bec@oregonbuddhisttemple.com)

<b>OBT Regular Service</b>	Every week – Sun 10 AM <a href="https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/">https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/</a>
<b>Dharma Exchange</b>	Every 2 weeks – Sun 11 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 991 9789 7816 Passcode: 103319 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09">https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09</a>
<b>Intermediate Study Class</b>	Every 2 weeks – Wed 7 PM Zoom Meeting ID: 815 9359 3428 Passcode: 704135 <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81593593428?pwd=WEhYSEZTV0RlcEN4MjhpNnNvOUxBZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81593593428?pwd=WEhYSEZTV0RlcEN4MjhpNnNvOUxBZz09</a>
<b>OBWA</b>	Sat, mid-month, each month – 10 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266 Passcode: 574232 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjI5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09">https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjI5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09</a>
<b>Dharma School</b>	Every 2 weeks – On non-Dharma Exchange Sundays Zoom Meeting ID: 972 9043 7213 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97290437213">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97290437213</a>
<b>OBT Girl Scout Troop</b>	Every other week on Sunday (dates below in table) Zoom Meeting ID: 934 4857 6281 Passcode: 43720 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/93448576281">https://zoom.us/j/93448576281</a>
 <u>Calendar: <a href="https://zoom.us/meeting/tJcpc-GtgT0oEtVJpNmFUrmDsDwMTIJqlwF4/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrqj8iH9OTshGGR0wqBo-gWe_wtiFBj7drtg_LDgZmcA7SJcZVH4ZW0snc">https://zoom.us/meeting/tJcpc-GtgT0oEtVJpNmFUrmDsDwMTIJqlwF4/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrqj8iH9OTshGGR0wqBo-gWe_wtiFBj7drtg_LDgZmcA7SJcZVH4ZW0snc</a></u>	

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	WHERE/NOTES
12/31	Fri	6 PM	NY Eve Service	<b>Rev. Sugahara – This service will be live on Zoom! Link is: Same as Dharma Exchange link in top table</b> Zoom Meeting ID: 991 9789 7816 Passcode: 103319 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09">https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09</a>
<b>January</b>				
1/1	Sat	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Traditional New Years Day Service
1/2	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
1/2	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Leader Etsu Osaki: Haiku for the New Year
1/2	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
1/5	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
1/8	Sat	All day	Girl Scout Cookie Pre Orders start	Girl Scout Cookie Pre Orders go from Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> – Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> . To order email Amy Leader at: <a href="mailto:Gstrop43720OBT@gmail.com">Gstrop43720OBT@gmail.com</a>
1/9	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	<b>Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service</b>
1/9	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	11-Noon Virtual school – Hoonko
1/15	Sat	9 AM	OBT Board Meeting	
1/16	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	

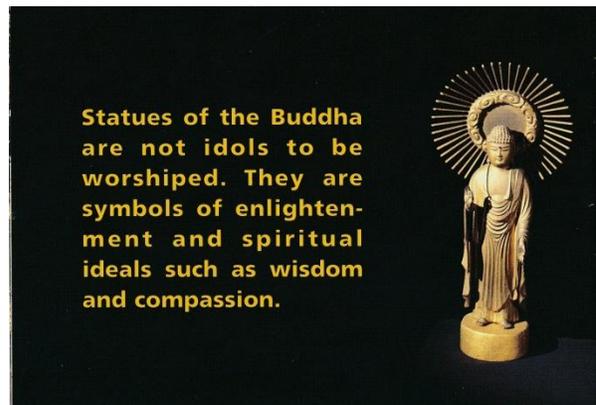
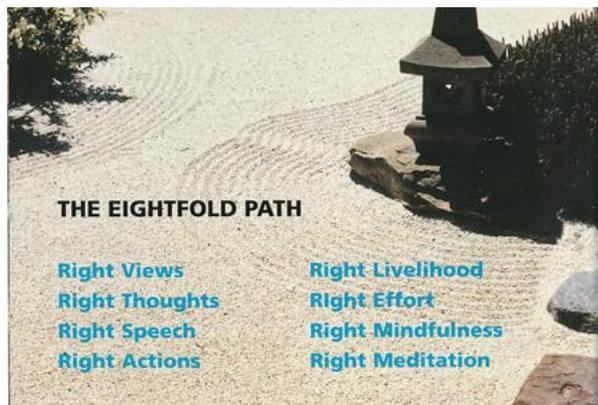
1/16	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Leader Rev. Sugahara – Shinran Shonin’s Memorial Day
1/16	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
1/19	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
1/22	Sat	11 AM	Hoonko Seminar	<b>Rev. Blayne Higa – Topic: Awakening to Imperfection</b> <b>Link is: Same as Dharma Exchange link in top table</b> Zoom Meeting ID: 991 9789 7816 Passcode: 103319 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09">https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09</a>
1/23	Sun	10 AM	Hoonko Service	<b>Rev. Blayne Higa – link on OBT.com website – same as Sensei’s services.</b>
1/23	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	11-Noon Virtual school - Shinran
1/30	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
1/30	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Leader Kristin Wong – Recycling
<b>February</b>				
2/2	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
2/6	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Lady Kujo/Lady Ohtani Memorial Service
2/6	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	Nirvana Day in person at OBT – watch for details
2/6	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
2/13	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	<b>Nirvana Day (Nehan-e) and Shotsuki Hōyō Memorial Service</b>
2/13	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Leader: Jeanette Hager - Topic in next newsletter
2/16	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
2/19	Sat	10 AM	OBWA	Watch email for information
2/20	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
2/20	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	11-Noon Virtual school
2/20	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
2/27	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Spring Ohigan
2/27	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Leader: AI Ono - Topic in next newsletter

**Answer to what the Classical Music DJ played**

Kojo no Tsuki, composed by Rentaro Taki when he was 21 years old. He died two years later.



[Rentaro Taki: Kojo no Tsuki - YouTube](#)



### **Oregon Buddhist Temple November Donations**

***In memory of Richard Mishima***

Kumiko Mishima  
Amy Peterson

**SHOTSUKI HOYO**

***In memory of Bob & Tomo Sunamoto***

Dennis & Virginia Sugihara

***In memory of Ayame Matsunaga***

Janice Okamoto

***In memory of Kametaro Matsumoto***

Jean Matsumoto

***In memory of Richard Harder***

Diane Ando Harder

***In memory of Kikue Ando***

Diane Ando Harder

***In memory of James Fujii***

Katie & Ed Tamiyasu

***In memory of James Kida***

***& Shoemon Nakamura***

Alice Kida

***Special donations***

Randy Choy & Kim Kono

*(2020 fundraiser)*

James & Judith Nakashima

Alfred Ono

Judy Hittle *(Ken Tanaka online course)*

Glenda Watson-Coly *(convention)*

Guy Ding *(convention)*

Charles Natsuhara *(convention)*

White River Buddhist Temple

*(convention)*

Yakima Buddhist Church *(convention)*

Kent M. Matsuda

O-Mega Enterprises

Christopher Brown

Denise Kawasaki

***Eitaikyo***

Janice Okamoto

Dana Kakishita

Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge

Jean Matsumoto

Diane Ando Harder

Pat Hokama

Etsu & Herb Osaki

Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa

Anonymous

***2021 Annual Pledge***

Junko Iwao Toll

Cathy Shikatani & Willem Stoeller

***2022 Annual Pledge***

Setsy & Chip Larouche

Kim Kono & Randy Choy (family)

Beth Sellers

Judith Yamauchi

Kiyomi Dickinson

Ronald K. Kobata (family)

***Monthly/quarterly/semi-annual  
Pledge donations***

Jean Matsumoto

Diane Ando Harder

Susan Endecott

Jeanette Hager

***Donation acknowledgements  
are mailed for donations of \$250  
or more, to donors not on the  
OBT mailing list, and to any  
donor upon request. Please  
inform us of any significant  
errors or omissions. Thank you.  
sjendecott@gmail.com***

***Thank you for your continued support***

## **Buddhist Scholar Duncan Ryuken Williams Wins Prestigious Grawemeyer Religion Prize**

### **Buddhist Scholar Duncan Ryuken Williams Wins Prestigious Grawemeyer Religion Prize – Buddhistdoor Global**

- By Justin Whitaker
- December 14, 2021

Professor Duncan Ryuken Williams, professor of Religion and East Asian Languages & Cultures and director of the Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions at the University of Southern California, was awarded the Grawemeyer religion award, according to an announcement last Friday. The award, jointly given by The University of Louisville and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, carries with it a prize of US\$100,000. The prizes honor seminal ideas in music, world order, psychology, and education.

Williams won the prize for ideas he put forth in his book, *American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War* (Harvard University Press 2019). In addition to his scholarship, Williams is a Soto Zen Buddhist priest.

In the press release Tyler Mayfield, director of the Grawemeyer religion award, said, “Williams’ work opens the way for a discussion that values religious inclusion over exclusion. He shows how Japanese Americans living in a time of great adversity broadened our nation’s vision of religious freedom.”

## New Year's Greeting Monshu Otani Kojun

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over these past couple of years, we have had to adjust our lives in accordance with the scale of the spread of COVID-19. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are undergoing treatment. I would also like to express my respect and sincere gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and frontline medical professionals who have been engaging in the treatment of infected people, as well as all essential workers who have made it possible for us to continue with our lives.

This infectious disease has not only greatly affected the life of each one of us, but also revealed many issues that had been contained in our society. Sakyamuni Buddha, who passed on the Dharma to us, made clear of the fact that we cannot see the truth because we are too attached to our own thought. Therefore, it is only natural that conflicts and divisions come about in a society in which those who, like us, fundamentally self-centered beings, act in accordance based on one's own thought.

In the following *wasan* poem, Shinran Shonin deeply reflected on himself and described what we humans are like,

Although I take refuge in the true Pure Land way,  
It is hard to have a true and sincere mind.  
This self is false and insincere;  
I completely lack a pure mind. (*Hymns of the Dharma-ages*)

As the *wasan* shows, we are basically incapable of accepting the reality of this world, such as, dependent origination, impermanence, and no-self. And because of this we constantly suffer. Only through being aware of and appreciating Amida Buddha's compassionate and salvific working, are we enabled to accept our true self. Shinran Shonin clarified that such ignorance is the very reason why Amida Buddha's salvific working has reached every one of us. Keeping in mind that we are always embraced in Amida's compassionate Light, let us live each day to the fullest, even though we have yet to see the end of the tunnel.

I feel truly assured hearing that many of you have been making efforts to share the Jodo Shinshu teaching within the greater society through various and innovative ways despite the current situation. It is my hope that your temples will continue serving as your spiritual home, and therefore, I humbly ask for your understanding and cooperation in support of your temples. I would like to conclude my new year's greeting with my heartfelt appreciation to you all.

January 1, 2022

OHTANI Kojun  
Monshu  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

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### 年頭の辞

新しい年のはじめにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。

昨年も一昨年に引き続き、私たちの生活は新型コロナウイルス感染症(COVID-19)の流行に対応したものとなりました。ここに、新型コロナウイルス感染症によりお亡くなりになられた方々に謹んで哀悼の意を表しますとともに、罹患されている皆さまに心よりお見舞い申し上げます。また、治療・対策にあたられている医師、看護師をはじめとする医療従事者の方々、ライフラインの維持に努めておられる方々に深く敬意と感謝を表します。

この新型コロナウイルス感染症は、私たち一人一人の生活に大きな影響を与えました。それは、同時に社会の問題も浮き彫りにしています。仏教を説かれたお釈迦様は、自分自身の考えにとらわれ、真実をみることのできない私たちの姿を指摘されています。私たちが自分の思い通りに行動したら、社会の中に対立や分断を生むこととなります。

親鸞聖人は、ご和讃に「浄土真宗に帰すれども 真実の心はありがたし 虚仮不実のわが身に 清浄の心もさらになし」とうたわれました。阿弥陀さまのおはたらきによって知らされる私たちの本当の姿は、縁起や無常、無我というこの世界の真実をそのままに受け入れることができずに悩み苦しむ姿です。親鸞聖人は、そのような私たちに阿弥陀さまのおはたらきが届いていると明らかにされました。いまだに新型コロナウイルス感染症の収束が見通せない世界ですが、阿弥陀さまのおはたらきを聞き、それを依りどころとして日々の生活を過ごしてまいりましょう。

現在の厳しい状況の中でさまざまな試みを重ねながら、今までとは違った方法で浄土真宗のみ教を広く社会へ伝える取り組みもなされていると聞き、たいへん心強く思います。これからもお寺が皆さまの心の支えとなりますよう、お寺の活動にご理解とご協力を頂きますことをお願い申し上げます、年頭のご挨拶といたします。

2022年1月1日

浄土真宗本願寺派  
門主 大谷光淳

## Rising Sun Award for Sahomi Tachibana From the Consular Office of Japan in Portland



Sahomi and Counsel General Masaki Shiga

Back: Wynn Kiyama, Yoshiko Kamata, Ann Shintani, Elaine Werner, Chris Kimi Chang, Chris Dart, Counsel General Masaki Shiga, Consul Hiroaki Sato Front: Sahomi, Ty Fredette

The document translated, reads as follows:

Translation No. 14631

Patent Of Declaration

The Emperor of Japan does hereby confer upon Doris Hrubert, the United States of America, The Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Rays, in witness thereof. The Seal of State has been affixed to these presents at the Imperial Palace. (Seal of State imprinted) SUGA Yoshihide, Prime Minister (Seal of Office imprinted), ONODA Hiromu, Director-General of Decoration Bureau Cabinet Office (Seal of Office imprinter). The 29<sup>th</sup> day, the 4<sup>th</sup> month, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Riwa (2021).

See full stories about Henry Sakamoto and Sahomi Tachibana below from the website

[https://www.portland.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/11\\_000001\\_00142.html](https://www.portland.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00142.html)

### Sahomi's Award By Chris Dart

Sahomi Tachibana (legal name is Doris Hrubant) arrived in Portland in 1990. She established a new studio for buyo students and in 1991 she took over bon odori instruction for Obon at the Oregon Buddhist Temple. From 1991 to 2015 she was OBT's Sensei and all of her students – buyo or bon odori – were so lucky to have her. For Sahomi, the dance was about history, culture, music, and movement. For bon odori, while having fun and forming a strong community, we learned seventy two different dances from early Japanese through contemporary American

After several postponements due to Covid, on December 14, 2021, we finally had the award presentation for Sahomi at her West Hills Residence in the Danner Theater. The Consul General Masaki Shiga, and Consul Hiroaki Sato attended and made the presentation. Guests included Elaine Werner, Ty Fredette, (Sahomi's daughter and son in law), and dancers: Wynn Kiyama, Yoshiko Kamata, Ann Shintani, Chris Kimi Chang, and Chris Dart.

It was wonderful to see Sahomi recognized for her many years of performing, teaching, and giving to others. We were all so proud.