

Beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> year on the Oregon



OBT established 1903

# PureLand Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

January 2012



## Happy new year Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs

Rather than come up with a clever title for this article I just named it for its fundamental sentiment: HAPPY NEW YEAR! I do hope that all of you have a very happy New Year in 2012. I am writing this on 12-12-11 so the New Year is more of a mystery as I write than it is to you as you read this.

What will 2012 bring to all of us? The Super Bowl, NBA finals and World Series are all slated to take place this year. I hope your teams do well. There is the Presidential election in the Fall. I hope the discourse will be civil. Let's try to say what's good about the candidates we like more than we harp on what's wrong with the candidates we don't like.

What will the weather be like this year? Will the economy rebound even slightly? For each of us, what will our health be like in 2012? I certainly wish the very best health for all of you in 2012. This is, perhaps, the most important question and also the hardest to answer. It is not, however, a matter in which we are helpless. Improved diet and continuing moderate exercise can go a long way toward assuring good health this year.

Spiritually, how will this year be for you? Perhaps attending our weekly services regularly would help. Attending services, chanting the sutras, enjoying the iconography, listening to and reflecting upon the Dharma-messages: these can be the background conditions for spiritual conviction and comfort to grow in your life.

Perhaps some of you would be nurtured spiritually by attending our Ho On Ko seminar on 1-14, running from 10 am to 4 pm. I will be the presenter this year, which will save the temple some expense. I will build the seminar around my recently published book, "Becoming Buddhist, Becoming Buddhas, Liberating All Beings". It will not be necessary to purchase a book to follow along and participate in the seminar. I will on occasion read articles from the book. More often there will be lecture and discussion based on the themes

raised in the book. Besides the titular concerns - becoming Buddhist, becoming Buddhas and liberating all beings - I will address issues such as: the nature of personal identity, the meaning of "shinjin", the implications of the Jodo Shinshu path for ethical living, anger management, the need to remain mindful of what is truly important to us, issues of ethnicity in American Buddhism, defining Buddhism, The nature of Amida Buddha and his Pure Realm of Influence, what it means to walk the Middle Way, the relation of Buddhism to Existentialism. In short, there will be much to discuss and reflect upon.

Even if you can't budget time to attend part of the Ho On Ko Seminar on January 14th, I hope you will join us for the Ho On Ko service on January 15th. As usual, for a special observation, I will do my best to give a Japanese-language message at 9:30 am. The main service will begin at 10 am. This Ho On Ko service [literally, "gathering to repay our indebtedness" (to our denominational founder, Shinran)] is traditionally considered to be the most important service of the year.

Whether you can join us for the Ho On Ko seminar or service or not, I hope that 2012 is already shaping up to be a very good year for you. Thank you all so much for your support of myself and my family in 2011. Thank you for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple. We hope that this still New Year will bring you much warmth and happiness.

Gassho, Reverend Gibbs

### January Highlights

Jan 1	New Year's Service, Shusho-E	10 am
Jan 8	OBT New Year's Luncheon	11:30 am
Jan 14	Hoonko Seminar	10 am
Jan 15	Hoonko Service	9:30 am
	Installation of Temple Officers	
Jan 21	OBWA New Years Luncheon/ Meeting, Holladay Park Plaza Penthouse	10:30 am

*"The purpose of the Oregon Buddhist Temple is to insure that the Jodo Shinshu Sangha have the facilities, resident minister and other resources they need to share the BuddhaDharma in their daily lives and during their major life events."*

Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 SE 34th Avenue Portland, OR 97202-3037 503-234-9456  
503-231-1551 (fax) e-mail: [oregonbuddhisttemple@yahoo.com](mailto:oregonbuddhisttemple@yahoo.com) website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>  
This monthly newsletter is published by the Oregon Buddhist Temple, a Buddhist Churches of America temple affiliated with Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-Ha. Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address. Send news items to the editor Shinya Ichikawa at [sjichi@gmail.com](mailto:sjichi@gmail.com)



## **2012 President's message**

**Yoshi Ono**

To all our members and friends, best wishes for a happy new year. As I start a second term as president (first term was in 2009), I wish to convey thanks to Ken Garner for presiding over our board of directors in 2011. The time and effort he put in was quite impressive and it will be difficult to follow in his footsteps. Also thanks to the other board members, Rev. Gibbs, minister assistants and all the members and volunteers who devote much time and energy to keep our temple operations running smoothly. Seeing their dedication gives me inspiration to try to do more.

As we enter 2012, we continue to find challenges primarily in the form of shortages in funding and volunteer assistance. The board has a tough task of overseeing the operations not only for another year, but for the long term stability of our temple. At the time of this writing, we are trying to fill one board position and hope to recruit someone soon. I would encourage anyone to step up, if not as a board member then perhaps a committee member, occasional greeter, choir member, or even contributing an idea.

Successfully meeting our challenges may involve adopting new ideas, trying new things. My hope is that our members bear with us and stay open minded to change. At the same time, please don't hesitate to talk to any board member to share your thoughts. I believe that a key element to a strong temple is good communications and well networked Sangha. Hope to see you often at the temple this year.

In Gassho,  
Yoshi Ono



## **Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes!**

**Ken Garner**  
2011 OBT Board President

How fast a year goes. Wasn't it just yesterday I was writing in my first article that it was said the hardest part of being OBT president was producing the monthly article? While I am not so sure that is actually the case, I do appreciate the editor's indulgence in accepting late submissions!

This has been a full and eventful year at the Oregon Buddhist Temple. As I have written in previous articles, a busy and active temple is a healthy temple. While we do face some serious, primarily financial challenges, I am bullish on OBT and optimistic about our future. It is with confidence I turn the OBT presidency over to Yoshi Ono's sure and calm leadership.

OBT is important to me and my family and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to be what I hope has been a positive influence on the temple. From emails I receive and

conversations I have with temple members and friends, I know OBT is important to you as well. There definitely is no shortage of ideas and opinions about its operation and future. I am honored by the trust you showed in me and support you gave me this past year. I have enjoyed my time as OBT President. When I became a member of the Board I developed a different view of our temple, on what it takes to keep this community operating and healthy, than I had as a regular member. As president, my understanding and respect for this community has grown.

Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Minutes. How do you measure - measure a year?

In Gassho



## **Mabel Kikue Shoji Boggs**

*by Ken Garner*

On July 10, 2011, temple member Mabel Boggs passed away at the age of 91. While she was a long time member and generous benefactor during her life, due in part to living in Philomath, OR and her advanced age, she was not well known by many current OBT members.

Mabel was the daughter of Yoshihei and Mitsuru Shoji. She lived in Portland until the age of 16, and then went to Japan to finish high school. She returned to Portland to begin her college education. After Pearl Harbor, she was interred in Minidoka Relocation Camp in Idaho. When she returned to Portland, she met Monte Boggs at her family market. The couple was married in Vancouver, Washington. After their marriage, they moved to Philomath where they owned and operated a pump business as well as running the family farm. Mabel enjoyed working, reading, and crossword puzzles. As well as the Oregon Buddhist Temple, Mabel was a supporter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Oregon Nikkei Endowment and the Portland Taiko.

Mabel generously named the Oregon Buddhist Temple as one of the beneficiaries in her will. OBT is grateful for her generosity in life and in death.

## **2012 OBT board of directors**

### **Terms ends 2012**

Angie Hughes - Secretary, Kim Kono, Stan Shiigi-Vice President, Wynn Kiyama

### **Term ends 2013**

Amy Long, Amy Peterson, Carol Saiget, Teresa Soto de Roman

### **Term ends 2014**

Ken Garner, Yoshi Ono-President, David Wright, to be filled

### **Appointed non-board position**

Shinya Ichikawa - Financial Officer



### **Happy year of the Dragon!**

*Alice Ando, OBWA President*

Here I am again as President of the Oregon Buddhist Women's Assn. (OBWA). I would like to thank Tammy Herold for the wonderful job she did being President for the first half of 2011 and wish her and her mother well. We have new cabinet members joining us in 2012 and look forward to a busy year working towards helping the Temple and the Community. I ask for your cooperation in making this new coming year a very good one.

On January 21, 2012, the OBWA meeting will be held at the Holladay Park Plaza penthouse, located at 1300 NE 16th Avenue. The OBWA new year party will follow the meeting. Those who can, please bring non-perishable food for FISH (an emergency food providing agency), in lieu of gift exchange. Look forward to seeing you there.

Gassho,



### **Musings of an OBTA board member**

*Kim Kono*

The end of the year is upon us. During the holiday season, most people experience extra activity and gatherings, which might easily lead to "holiday fatigue." Lately, I've observed that everyday life, at least for me and my family, has become very busy. In fact, life has become so busy, the holiday flurry seems normal and not so bad! Weekdays offer full workdays for Randy and me, along with full homework loads for Justin. Weekends are packed full of errands, or right now, attending Justin's swim meets. I suspect that many OBTA members are equally if not more busy; retirees tell me that their lives are fuller now than when they were once younger or employed. Why has the pace of our lives accelerated? One reason may be that today there are so many modes of communication, offering instant "talk" via our smart cell phones, portable tablets, computers, and other devices. We are plugged into our phone and the internet, both physically and figuratively, and the expectations of those with whom we interact via email, text, Skype, computer games, and phone is that we respond quickly and at all hours of the day if we so choose. It's difficult to keep up!

In this respect, I'm looking forward to the holiday, as a refuge from daily stress and routine. I plan to resist being constantly productive and connected to the computer. Instead I'll enjoy being with family and friends, going to the movies with Justin, or doing things like knitting or reading which usually get put aside.

OBTA, with the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha offer us a refuge of a different kind, one that is constantly present as we perceive and access it. OBTA is meaningful to me; I feel privileged to be on the Board and to serve. Please enjoy the holiday season and in the new year of 2012, don't forget to look to OBTA for guidance and as a place of personal refuge.



### **Dharma school news**

*Amy Peterson,  
Dharma school coordinator*

Six Dharma school students participated in the December 10th All Night Nembutsu session. Thanks to Marilyn Achterman and Kyoko Gibbs for staying up with the students and feeding them breakfast. Next year we plan to attend a Saturday night service followed by the all night Nembutsu session.

The work party to decorate for the temple New Year's party is tentatively set for January 7th.

If you are a parent and are not receiving e-mail information from your child's teacher, please e-mail the DS through the website to make sure we have your e-mail address. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### **2012 OBTA New Year luncheon**

Please mark your calendars for January 8, 2012 and submit the form in this newsletter to reserve your meal for our New Year celebration by December 30.



### **Lotus circle – January 2012**

*Jean Matsumoto*

The Lotus Circle has rolled around another year, and this will be its 5th year of existence. Oregon Buddhist Temple gratefully acknowledges all the generous contributors who have joined together to make sure that our temple altar is always adorned with beautiful, fresh flowers each week. The wonderful arrangements, of course, are done by members of our talented Flower Toban.

Altar flowers for the month of January are being provided by donations from:

- January 1 -- Merrie Greenwood in memory of (imo) her father, Joe Chiyozo Shiramizu; Takako Ishida imo parents, Seiichi and Tomiye Takahashi; Jean Matsumoto imo mother, Mikiye
- January 8 – open
- January 15 – Ben Ishida imo parents, Suetaro and Tomeka; Chris Dart imo brother, Richard Dale Hoverson
- January 22 – Angie Nakashima imo father, Harry Okita; Kathie Sato imo husband, Nobu
- January 29 – Alice Sumida imo parents, Tameji and Take Eto

Ken Garner ([webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com](mailto:webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com)) has prepared a Lotus Circle page on the temple website so that information and memories of loved ones can be shared. If you would like to keep the memory of a loved one alive by joining this group, it's easy to do. Just call me at 503-280-2463, or e-mail [jamatsumoto@gmail.com](mailto:jamatsumoto@gmail.com), and give me the name of the loved one, relationship and the date he/she passed

away and I'll put your name on the calendar. Then send a check made out to the Oregon Buddhist Temple in the amount of \$35 (which is tax deductible), with "Lotus Circle" written on it and mail it to the temple. All are welcome to join at any time of the year.



### ***"Under Amida's Umbrella of Compassion"***

*Ann Shintani*

There is still time to register for the annual Northwest District Convention in Spokane Washington, Feb. 17-19, 2012. The theme is "Under Amida's Umbrella of Compassion", and is hosted by the Spokane Buddhist Temple. The pre-registration deadline is Dec. 31, 2011. If you still wish to participate, the fees for the full convention are now \$115 Adults, \$100 YBA (6th grade-college), \$65 Dharma School (grades 1st-5th), \$45 childcare (ages 3-5 years), and \$50 (Saturday evening banquet only). Everyone must make their own hotel reservations directly with the Davenport Hotel or Davenport Towers (the location of the convention, 1-800-899-1482 and mention the Buddhist convention for the discounted rate). Our Dharma School will contribute half the registration cost of students, as well. Bus transportation arrangements to the convention are being made and will be known shortly.

Spokane has invited each temple to provide up to 3 items (or baskets) for a silent auction event to take place Saturday and Sunday at the convention. All proceeds from our items will be returned to our temple. These auctions have been popular in the past, and a great fundraising option for us.

Please contact Ann Shintani right away at ann@hoonko.com or 503-753-1813 should you be interested in registering, the silent auction, or have other convention questions. The registration forms say to mail and write checks payable to Spokane, but please submit them to me and make checks payable to Oregon Buddhist Temple, and I will ensure that registration is correct.



### ***New books for the library***

*Etsu Osaki*

#### Discovering Buddhism in Everyday Life

by Rev. Marvin Harada, Buddhist Education Center, 2011, 128 pages. Easy

reading. A must book for your library. Let me know if you want to order one.

The Hands and Feet of the Heart by Hisako Nakamura. BEC, 2011, 166 pages. She lived a life of Nembutsu with only stumps for hands and feet. Very inspirational.

Complete Idiots Guide to Buddhism, 3rd edition by Gary Gach, 2009, 387 . pages. Lots of information. The one page appendix summarizes the basic teachings.

Dharma Talks by Craig Horton, 2010, Short sayings accompanied by beautiful photos.

## **Condolences ...**

To the family of:

- Shiro Takeuchi who passed away November 22
- Doug Anderson who passed away December 4
- Melvin Takeuchi who passed away December 4

### **2012 Memorial Chart**

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2011	1 year	1990	23 year
2010	3 year	1986	27 year
2006	7 year	1980	33 year
2000	13 year	1976	37 year
1996	17 year	1963	50 year

*If you would like to have a memorial service performed for loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements with Rev. Gibbs as early as possible.*

### **January Toban**

Anderson, Lisa	Endecott, Kiyō
Endecott, Susan	Gibbs, David
Gibbs, Kyoko	Grannan, Lynn
Grannan, Scott	Herold, Tammy
Leedham, Chris	Leedham, Susan
McGraw, Kara	Ouchida, Fusako
Peterson, Amy	Rojas, Gustavo
Shintani, Ann	Strugar, Debra
Tamaribuchi-Gibbs, Tara	
Winner, Scott	Wright, David
Yamauchi, Hiroshi	Yamauchi, Judy

*Toban not only means "my turn" but "my chance" to show my appreciation to all the men and women whose monetary donations and hard work resulted in this beautiful place, our Temple, to hear theDharma*

*Words of Jean Matsumoto - 1995*

## **OBWA makes Dana drive deliveries to Yolanda House**

On November 30, Bettina Ishimaru, Jayne and Shinya Ichikawa delivered more than a ¼ ton pickup load of used clothing, used household items, new bedding and other items to the YWCA to help the women and children of the Yolanda House. June Shiigi made additional deliveries on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

According to their web site, "YWCA of Greater Portland created Yolanda House with the help of many community members and organizations to help those escaping domestic violence to survive. As part of the Domestic Violence

community, we are saving lives and empowering women to reclaim their dignity and freedom.”

The OBWA-sponsored Dana drive continues until Sunday, January 29, 2012. Donations will be accepted at OBT on Sundays from 10 am-1 pm. Leave donations on the table in the basement marked OBWA. Please label your items OBWA. For questions or concerns email: jayneichi@gmail.com.



*Shinya Ichikawa, Bettina Ishimaru, Jayne Ichikawa*

## *Jodo Shinshu correspondence course*

The Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office is now accepting applications for their spring 2012 enrollment. For more information, please visit the course website at: [www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org](http://www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org). Applications may be submitted online through the course website. Deadline: February 15. Course starts March 1. Questions may be directed to: Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office, 2140 Durant Ave.,

Berkeley, CA, Tel: 510-809-1441, email: [jssc@cbe-bca.org](mailto:jssc@cbe-bca.org).

16th Annual Japanese New Year Celebration

# MOCHITSUKI

Sunday - January 29 - 11 am to 4 pm

Scottish Rite Center

1512 SW Morrison • JeldWen Field Max Stop

Usher in the Year of the Dragon with a mix of your favorite traditions, like *mochi-pounding* and *ikebana*, with new ones like learning how to *make bento lunches* and *sampling locally-made sake*. Indulge in sumptuous Japanese food, and enjoy the many activities of the cultural fair. Different from last year, drop in on ongoing performances throughout the day, with drumming by *Portland Taiko* and *Takobachi* and other exciting performers.



**Advance tickets:** \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students, and \$4 for children 12 and under. **Day of tickets:** \$12 for adults, \$9 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children. Tickets are available at [oregonnikkei.org](http://oregonnikkei.org) or call (503) 224-1458.

Please visit [mochipdx.org](http://mochipdx.org) for more information.

Presented by Portland Taiko, Portland Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, Konkō Church, and Oregon Nikkei Endowment and with Support by the Japanese Ancestral Society and Consul General of Japan in Portland

## **Oregon Buddhist Temple November 2011 Donations**

### ***In memory of Yosh Hasuiki***

Herb & Etsu Osaki (Hishinuma Fund)

### ***Toki Tachibana 50th yr memorial***

Shoun & Grace Ishikawa

### ***In memory of***

#### ***Rev & Mrs Tatsuya Ichikawa***

Herb & Etsu Osaki  
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa  
Joseph & Lora Wahl  
(Hishinuma Fund)

### ***In memory of Ronald Oshiro and James Kunisaki***

Randy & Dana Kunisaki

### ***William M. Koida 1st yr memorial***

Mary Koida

### ***In memory of Kay N. Toyooka, Fumie Toyooka & Lulu C. Lee***

Martin & Carol Lee

### ***Special donations***

James & Judith Nakashima  
Jacki Danyluk  
Kara Mie McGraw  
Herb & Etsu Osaki  
Carolyn J. Saiget  
Keith & Kerrie Nasman

### ***Lotus Circle***

Angela & Glenn Nakashima  
Cathy Shikatani & Willem Stoeller  
Janice Okamoto

### ***Eitaikyo***

Anonymous (4)  
Pat & Tom Hokama  
Hiro Takeuchi  
Keiko Misaki  
Katie & Ed Tamiyasu  
Yoshie Kagawa  
Kiyomi Dickinson  
Sumiko Ikata  
Herb & Etsu Osaki

### ***Eitaikyo (continued)***

Yoshi & Tomoko Ono  
Shizuko Ouchida  
Mary T. Okita  
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha  
Misao Minagi  
Janice Okamoto  
LaRhette Swann  
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner  
K. David Itamura  
Ernest Takeda  
Ray & Lori Fukunaga  
June & Stan Shiigi  
Alice Sumida  
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa  
Teruko Nishikawa  
Kaoru Hori  
George & Chiho Okita  
Randy & Dana Kunisaki  
Alan Kasubuchi  
Cindy Cohen  
Alice Ando  
Chris & Susan Leedham

### ***2012 membership donations***

Jacki Danyluk  
AI Abe  
Hiro Takeuchi  
Carolyn J. Saiget

### ***Member pledge donations***

Jean Matsumoto  
Susan Endecott  
Matt & Kirstin Litchfield  
Katie Bretsch  
Chanda & Eric Stone

*Acknowledgements are mailed to individuals 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.*

Susan Endecott  
503-698-3767

[endecott@worldstar.com](mailto:endecott@worldstar.com)

The Oregon Buddhist Temple board voted to increase temple membership dues for 2012 by \$20 per individual and \$40 per family. Thank you for your consideration.

**OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE  
MEMBERSHIP 2012  
NEW OR RENEWAL REGISTRATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP DONATION:**

INDIVIDUAL: MINIMUM \$220.00 PER INDIVIDUAL ADULT  
 FAMILY: MINIMUM \$440.00 PER FAMILY  
 SILVER: \$500.00 PER MEMBER With silver and gold membership you receive our deep appreciation and your name  
 GOLD: \$1000.00 PER MEMBER will be listed in the newsletter as special donors, unless you request not to be listed.

OR YOU MAY MAKE PAYMENTS OF A MINIMUM \$20.00 PER MONTH OR A MINIMUM \$60.00 PER QUARTER

Membership allows voting privileges, a subscription to Wheel of Dharma newsletter from Buddhist Churches of America, and most importantly, demonstrates your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

ENCLOSED MEMBERSHIP FEE \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off this form and a check or mail both to:

ADDITIONAL DONATION \_\_\_\_\_

Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97202

TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

***OBT New Year's Service & Party  
Sunday January 8, 2012***

*Come celebrate the New Year  
10:00 a.m. service & 11:30 a.m. party*

*Bentos by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki  
\$15 per person*

**To honor our elders, members 80 years old and over will be our guests and receive complimentary meals**

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

***Please preorder your bento using the form below. Deadline: December 30, 2011***

**OBT New Year's Service & Luncheon**

Participant's name (please print)	Check if 80 and over	Participant's name (please print)	Check if 80 and over
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 # paid bentos \$ enclosed # complimentary meals

Number of children not ordering bento \_\_\_\_\_

**Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202**

**Make check payable to the OBT. Mail above form and payment by December 30, 2011.  
For questions, please contact KatieTamiyasu, 503-244-6299.**