



OBT established 1903



## Nirvana. What does it Mean? Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy February everyone! I hope you were all able to ride out the storms of winter in warmth and comfort with your family.

Our January was quite busy! I always feel like we hit the ground running because we have so much to do in so little time. First we have the two New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services. It definitely feels like more and more folks are attending these services to ring in the New Year! What a wonderful feeling! The other event that is so important for us as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists is our annual Hoonko service. This is the service that commemorates our founder's birth in the pure land.

This year we were originally planning on hosting this service with the ministers of Seattle, White River, and Tacoma at the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple. However, due to the tragic event of the fire that occurred at Seattle we were unable to have the service we originally intended. Yet, in times of great hardship, I have also seen acts of great kindness and compassion. The fire at Seattle Betsuin also spurred an immediate reaction from the other temples and sanghas in the northwest to reach out and offer help. ([see page 9 to help](#))

We all felt that this service was so important that with the quick working of Rinban Kusunoki, Rev. Cyndi Yasaki, and the generous community of the White River Buddhist Temple, we were able to hold the service at their temple and still offer a wonderful tribute to our venerable master Shinran.

February is usually the month we celebrate Nirvana Day. This marks the day that the Buddha passed into parinirvana and achieved the highest level of enlightenment we could possibly know. This also marks the time that the Buddha died in his physical body. Yet his teachings continue to live on to this day.

We see this term "Nirvana" a lot. A popular band was formed in the 80s from the state of Washington actually! However, does this term actually mean? I have heard this term used in a multitude of fashions. Some have used it to refer to the "Buddhist Heaven", which I definitely don't agree with. It's also been used to describe this euphoric state of mind that is equal to enlightenment. I am not sure I fully agree with this term either.

If we look at the direct translation of Nirvana, it literally means, "to blow out", which is often associated with the blowing out the flame of a candle. It implies the snuffing out of all of our blind passions and imperfections that hinder us

from enlightenment. So in a sense, for us as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, it is something that occurs after we die. Yet at the same time, we do not wait around and lament our existence and wait for death.

In our tradition's teachings, Amida Buddha achieved the perfect state of Nirvana ten kalpas ago, and is still working in the pure land to send us wisdom and compassion in our life right now. So while we ourselves as bonbu or unenlightened beings cannot hope to achieve true Nirvana by our own means and in this lifetime, we do not need to despair as the enlightened wisdom and compassion continues to come to us at this very moment, purely for our benefit.



## OBT President's Message Cathy Yarne

Greetings Sangha,

The problems created by the recent weather events has made me appreciate my life, even more. We went 3 nights without power before we escaped to the warmth of my sister's home where we then became stranded for 4 nights. While we were away, a chain of text messages, kept us informed about all the problems occurring on our small cul-de-sac. Three had trees fall on their homes and one had a water line burst, creating flooding inside their home. Even though my neighbors' lives will not return to normal for weeks, everyone is thankful that no one was injured. I'm sure many of you share in this feeling of gratitude and appreciation. I'm encouraging you to put your "gratitude into action" by doing a kindness or service for someone whose home was damaged, someone who was injured or those that are homeless.

**OBT CLOSURES:** Portland's snow, wind and ice storms made it necessary to cancel service and postpone the New Year Party on Jan. 21st. Not knowing whether the ice on the lot and walkways would melt in time, we chose to be overly cautious and canceled. If there is ever a question about cancelling a service or OBT event we'll try to send an email out no later than Saturday afternoon. You can also check the OBT website the night before. This is assuming we all have internet service. In cases where you don't have internet service, and no way to receive communication, for your safety stay home. Thank you for your understanding.

If you did not receive an email about the Jan. 21st cancellation, please send me your email address so we can add you to our email master list. [cathyarne@gmail.com](mailto:cathyarne@gmail.com)

Gassho, Cathy

*"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.



## OBT Board Meeting Highlights Judy Hittle

Highlights from the OBT Board Meeting January 11:

**Gate Update:** Three walk-in gates have now been secured to deter outside manipulation of the locks. Plans are now being made to secure the solar panels to prevent access from the outside.

**New Year's Luncheon:** planned for January 21st was postponed to January 28th due to icy parking lot and possible icy road situations. As of this meeting date, 76 bentos have been ordered.

**Spring Bazaar** – April 28, 2024: Chairs – Surya Vadivazhagu, Mai Thi Lai, Cherie Yoshida, Jenna Yokoyama.

**Mochitsuki**, Dec 17, 2023: Chairs – Debbie Shimamoto, Ann Shintani, Toyoko Oguri, Surya Vadivazhagu. Sold approximately \$3600. All expenses have not yet been recorded. All mochi made was sold. Received several donations from businesses, Papa Murphy's, Dominos, Safeway, Starbucks, Chef Store and especially from JFC International Inc.

**OBT Calendar:** OBT General Meeting – February 25, 2024, after service; Board meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Spring Bazaar – April 28, 2024 (sales from one entrée, to be sent to Seattle Betsuin to assist with recovery from damages caused by fire); Craft Fair – November 23, 2024.

**Hanamatsuri** – April 7, 2024; potluck lunch to follow.

Motion was passed to assist any high school student from Dharma School, who wants to attend the **Youth Conference at the BCA**.

## February Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of February. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the February 18 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](mailto:obtlanterns@gmail.com).

Note: The February Shotsuki Hoyo service will include reading of names from both January and February, due to the cancellation of the January Shotsuki Hoyo service.

Denny Masaru Ando, 2/2/2004	James Kentaro Ishii, 2/27/2010	Tome Osaki, 2/1974*
Sagoro Asai, 2/18/1969	Yoshizo Ito, 2/01/1995	Fusako Ouchida, 2/12/2023*
Masako Blackmun, 2/21/2018	George Kajiwara, 2/08/2016	Kayoko Parks, 2/23/1992
Bob Dorman, 2/01/2009	Mary W Kasubuchi, 2/24/2010*	Sakiyo Sakurai, 2/17/1958
Sumie Ebihara, 2/1/1957*	Mine Katsuro, 2/23/1955	Sayo Shiraishi, 2/23/1952
Kikuno Egashira, 2/07/1997	Sakae Kobayashi, 2/07/1966	Seigo Sugihara, 2/24/2003
Reisaku Egashira, 2/16/1978*	Shozo Maekawa, 2/17/1990	Sen Sunamoto, 2/4/1967*
Hiroshi Hyde Fujii, 2/26/2005	Ryoo Maekawa, 2/26/2005	Kazuko Sunamoto, 2/26/2017*
Yonezo Fred Fujii, 2/21/1973	Tamuro Miura, 2/13/1966	Mary Tadasumi, 2/23/1954
Yoshino Fujii, 2/16/1963*	Jimmy Miyoshi, 2/02/1984	May Takemoto, 2/28/2023*
George S Fujiwara, 2/06/2016	Orga Fusae Junie Morishita, 2/27/1997	George Takeo Takeda, 2/27/1992
Sachiko Hasuiki, 2/14/2019	Bessie Shinobu Morita, 2/04/2012	Ishi Takeda, 2/6/1951*
Masako Hayashida, 2/03/2004	Dorothy Fujiko Nakagawa, 2/25/2016	Takichi Takemoto, 2/19/1954
Sachie Yuki Hearing, 2/2/1989	Kanesuki Nakamura, 2/22/1956	Thomas Takeuchi, 2/20/1990
Shigeru Hironaka, 2/15/2005	Saya Nakamura, 2/21/1987*	Tomi Tsujimura, 2/25/1983*
Tom Hokama, 2/25/2020	Isao Niemi, 2/26/1962	Chise Uyetake, 2/7/1956*
Ira Honma, 2/27/1988	Yasutaro Oguri, 2/01/1961	May Watari, 2/10/2023*
Sueo Buddy Ikata, 2/27/1992	George Okamoto, 2/01/2008	Kaye Yamaguchi, 2/13/2021
Masaharu Ikeda, 2/21/1975	Tatsu Okita, 2/23/1967*	Shizuo Yamaguchi, 2/21/1988*
Nobuko Ishida, 2/11/1973*	Haru Okubo, 2/07/2006	Nobuko Yoshida, 2/1973*
	Herbert Susumu Osaki, 2/10/2022	Shuichi Yoshihara, 2/07/1962

\* OBWA member

## January Shotsuki Hoyo

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

## Nirvana Day, February 18 (Nehan-E 涅槃会) "Nirvana-gathering"

The Sanskrit word Nirvana comes from the root "va" which means "to blow", adding the stem "ana" which means to make, and the prefix "nir" which means "off" or "out". Hence, Nirvana means "the blowing out or extinction". It is understood to mean the blowing out or extinction of the flame of personal desire.

When Shakamuni Buddha attained Enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree, he had achieved Nirvana. However, since he still was in his earthly form, he had not achieved complete Nirvana. When he died at the age of 80, he entered into complete Nirvana.

FROM TRADITIONS OF JODOSHINSHU  
HONGWANJI-HA

By Masao Kodani and Russell Hamada

This year the OBT Nirvana Day Service will be on Sunday, February 18.

**A reminder to encourage readers to continue donations for these events and at any other time.**

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

**Oregon Buddhist Temple  
December 2023 Donations**

***In memory of Nobuchi & Harumi  
Nunotani, Eiichi & Haruno Saito,  
Tomo & Fumi Saito, Susie Toyoji***  
Ken & Bea Saito

***In memory of Ami Kinoshita***  
Jeff & Junko Ichikawa

***In memory of Irene Junko Stumpf***  
Richard D. Stumpf

***In memory of Chisao Nakamichi***  
Anonymous

**SHOTSUKI HOYO / LOTUS CIRCLE**  
***In memory of Bob M. Ando,  
Frank S. Ando & Sekitaro Fujii***  
Roberta Ando  
Diane Ando Harder

***In memory of George & Chiho Okita***  
Carolyn M. Okita  
Bette Okita

***In memory of Ikumi Tamiyasu***  
Janice Okamoto

***In memory of Francis Iwamoto***  
Katie & Ed Tamiyasu

***In memory of Ayame Matsunaga***  
Janice Okamoto

***In memory of Ron Endecott  
& Ken Tanaka***  
Susan Endecott

***Year End Gifts to the Temple***  
Jimmy, Cheri & Mary Ann Yoshida  
Jenna Yokoyama  
Julia Yoshimoto & Surinder Singh  
Craig & Lisa Yanase  
Judy & Paul Hittle  
Jean Matsumoto  
Duane Watari  
Dana Kakishita

***Special donations***  
Frieda Fujikawa  
Ronald & Linda Iwasaki  
James & Judith Nakashima  
*(via Fidelity Charitable Fund)*  
Henry & Eulia Mishima  
Etsuko Osaki  
Takako Yamaguchi  
Etsuko Osaki  
Robert Kaneko  
Jean Matsumoto *(Hishinuma Fund)*  
Jean Matsumoto *(Tamura-Terakawa  
Scholarship Fund)*  
Irene H. Goto  
Dana Kakishita *(Minister's services)*  
Jonathan Greenwood  
Karen Fullerton  
Joann M. Calve

***Bodhi Day***  
Diane Ando Harder  
Dana Kakishita  
Katie Tamiyasu  
Roberta Ando  
Elaine & Todd Yuzuriha  
Anonymous  
Anonymous

***2024 Annual Pledge***  
Etsuko Osaki  
Steve & Clara Pawlowski  
Frieda Fujikawa  
Susan Leedham  
Joann & Greg Naganuma  
Jeff & Junko Ichikawa  
Katie Tamiyasu  
Kiyomi Dickinson  
Edward Liljeholm  
Beth Sellers  
Robert & Gail Tsutsumi

***Monthly pledge donations***  
Diane Ando Harder  
Patrick Hammersmith  
Chie Nakamichi & Paul Nist

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***CORRECTION:*** *The following  
donations were inadvertently omitted  
from the October list:*

***In memory of Henry Tanabe***  
Lynn & Scott Grannan

***In memory of Alfred Ando***  
Diane Ando Harder

***Eitaikyo***  
Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge  
Elaine & Todd Yuzuriha

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

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

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**Dharma School  
Ann Shintani**

Welcome to February! We had mochitsuki fundraiser, the holidays, and icy road conditions that have prevented us from having Sunday Service and Dharma School, so I hope we will see you and your family return to Dharma School! February we will be remembering the passing of the historical Buddha and Nirvana Day. At Oregon Buddhist Temple, we also remember our pets who

have passed away in the last year. If your pet passed away in 2023, please send me the photo and we will try to add it to our Nirvana Pet Memorial portion of our service.

In March, we will have several opportunities for our youth to participate: On March 3rd, we will ask the Dana class to chair service; on Scout Sunday, March 10th, our temple-sponsored Girl Scout troop will be asked to participate in service. In the future, we hope to have in-person events where we may invite the public to learn more about our temple, Buddhism, and introduce our friendly selves (and sell cookies).

**HOONKO WORD SEARCH**

**Here is a word search of  
Hoonko terms, enjoy!**

I Z Z J R I E J W T F I U I Z X G K W H  
 O V K H D S S U S U E S T J C B U H W G  
 U R P A H Q H N M R C T P U I W M K X I  
 O W O W W Z I A B N J U L Y Z I Q Z P N  
 X X A D W Q N W G I H D Z N B S X G A E  
 U I P Z G W R A R N K Y H A Y D X Y Z Z  
 T B C V Y A A K A G J N O M X O X G V J  
 H S G C S Z N E T O A R O U M M F E G T  
 O S H V Z T S N I N N R N A D I F X T P  
 N H C I G H H I T E U T K M O K V N C L  
 K E H W N K O N U S A J O I D C O E U R  
 H A A U P J N G D M R J X D M Q H M X F  
 K R N D C R I F E I Y C L A E S M B W A  
 F T T V B Q N N E N V A R B M V Z U A I  
 M I I F L N G L I D Z Z V U O X Q T E C  
 P N N Q E H G R G K X E L T R P G S T F  
 E Q G D G V P T T E Y N E S I L T U C K  
 T A A C I U G J J U K T V U A Q Y N N H  
 B M T Z T R J W W L Q T C S L O I D O W  
 I J V V S K Q H E M Y H T J L K T D Q T

- Awakening
- Chanting
- Gratitude
- Heart
- Hoonko
- January
- Memorial
- Namu Amida Butsu
- Nembutsu
- Shinjin
- Shinran Shonin
- Study
- Turning One's Mind
- Wisdom



**Hoonko** is **Shinran Shonin's Memorial** Service, where we express **gratitude** for his teachings, usually in the month of **January**. We think about his teachings to "**turn one's mind**" to seeing ourselves as we truly are, and about **Shinjin**, the **awakening** heart of Amida Buddha. The Five Gates of Awareness are a way to do this: (1) ritual acts (such as **chanting**), (2) reciting the **Nembutsu** or **Namu Amida Butsu**, (3) **study**, (4) seeking **wisdom**, and (5) "directing virtue" (or "**heart**").



### Healthy Body + Karate

By Avery Hughes-Davis

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

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



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

We hope you'll join us for this fun and new experience at OBT. Students should be dressed in casual, athletic wear. Please contact Avery Hughes-Davis at [averymhd@gmail.com](mailto:averymhd@gmail.com) with any questions and we'll look forward to meeting you for Healthy Body + Karate on February 11, 2024 in the OBT basement space directly after service. Please check the newsletter calendar for updates. Thanks for your interest!

#### Upcoming OBT events with Rev. Koyama

**Hoonko Service – Jan 28**

**Hoonko Seminar – Feb 3**

**Regular Service + Dharma Exchange – Feb 4**



### Technology Abounds

By Marilyn Achterman

We have A/V in the hondo and A/V in the basement, which allows visual aids for dharma messages deepening our understanding of the teachings. This technology allows us to sit and stand erectly for chanting and singing. It allows us to take a snapshot of a passage displayed on the screen. It allows waving to our zoom attendees. Our A/V system is moving us 'Dharma Forward'.

Our next step in the technology field is a laptop to sign in our first-time visitors. This will allow us to welcome and reach out to them for future services and events.

Another technology step forward is the use of Ipads for cashiering our activities; as in our bazaars and Obonfest.

If you have a laptop (seeking one) or iPads (seeking six) in good working condition that you would like to donate to the temple, this would be helpful for us and appreciated.

Please contact Marilyn Achterman with your contribution to "Dharma Forward".

*The article below by OBT board member Cathy Yarne is intended to help make the board more accessible to temple members.*



### Inviting You to Shape Our Future

By Cathy Yarne

*Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.*

*--Helen Keller*

Have you ever thought the Oregon Buddhist Temple is a wonderful place and you are glad you are a part of it?

The temple was established and mainly built by volunteers. What you see, hear, do, learn and enjoy at the temple is the result of Sangha members who volunteered to make our temple what it is today.

Our temple is a volunteer organization. Other than a minister, there are no paid employees. Everything related to the temple has been and is made possible by volunteers. The opportunities for us to learn and share the Dharma in a beautiful temple, and the ability to afford a full-time minister is all made possible through the work of volunteers.

"If you like what you see" help us continue and grow by volunteering. We are always seeking individuals who are willing to share their professional skills, interests, talents and/or knowledge to help us keep OBT running smoothly. We invite you to share your skills and hidden talents OR maybe you're willing to learn!

Let us know what you'd like to do! Help us shape what OBT will be like tomorrow and in the future. You can talk to any Board Member (photos and names on [page 7](#)) or drop me an email. ([cathyarne@gmail.com](mailto:cathyarne@gmail.com))

Thank you!

**Oregon Buddhist Temple  
Board of Directors  
2024 to 2026**

Term Ending 2024

 <b>Marilyn Huh</b>	 <b>Suniti Kumar (Secretary)</b>	 <b>Charles Reneau</b>	 <b>Carol Saiget</b>
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Term Ending 2025

 <b>Jayne Ichikawa</b>	 <b>Shinya Ichikawa</b>	 <b>Katie Tamiyasu</b>	 <b>Kristen Wong</b>
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Term Ending 2026

 <b>Ken Garner</b>	 <b>Judy Hittle (Vice President)</b>	 <b>Glenda Watson</b>	 <b>Cathy Yarne (President)</b>
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**OBT and Ice Storm 2024**



*Photo by Charles Reneau*



*Photos by Todd Yuzuriha*



**Dharma Patterns**  
Marilyn Huh  
Oregon Buddhist Women's Association

Greetings from the Oregon Buddhist Women's Association! OBT has gained access to a truly remarkable device. This thing helps us transmit Japanese art and culture, nurture friendships, welcome newcomers and produce Portland products commanding a very pretty penny—all with no waste, ongoing reuse and ever-increasing gratitude.

It's not a computer, though it is up-to-the-minute. It's not a dreary AI chatbot, though it's right there with you if self-expression is your thing. Its products draw people to Obon in droves, wanting a piece of OBT's artistry and care; bringing in many thousands of dollars each year so that we, in turn, might care for the temple.

Does it sound like something a sorcerer might use? Don't worry, it comes with a trio of Sensei. Yasuko Fields, Toyoko Oguri and Debi Shimamoto, master craftswomen all, serve as facilitators for the Mottainai Craft Group. Mottainai: nothing frittered away; everything connected, transformed, reused; every pair of hands welcomed. If you come to the group, you can even work on your own projects—as well as have a hand in producing the stunning kimono, yukata, happi coats, bags, scarves and other works of art that community members stampede to buy at our temple's events.

The remarkable device is a sewing machine, and *the ability to make and repair clothing* is of paramount importance, a basic human skill deserving particular attention as we think about better functioning within our ecosystems. Plus, it's just fun! The craft group meets monthly and has had a significant influx of young adults from beyond the temple's gates. Please come visit. You can bring your own machine or work with the group's. They are also looking for an additional, donated machine; so if you've got an old one that's portable and can sit on a table top, weighs less than 30 pounds, and is in good working order with a foot control, power cord and all original accessories—the group would happily give it a new home! (Bonus points for the original instruction manual.)

What new dharma patterns might spin out from among the folks seated at the machines? Friendship and joy, art and utility, conservation and creation... email [mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com](mailto:mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com) today!

#### Upcoming events:

- 1/28 Ho-onko Service and New Year's Party
- 2/3 Ho-onko Workshop, 11 AM-1 PM
- 2/11 Lady Kujo and Lady Ohtani Memorial Service
- 2/17 OBWA New Year's Luncheon  
[see flyer](#) in this newsletter

Next month's reporter is Nancy Kajitsu.



**Girl Scouts Update**  
By Amy Peterson

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

I know it seems late, but we only get one week of Pre-Sales this year. The girls have from Jan. 26th to Feb. 4th to take your cookie pre-orders, so please email [gstroop43720obt@gmail.com](mailto:gstroop43720obt@gmail.com) if you'd like to order. Details will be available on the 26th on cookie varieties, cost, etc.

We will receive cookies and have the orders available for pick up / delivery on Sunday Feb. 18th at the temple. We will have other cookies available for sale at that time. The last day cookies will be available is March 18th!

The girls' goal is to go to Central Oregon for fossil, rock, and history exploration.



**OBT New Year's Party**  
**Re-scheduled to Jan 28th**  
Carolyn Saiget

Due to inclement weather, the OBT New Year's Party will be Sunday, Jan 28th after service. Although it is too late to order a catered bento, members are welcome to bring their own lunch and join in the celebration. We hope to see you there.

A special thank you to Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki for agreeing to postpone our bento order at the last minute.



**2024 Japanese American Community**  
**Graduation Banquet**  
Elaine Yuzuriha

The Japanese American Community Scholarships and JACL scholarship applications are due on March 1st. The application for the scholarships can be found on the Portland JACL website:

[www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships/](http://www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships/)

Check out the eligibility requirements for the scholarship on the application. Students or their parents must be a member of one of 11 community organizations of which Oregon Buddhist Temple is one.

The Japanese American Graduation Banquet will be Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 1 pm, located at the Monarch Hotel and Convention Center. This annual event will honor the Class of 2024 high school graduates from the Portland Metro area and award the community scholarships. The keynote speaker will be Tiffany Tamaribuchi, Artistic Director of Portland Taiko.

Please send the names of any Japanese American High School Graduate from the Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas counties in Oregon, and Clark County, WA to the graduation committee so they can invite the graduate to the banquet to honor them. Contact Elaine Yuzuriha at [e.yuzuriha@gmail.com](mailto:e.yuzuriha@gmail.com) for information. See our Facebook page: Portland Japanese American Community Graduation.



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## Seattle Betsuin Arson Restoration Fund

The following are excerpts from the Seattle Betsuin website: <https://www.seattlebetsuin.org/fire/>

The Seattle Betsuin is grateful for the sentiments and well wishes that have been posted, emailed, and verbalized through calls/texts. It is comforting to know that so many people care about the Betsuin community. Please know that we deeply appreciate each of you, and that your compassion means a great deal to the temple.

If you have attended the annual Seattle Bon Odori event held at the temple, you will understand the rich history that is brought to life during this occasion. Unfortunately, many of the items that are utilized to bring the Bon Odori experience together shared the same space in the archival area.

We appreciate any and all donations towards rebuilding our temple. If you are unable to donate at this time, we understand and would appreciate if you shared this with others.

Thank you for your kindness as we navigate the next chapter of our history.

Donations can be made via this link:  
<https://donate.stripe.com/7slcNfdwRdi59TW8wy>

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## OBT Events and Meetings

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

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

### OBT Regular Service

Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service)

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

Every week – Sun 10 AM

Every other week – Sun 11 AM

Link below to website for the filmed services:

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

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

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88441525686?pwd=EeovjfEdmbgAgQUoFXpEC1RAQrzPP1.1>

Meeting ID: 884 4152 5686

Passcode: 804117

### OBWA

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

Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266

Passcode: 574232

### Sunday Bon Odori

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

**The Jan 28 Sunday Bon Odori will start at 2:30 PM (not 1 PM), after the OBT NY Party**

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

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

Meeting ID: 810 5474 9182

Passcode: 113529

### BEC (Buddhist Education Committee)

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

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

Zoom link:

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

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943



## *Hoonko Special Service*

with Rev.Koyama

Sunday, January 28 10am

## *Hoonko Seminar*

with Rev.Koyama

Saturday, February 3 11am-1pm

Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR 97202

## OREGON BUDDHIST WOMENS' ASSOCIATION 2024 NEW YEAR GET-TOGETHER

Please join us on February 17, 2024 (Sat) from 11am to 1pm  
At Super King Buffet, 5015 SE 82nd Ave., Portland, OR 97266  
Lunch: \$26/person (Cash or Check payable to OBWA)  
Please RSVP by Feb. 11 (Sun) to Amy Peterson  
(Email: obtlanterns@gmail.com or phone: 503-481-0699).

### 2024 Year of the Dragon



令和六年



年男・年女 (*Toshi Otoko & Toshi Onna*)  
If you were born in 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964,  
1976, 1988, 2000, or 2012, CONGRATULATIONS!

2024 is a year of the Dragon, and you are a  
*toshi otoko* or *toshi onna* this year. It is said  
that *toshi otoko/toshi onna* are lucky  
throughout the year.

\* *Toshi otoko* (年男) is "a man born in a year  
with the same Chinese zodiac sign as the  
current year".

\* *Toshi onna* (年女) is "a woman born in a year  
with the same Chinese zodiac sign as the  
current year".

### \*2024 OBWA Membership Due: \$20/person

Please make your check payable to OBWA and bring it to  
the party or mail it to the temple address (OBWA, 3720 SE  
34th Ave., Portland, OR 97202). Please include your  
name/address/phone/email for the membership list.

### \*Carpool from the temple to Super King Buffet

If you need a carpool to Super King Buffet, please RSVP to  
Amy Peterson (Email: obtlanterns@gmail.com or  
Phone: 503-481-0699).

\***White Elephant gift** - Please bring a white elephant gift  
for gift exchange.



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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

For individuals who pledge \$300 or more:

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly

\_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly

Please send this completed Pledge for 2024 to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202-3037

Pledge payments can be mailed to the above address or made via PayPal at  
[OregonBuddhistTemple.com](http://OregonBuddhistTemple.com)

In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple