



I Am Happy to Meet You All Reverend Tadao Koyama

Happy August, Everyone!

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Reverend Tadao Koyama and I am the current resident minister of Tacoma Buddhist Temple. As of July 1st, I have been assigned as the Oregon Buddhist Temple supervising minister! I sincerely look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you as well!

I have now been by the Oregon Buddhist Temple now a few times and I have had the pleasure of meeting many Sangha and community members. The drive from Tacoma to OBT is about two and a half hours (three hours with traffic), and I am reminded about how wonderful it is that the teaching of Jodo Shinshu reaches so many people across our country. What's also a blessing is that we have the privilege of having amazing teachers to help us guide the way (not talking about myself, but about my teachers).

I definitely have a tough act to follow with Reverend, now Rinban Yuki Sugahara, a brilliant scholar, departing for Sacramento Betsuin. Believe it or not, I have a strong connection with Reverend Sugahara as he was (and still is in a way) my mentor from years past. When Reverend Sugahara arrived in the BCA he was assigned to the Buddhist Church of Florin in California. Around this time, I knew I wanted to study to become a Jodo Shinshu priest as well, and knew that I had found a good teacher to learn under. I actually switched my affiliation from the Sacramento Betsuin to Florin. I am forever grateful to Sugahara Sensei mentoring me and preparing me for the trials of Tokudo (ordination).

I am certain that all of you at the Oregon Buddhist Temple miss Reverend Sugahara very much, as well as his family. Yes, Buddhism teaches us the concept of "non-attachment", but we also acknowledge and fully feel the emotions that go through us all of the time. I often say that Buddhism is often misunderstood as a religion that teaches us to both be cold and emotionless or always happy and take everything in stride. This could not be further from the truth. It is perfectly fine to feel sadness, and missing the Sugahara family. I know I will miss them too. It is healthy to experience these emotions.

Jodo Shinshu teaches us that as human beings we all have heavy karmic attachments to this world, and to our sense of

normal. When our routine and our balance become upset, we in turn become upset. Some monks and other Buddhist followers are able to meditate or have other psychological techniques that help us to push through their pain. Yet for most of us, we have a feeling of raw emotion that is difficult to settle.

Hence we rely solely on Amida Buddha to give us constant wisdom and compassion. Amida Buddha crossed through ten kalpas of hard practice to bring us to the Pure Land and guarantee our enlightenment. How joyous I am to be given such wisdom and compassion. I look forward to a wonderful rest of the year with all of you and wish you all a great rest of the summer.

Gassho



President's Message Charles Reneau OBT President

Below is an excerpt of a previous article published in the June 2022 newsletter

I hope you've had a chance to get outside recently. I've been hiking a few times and have been working in my garden a good bit, too. I always enjoy looking at the various flowers that grace our presence this time of year. My wife and I have put a lot of work into our garden, and there are lots of flowers. There are familiar friends, like the purple-blossomed rhododendrons near my garage, the bleeding hearts that we planted under the cedar tree, and my favorites, the wild-looking lupine.

In the last few weeks, just as flowers were popping out of the ground all over, we've had an increase in the number of visitors to our Sunday services. I met one person who has worked for many years overseas, and appreciates the cool, rainy weather here in Portland. I just met a couple from the Bay Area- they're testing Portland out to see whether they like living here.

It's exciting for me to meet new people at the Temple, and ever since the Board discussed making an effort to chat with newcomers and be friendly, I've enjoyed looking around the Hondo for fresh faces. If someone sticks around after the service, and looks inviting, I encourage you to do the same.

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

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

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

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

August Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of August. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held August 13th 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, Patsy 8/30/2006 *	Kutada, Emi 8/3/2016	Sasaki, Teruko 8/28/2009
Akao, Toshiko 8/14/2000	Kuribayashi, Tatsuko 8/20/2001 *	Sakamoto, Hantaro 8/25/1954
Ando, Suematsu 8/26/1957	Maeda, Francis Kanji 8/24/2001	Shido, Mary 8/14/2000
Ando, Sumiko 8/25/2001 *	Maeda, Kinu 8/31/1987 *	Shintani, Kazumi 8/12/2016*
Azuma, Nisuke 8/11/1961	Masuoka, Nobuko 8/5/2016 *	Smith, Vincent 8/19/2001
Brandon, Sada 8/16/2016	Matsumura, Kina 8/10/1972	Sugimura, Kinu 8/10/1972 *
Brown, Jan Jr 8/31/2007	Mayers, Bernard Leon 8/17/2010	Susaki, Nobuko 8/2/2001
Brown, Reiko Akao 8/15/2011	Melore, Barbara 8/17/2006	Takabayashi, Tsunetaro 8/20/1960
Fujii, Yoshimi 8/31/1995	Morita, Yachiyo 8/31/1997 *	Tamiyasu Hirao 8/21/1978
Greenwood, Arlita 8/10/2001	Muramatsu, Sam Matsutarō 8/13/1978	Tanaka, Saichi 8/12/1957
Harrison, Henrietta Ueoka 8/5/2014	Muramatsu, Phyllis 8/11/2006 *	Teramura, Kisuke 8/26/1969
Hata, Kesae Kay 8/17/2000	Naemura, Saisuke 8/20/1953	Toyooka, Hatsuye 8/23/1983 *
Higashi, Jinsue 8/11/1961	Naganuma, Sam Sadatoshi 8/12/2001	Uesugi, Take 8/9/1953 *
Inahara, Tei 8/6/1997 *	Nakano, Sanami 8/28/2008	Uyeda, Henry 8/24/1974
Ishida Baby 8/12/1950	Nakao, Emil 8/14/2005	Winner, Diane Renee 8/7/2001
Itamura, Edith 8/6/2002	Nakao, Taitaro 8/5/1972	Yagi, Kan 8/9/2013 *
Ito, Masu 8/26/1956 *	Ng, Joann 8/21/2004	Yamaguchi, Ujitsuto 8/27/1986
Katada, Kazue 8/28/1995 *	Okawa, Reiko 8/31/1998 *	Yoshida, Kamekichi 8/28/1952
Kinoshita, Sei 8/1/1973 *	Okawa, Toichi 8/11/1959	

*OBWA member

2023 Memorial Services

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2022	1 Year	2007	17 Year
2021	3 Year	1999	25 Year
2017	7 Year	1991	33 Year
2011	13 Year	1974	50 Year

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

Bon Odori 盆踊り

Bon-dance

Basically religious in nature, the Bon Odori is traced back to the monk Mokuren's (Maudgalyayana) dance for joy on the release of his mother from the realm of Hungry Ghosts as related in the Ullambana Sutra. The Japanese reading of Ullambana is Uraban, which is abbreviated to Bon or Obon. A much stronger tradition of BCA temples than Jodoshinshu temples in Japan, Bon Odori is seen as an expression of joy in the Nembutsu teaching.

Excerpt from COCKTAILS, by Reverend Masao Kodani

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



Why I Will Dance At Least One Dance at Obon

Carol Saiget

For those of you who do not know me, I grew up in a large JA family here in Portland. I'm married and have three grown sons and two grandchildren (none of whom live in the area). Having retired after a long teaching career, I am able to spend time traveling, sewing, and volunteering at the temple and with Portland Taiko. When I was very young, Miss Jean brought me to temple. So, it is safe to say I've been around to see and do lot things here at the temple. The older I get, the more I appreciate being a part of the OBT and being Buddhist. The temple will always be a special place and being a Buddhist will always be an important part of my life and wellbeing.

As I write this article, BCA temples across the country are celebrating Obon. I have a few early memories of dance practices in the old temple (NW 10th) and following a procession of dancers down to the park blocks. Henry Matsunaga (Janice's dad) played the taiko, keeping us in step with Japanese songs (on scratchy records). One of the Fujinkai members made me and my sister, Cathy, matching pink floral ukatas.

When I was a freshman in high school, OBT moved into our present location. Year after year, our Obon grew bigger and bigger. It is hard to believe that we didn't always have food concessions so it was easier to participate in the dancing. These days, most of my time I am working in the kitchen or a booth. Being able to participate in the dancing is more of a treat. But I always make an effort to dance one or two songs. This year I will do the same.

The white hanging lanterns remind us of some of the many others who have passed and we will honor. This year I will dance to celebrate the life of someone special to me, my sister, who recently passed away. Dancing is one way I can express my joy and gratitude that she was a part of my life for over seventy years. Dancing will remind me not to dwell on the loss and sorrow, but to focus the hundreds of experiences we shared together and the precious bond we shared as siblings.

I know I will not be a perfect dancer. I won't be graceful and I will fumble to copy the dance steps and hand motions, but that's okay with me. I will join the dance circle knowing that, like life, there will be challenges, and nothing will be perfect. I will join the flow of those dancing in the circle. I will have fun, and I will dance with joy.

OBON "Shopping List" Donors

- There are about 100 different items on our Obon shopping list. It is not too late to donate funds to help cover some of these expenses. Big or small, every little bit helps.
- If you've already signed up to sponsor a particular item(s), THANK YOU. Please remember to send in your donation to the temple (note "Obon" & item on the list).
- If you have any questions please contact Carol Saiget (carolyn.saiget@gmail.com or 503 319-1619)

Music Interlude



Henry Mancini - Charade (Vocal) 1963 - Bing video



Pat Hokama Sings at ObonFest. What year?

[Sukiyaki - YouTube](#)

**Oregon Buddhist Temple
June 2023 Donations**

In memory of Susie Toyoji

Sharon Saito Gattis
Diane Ando Harder
Duane Watari

In memory of Grace Hasuike

Timothy A. Hays

Shigeo Fujikawa Memorial

Steve & Clara Pawlowski

In memory of James Hasuike

Betty Hasuike Young

In memory of Fusako Ouchida

Marlene Moro

In memory of Chisao Nakamichi

Anonymous

In memory of Mary Yamaguchi

Katie Tamiyasu

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Connie Masuoka
Betty Hasuike Young

In memory of Seiichi Fujii

Diane Ando Harder
Roberta Ando

In memory of Misuyo Okamoto

Janice Okamoto

Kurihara & Meiners family

Anonymous

In honor of Rev. S Wakabayashi

Fumie Inouye

Special donations

Julia Yoshimoto & Surinder Singh
Etsuko Osaki
Kent M. Matsuda
Kumiko Mishima (*Memorial Day*)

Obonfest Sponsor donations

Jenna Yokoyama
Suniti Kumar
Setsy & Chip Larouche
June & Stan Shiigi
Kiyomi Dickinson

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

Jeanette Hager
Jae Yong & Marilyn Huh
Diane Ando Harder
Pat Hokama
Glenda Watson-Coly
Marlene Moro
Susan Endecott

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

Thank you for your continued support

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

OBON Fest 2023
Saturday, August 5, 2023
2:00 - 9:00p.m.

SCAN ME

*Attendance is FREE
All are Welcome!*

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave.
Portland, Oregon
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com
Find us on Facebook and Instagram

Temple Talks, Japanese Obon Dancing, Performances, Displays, Food and Beverage, Youth and Children's Activities, and so much more!

Hi all

Just a reminder that we have bon odori practice in the air conditioned basement of OBT – this week and next, Tuesday and Thursday, at 7 PM. Bring your water bottle 😊.

If you can't make it in person, please join us on zoom.

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

Meeting ID: 810 5474 9182 Passcode: 113529

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
OBON MEMORIAL LANTERN ORDER FORM
IN CELEBRATION OF OBONFEST 2023

WHITE Lanterns
Commemorate the life of a loved one, remembering relatives, friends or pets.



RED Lanterns
Honor a living person, organization or business.

RE-HANG a previously purchased lantern to continue this joyful remembrance.

Please use one form for each new lantern. This order form is also available on the OBT website.

WHITE COMMEMORATIVE LANTERN: \$25 per Lantern

Deceased's First Name (English) Last Name

Japanese Version/ Buddhist Name

Date of Passing (if known):

RED COMMEMORATIVE LANTERN: \$25 per Lantern

First Name/Business/ Organization in English Last Name

Japanese Version

RE-HANGING Previously Purchased Lantern: \$15 per Lantern

Name

Name

Name

Name

PURCHASER'S NAME
Email: Phone:
Checks Payable to: Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Avenue Portland, OR 97202

Thank you very much! Gassho Lantern Phone Contact: (831) 345-6489

Deadline: Monday, July 31, 2023

Obon (Kangi-e/Ullambana-gathering)

The origins of Obon can be traced to the Ullambana Sutra, which relates the story of Mahamaudgalyayana (Mogallana in Pali), the most gifted of Shakyamuni Buddha's disciples in the area of extraordinary sense perceptions. The story teaches the importance of hearing the Buddha's teaching and observing the precepts. In realizing the compassion of the Buddha, Mahamaudgalyayana was so overjoyed that he clapped his hands and danced about. This is said to have been the beginning of the Bon Odori (traditional Japanese dances on Obon Day).

Obon, therefore, being an occasion for rejoicing in the awakening offered by the Buddha, is an opportunity to express gratitude not only to ancestors, but also all who have passed on. Therefore, it is often referred to as Kangi-e, "Gathering of Joy."

From JODO SHINSHU A GUIDE by HONGWANJI

OBON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

We all enjoy being a part of the annual Obon Fest with its performances, activities, temple talks, folk dances, and delicious food. As you may know this is an all-volunteer effort. Your generous volunteer support and that of your family and friends bring the community together for this meaningful, significant, joyous day.

Register on Sign-Up Genius, share the link, and recruit others to join you in this community effort. This is the link to our Sign-Up Genius page

<https://bit.ly/Obon2023Volunteers> or just click this button.

Thank you for choosing a shift or two. We promise fun and friendship.

Please reach out to Jayne Ichikawa (jayneichi@gmail.com) or Marilyn Achterman (msachterman@gmail.com) or Robbi Ando (rchando@comcast.net) if you have questions.



OBWA
Nancy Kajitsu

Obon! Obon! It's Festival Day!
August 5, 2023

We need volunteers for food preparation (manju and somen, musubi, etc...), festival set up, August 4th and 5th and Sunday, Festival breakdown! August 6! Please ask your friends and family to join in!

Odori practice will take place until Saturday! Tuesday and Thursday in the Temple basement from 7pm!

On June 17th, a Farewell Luncheon was held for the Sugahara Family. Our lunch was catered by Chef Yoshio Mutsuzaki. Thank you Katie Tamiyasu for handling this delicious meal for 125 of us. What a great luncheon, and the cakes were amazing. We will miss Sensei's presence at our OBWA meetings!

Also in June, Robbi Ando arranged a Community Outreach activity to The Oregon Food Bank! There were 21 participants, and some met at McMenamins for lunch

beforehand. We sorted pears. It was fun and heartwarming to learn how many families we helped that day. Thank you Robbi for setting up this adventure.

Our next OBWA Meeting will not be until September 9, 2023 at 10am by Zoom!



Dharma School
Ann Shintani

Happy summer! Firstly, **let us thank our volunteers/teachers** for providing the gifts of their time, talent and desire to share the Dharma with our youth: Marilyn

Achterman, Jeanette Hager, Mai Thi La, Beth Sellers, Louise Racette, and Elaine Yuzuriha. I also thank Huy Le and Surya Vadivazhagu for supporting the middle- and high-school youth (in "Dana Class"). Obonfest is just around the corner on August 5th, and our opportunity to share the talents of our youth.

Congratulations to Mayu Garner!...for graduating from the Arts & Communication Magnet Academy (Beaverton) and will be attending Willamette University. Marilyn Achterman shared her thoughts and best wishes, which highlighted Mayu's dedication, kindness and creativity. We wished her well!

Thank you and farewell to the Sugahara family as they move on to the next chapter of their journey in Sacramento. Thank you to Elaine Yuzuriha and Jenna Yokoyama on our "Good-Bye, For Now" song, Beth Sellers for coordinating our Dharma School's artwork, and Marilyn Achterman for arranging for special gifts of sweatshirts (with a silhouette of a bass guitar player, designed by Maho Garner).

We are sad to have the Kiyama family (Wynn, Tracey and Daniel) moving to Hawaii, and the Sugahara family (Sensei Yuki, Namiko, Aoi, and Hikaru) moving to Sacramento. They will be missed!

Minidoka National Historic Site in Idaho was where my maternal grandfather, Takeo Yamanaka, lived during World War II where he and his sister's family lived in "block 22". My friend and I set out and drove through beautiful mountains, plains, canyons, and forests, to Twin Falls, ID.

Last May our OBT tour group visited the **Hiroshima** (and Nagasaki) **Atomic Bomb Museum(s)**, which compelled me to finally visit Minidoka. I was able to visit the location where my grandfather lived for 3-1/2 years, and hope to return there with the rest of my family next summer.

The below article by OBT board member Sunita Kumar is particularly appropriate for the month of August as Hiroshima and Nagasaki were bombed on August 6 and 9, 1945 respectively.



Sunita Kumar

The movie Oppenheimer is a retelling of the creation of the atomic bomb by Robert Oppenheimer and his team at Los Alamos. It's directed by Christopher Nolan, so it will likely have lots of explosions and an "us vs. them" theme. It comes out on July 21 in theaters (the same day as the Barbie movie!).

Robert Oppenheimer, after the bombing, publicly expressed regret for the decision. His famous quote is "We knew the world would not be the same... Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds. I suppose we all thought that, one way or another." People question whether or not he truly wished he had never been involved in the creation of the atomic bomb, but he was on the faculty at MIT, where I went to college, and my classmates said that he still talked with regret about his involvement in the bombings at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. There's a book about him, which I haven't read, that I hear explores this quite a bit. What happens to the psyche of a person involved in destroying countless lives?

If they include any of these moral questions, in a thoughtful way, in the movie, it should not be a movie that causes hate, but should make people reflect. What is power without morality? What was the real outcome for our world of these bombings?

It's not clear if the movie talks about Oppenheimer's later life at all, because it surely wasn't as cinematic as his years at Los Alamos. For now, let's hope it does, or it really could be a difficult time for the Asian, especially the Japanese, community in the U.S.

The OBT Choir, Sunday, July 23 Obon Service

<https://youtu.be/CVZPaohEUd8>

Join the Oregon Buddhist Temple Choir! We will meet after services when there is no Dharma Exchange, but on a flexible schedule depending on



people's availability. We hope to recruit more male voices, but everyone is invited, no prior singing experience is necessary.

Please contact Elaine at e.yuzuriha@gmail.com for more information.

Hatsubon 2023



Judy Michie Yamauchi
June 12, 2022



Tamio Watari
July 23, 2022



Ken Kawazoe
August 17, 2022



Jean Ayako Tateishi
December 7, 2022



Albert Abe
October 5, 2022



Yutaka Nishikawa
November 15, 2022
Buddhist name: Shaku Hou-Chi
(Generous Wisdom)



Yoshiko Kobodo Ponton
January 28, 2023



May Watari
February 10, 2023



Yoko Yuzuriha
March 26, 2023
Buddhist name: Shaku Kyou
Dou
(Teaches us the way to go)



Fusako Ouchida
February 12, 2023



May Takemoto
February 28, 2023