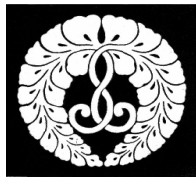

Obonfest is Saturday August 7 on the Oregon



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

August 2010



August, the month of kind words

Reverend Jundo Gregory Gibbs

The first Saturday of August always brings the Oregon Buddhist Temple Obonfest. This festival will be held August 7th beginning at 3 p.m. and running 'till about 9 p.m. If this newsletter reaches you before the Obonfest allow me to thank you ahead of time for your volunteer efforts and financial support. Let me encourage all friends of our temple to attend our Obon festival. We think you will enjoy the cultural performances and displays, the talks on Buddhism, the festive foods and, of course, the Obon dancing in the evening. Return of donation envelopes enclosed in the monthly newsletter are lagging behind expectations this year and we are counting on receipts from the Obonfest to pull us out of a bit of a financial tail spin.

The day before our Obonfest the yearly memorial for the victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be held at the waterfront. Six in the evening on August sixth is an easy time to remember. I hope that members and friends of the temple will make time to participate in that event as well. Warfare is a preventable cause of death. As our Abbot, His Eminence Koshin Ohtani, has said: "There is simply no justification for taking the life of another". It is sad that we must all pass on when our bodies become weakened by aging and illness. It is tragic and preventable that children and adults die long before they otherwise would in warfare. I, like many of you, have relatives, albeit by marriage, who lost their lives in those nuclear attacks. Please express your regret for their loss at the yearly memorial

OBT, like most Jodo Shinshu temples in North America, holds its Obon festival a week or two after our Obon service. It makes sense that we would confront the sadness of separation from parents, spouses and other loved ones one week in a solemn service and come back a week or two later to celebrate our conviction that the Buddha's compassion has guided those we love to a wholesome and fulfilling new life.

For Buddhists death is a part of the process of life. There is no one and no thing that can disengage the eventuality of death from the condition of human life on earth. We will each die one day. According to Buddhist tradition, there will be a new life that begins at the moment of biological death. If you want to understand the Buddhist vision of death and rebirth you might want to come to services on Sundays and listen to the Dharma messages. Also, please consider attending the Buddhist study classes on

Mondays and Fridays. Whether you seriously look into the Buddhist perspective on a new life beginning at the moment of death or not, please do not forget this truth: Life is precious and brief.

There are few religious traditions that work as hard as Buddhism at keeping us mindful of the worthiness and brevity of life. Although Buddhists believe in a new life unfolding at the moment of death this will not change the fact that we have each wasted much of this life already: ignorantly gossiping, uselessly complaining, and needlessly worrying. By contrast, how many times this week have we said kind things, "pure and beautiful words", to those we love? How many times have we made a point of encouraging others we meet in our day to day living?

As we enter the Obon season let me ask you to make August the month of kind words. Thank you all for your kindness to my wife, my two sons, Sho and Ren, and myself. I receive 20 compliments for every criticism I hear about my performance as your minister. I think this reflects not so much the quality of my work as the Resident Minister at OBT (Jushoku) but more the kindness of the membership here. Lets amp it up even further. Let's try to make 40 kind remarks to the people we encounter in our daily living for every criticism we let slip through our lips. If we can do this there will be very little conflict in the lives we share here on this beautiful planet.

Gassho, Reverend Gibbs

August highlights

July 25	Obon-Hatsubon service	9:30 am
July 31	Obon cemetery services	
	Rose City	9 am
	Gresham	10:30 am
	OBT	12 noon
Aug 6	Obonfest preparation	All day
Aug 7	Obonfest	3 – 9 pm
Aug 8	Obonfest cleanup	9 am
Aug 21	OBWA meeting	9:30 am

Obon Service Hatsubon

Hatsubon (first Obon Service since passing) was observed on July 25th for the following past members and friends this year. Date of passing is shown:

• Teruko Sasaki	8-28-2008
• Satoru Kodama	10-19-2009
• Makoto Maeda	10-19-2009
• Mary Asakawa	10-23-2009
• Gary Matsuoka	10-31-2009
• Hiroshi Sunamoto	11-22-2009
• Nadine Colette Kinoshita	11-28-2009
• Hachishi Suzuki	1-21-2010
• Mary Waseko Kasubuchi	2-24-2010
• James Kentaro Ishii	2-27-10
• Donald Lewis Greenwood Jr.	5-4-2010
• John Gerald Mishima	6-23-2010
• Elizabeth C. Hoverson	6-29-2010



President's message— bring a friend to OBT

Kim Kono, OBT President

As the hard work and planning ramp up for OBT's signature event, ObonFest on August 7th, we are reminded that summer is in full swing and that very soon, we'll be celebrating OBT and the Buddha Dharma with hundreds of visitors from the greater Portland community.

While ObonFest is our largest gathering, it's important to recognize that we welcome new friends year-round. Even in the midst of summer, we've seen many new faces sitting in the pews. This has reaffirmed to me that people are intrigued by OBT and that they feel comfortable visiting.

I've also observed that members are bringing their friends to OBT; thank you! One of the most uplifting parts of Dharma Gatherings is when we introduce and applaud guests. And, some of these visitors may choose to become members. New members offer fresh ideas, energy, and skills, helping to ensure that OBT will continue to thrive and grow for future generations.

For a Sangha of our size (our official count for dues paying members in 2009 was 172) OBT offers many ways to connect with others and get involved. July 17 was a prime example of how busy and fun OBT can be! For example, that day the OBWA hosted a birthday luncheon for 30 members and friends at Ocean City Restaurant. Seeing long-time temple leaders such as Kan Yagi and members such as Mary Okita enjoying themselves made me feel grateful that we have opportunities to meet and reflect on how we need to treasure our elders. On the same day, the Dharma School held its annual rummage sale and that night, hosted Spaghetti Bingo. Our Eco-Sangha Committee has also been busy dialoguing by email to define how to focus their efforts in creating a greener and healthier OBT.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for spreading the word

about OBT, for warmly welcoming guests and for bringing your family and friends. I also wish to express appreciation to all members for generously sharing your time and talents to make OBT a temple of which we can be proud. At ObonFest, I look forward to celebrating our traditions with you while remembering our ancestors. And of course, let's enjoy our summer!



OBWA news

Etsu Osaki

We send condolences to Merrie Greenwood whose husband, Don, passed away unexpectedly. Her donation in his memory is gratefully acknowledged.

Cleanup helpers for June: Achtermans, Ishimarus, Ryan Davis, Kiyomi Dickinson, Karol Kennedy, Rick Shiraishi, LaRhette Swann, Katie Tamiyasu and Gordon Wong.

Refreshments for June 19 meeting: Al Abe, Marilyn Achterman, Nancy Kajitsu, Katie Tamiyasu, and Cynthia Wong.

A kimono demonstration and sale by the Nishiura Ryokuseido, a Japanese Art and Antique store, was held after the June 19th meeting. Members and friends, including some from Spokane and Ontario, were able to try on and purchase various items such as happis, kimonos, obis and accessories. The store is located at NE Glisan and 38th Ave.

Next meeting is Saturday, August 21 at 9:30 am.



Yasuko Fields, Carol Kennedy and Fusako Ouchida at the kimono demonstration



Dharma school news

Amy Peterson

First thanks to all of the Temple members that supported our Rummage Sale through donations, purchases and especially time.

We couldn't have done it without the hard work of Nancy Kajitsu and her great helpers; the Fukunaga family, the Yuzuriha family to name a few. Sorry I don't have the entire list. Also thanks to Sensei, Joe Wahl, and others who moved the tables so quickly I didn't get to see who they were.

Secondly thanks to those who put on a fabulous Spaghetti Bingo night. This fundraiser for the Dharma School is not just a fundraiser, but a link to multiple generations, family and friends.

Ken Garner made a fabulous Spaghetti sauce and many people helped put it together. Here's a few great helpers; Ann and Scott Winner, BeeBee and Charles Dawson, Cathy Shikitani, Michi and Willem Stoeller, Marilyn, Kirt and Katherine Achterman (and Kirts friend), Ray, Lori and Kristi Fukunaga, Elaine, Todd and Jill Yuzuriha. I hope I didn't miss someone who helped cook, donate supplies, etc.

The fun white elephant prizes and the challenge of everyone winning at least one prize seems to come off without a hitch. This year's announcer Joy Yuzuriha (and ticket seller) and helper Alyssa Ono did a great job of calling numbers, checking cards and helping with the prizes.

Dharma School's annual pool party will be held on Sunday, 1 August 2010, starting at 11:30 am, at Holladay Park Plaza, 1300 NE 16th Avenue (park in Sears parking lot closest to 16th and Multnomah Street). Wendy Peterson will be our lifeguard again. Hope to see many families there.



Obonfest 2010

Zack Semke, Obonfest publicity/entertainment chair

Obonfest 2010 is just around the corner and we have a fun-filled line-up of entertainment planned for August 7:

- 3:00 Obon Opens/Welcome
- 3:45 Tanuki Taiko
- 4:00 Portland Taiko
- 4:15 Temple Talk
- 4:45 Portland Shotokan Karate Do
- 5:15 Temple Talk
- 5:45 Obon Service
- 6:00 Portland Taiko
- 6:45 Obon Odori
- 7:45 Break (music only)
- 8:00 Obon Odori
- 9:00 Farewell

Please invite your friends and family to join us on August 7, 3-9pm! More info is available at www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/events/2010/obonfest2010.html and on the Obonfest 2010 Facebook page.

Thank you to Ken Garner for setting up the web and Facebook pages, Maho Garner for creating the Obonfest 2010 t-shirt design, Maho Garner and Joni Shimabukuro for creating the Obonfest 2010 flyer, Joni Shimabukuro for sharing her beautiful photos of Obon for pr purposes, Edna Koyama for her efforts getting the word out to tv and radio websites, Gary Higashi and the OBT Publicity Committee for help with online postings and flyer distribution, and the entire Sangha for sharing the upcoming Obonfest with the community. And thank you to Etsu Osaki for her guidance and resources for publicizing the event. Let's dance!

You may have noticed the strange contraption of ropes, hydraulic jacks, cowhide, and taiko living in the temple basement over the past few weeks. What's going on? We've been re-heading the temple taiko for the first time since it was originally built 30 years




Saturday, August 7 3 - 9 pm
at the OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
3720 SE 34th Ave (at Powell Blvd)

Activities include:
- Portland Taiko
- Children's Booth
- Cultural entertainment, food and gifts
- Obon dancing starts at 6:30 pm



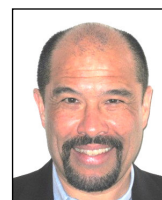
You are invited to learn the Obon dances!
Lessons are FREE and no prior experience is required.
Practices start July 20th, every Tues & Thurs @ 7 pm
at the OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
located at 3720 SE 34th Ave (at Powell Blvd)

For more information, please visit:
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com
or call 503-234-9456

Obonfest committee chairs

Joe Wahl, Obonfest chair

Thanks to the following committee chairs who are heading the various responsibilities.



- Chair Joe Wahl
- Publicity/Entertainment Zack Semke
- Mistress of ceremonies Pat Hokama
- Temple Talks Rev. Gibbs
- Set Up/Construction Ryan Davis
- Lanterns Elaine Yuzuriha
- Yakisoba Etsu Osaki and Kim Kono
- First Aid Amy Long/Craig Yanase/Lisa Yanase
- Trash/Recycling/Maint. David Wright

- Yakitori/Yakiniku Jerry Sumoge
- Odori Sahomi Tachibana
- Music/Audio Robert Kagawa
- Electrical Jerry Fugate
- Vendors/Artisans Susan Leedham
- Omiyage Brenda Fugate
- Spam Musubi Nancy Kajitsu
- Chirashi sushi OBWA (Julie Kagawa)
- Manju OBWA (Jean Takashima)
- Soft Drinks Marilyn Achterman
- Shave Ice Ray Fukunaga
- Children's Booth Ann Shintani and Kiyoko Gibbs
- Parking Yoshi Ono and Herb Osaki
- Security Joe Wahl
- Volunteer Coordinator June Shiigi
- Food/Supplies Ordering Stan Shiigi and Ray Fields
- Beer Garden Mark Achterman
- Neighborhood Relation Susan Lilly
- Treasurer Shinya Ichikawa
- Information Booth Jean Matsumoto
- Porta Potties Ray Fields
- Tee Shirts Kim Kono
- Dumpster/Refrig. Jerry Sumoge
- Signs Etsu Osaki and Judy Yamauchi



Omiyage booth **Brenda Fugate**

The Omiyage (gift) booth is looking for donations of lightly-used items to sell at this year's Obonfest! Asian-themed items well especially well, but anything pretty may catch someone's eye. Collectables, books, ceramics and accessories are greatly appreciated as are Asian-inspired handicrafts. Donations will be gladly accepted by Brenda Fugate (503-236-1079) at Sunday morning dharma gatherings, bon odori (dance) practices and during Obonfest preparation or drop them off at the temple or annex clearly labeled "Obon Omiyage" with your name. If donating handicrafts, please provide a pricing suggestion – we don't want to sell your creations for less than it cost you to make them! All proceeds benefit OBT.



Lotus circle – August **Jean Matsumoto**

Altar flowers for July 18th were purchased with a donation from:

- Judy Murase in memory of (imo) husband, Robert

In August 2010, flowers are being provided by donations from:

- August 1 – Ray Fields imo mother, Lois Mayers
- August 8 – Hank Muramatsu imo wife, Phyllis
- August 15 – Ami Kinoshita imo parents, Taitaro and Mitsu Nakao
- August 22 – LaRhette Swann imo father, Larry; mother, Phyllis; and brother, Ernest

- August 29 – Open

OBT is greatly appreciative of the donations made to purchase the beautiful flowers on our onaijin (altar) every week. Thank you to the Flower Toban who arranges them for us. Thank you to Ken Garner, webmaster extraordinaire, who arranges for the Lotus Circle to have a page on our Temple website. Please contact Ken (webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com) to add information about a loved one you wish honored. Contact Jean Matsumoto at 503-280-2463 or matsumo@orcatech.org for information about the Lotus Circle.

2010 Memorial Chart

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2009	1 year	1988	23 year
2008	3 year	1984	27 year
2004	7 year	1978	33 year
1998	13 year	1974	37 year
1994	17 year	1961	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.

August Toban

Amasuga, Kats	Cave, Marian Nagaki
Cohen, Cindy	Fukunaga, Lori
Fukunaga, Ray	Ishii, Janice
Ishii, Michael	Kajiwara, Lily
Koyama, Edna	Koyama, Richard
Matsumoto, Jean	Meiners, Lily
Richards, Atsuko	Roberts, Charlene
Roman, Jose Manuel	Scapple, Karen
Soto de Roman, Teresa	
Takeda, Ernest	Tanada, Anna
Tsutsumi, Gail	Tsutsumi, Robert
VinHasa, Sharon	Watari, Duane

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 the Dharma

Words of Jean Matsumoto - 1995



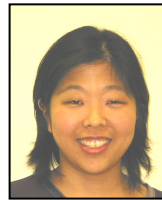
OBT readers' club booklist **for July 2010 – June 2011** **Cynthia Wong**

- July 2010 - Money, Sex, War, Karma / David Loy
- August 2010 - Life of Pi / Yann Martel

- September 2010 - Grasped by the Buddha's Vow / Toshikazu Arai
- October 2010 - The Intuitionist / Colson Whitehead
- November 2010 - Renny / Minor Rogers
- December 2010 - Blindness / Jose Saramago
- January 2011 - How Can I Help? Stories and Reflections on Service / Ram Dass & Paul Gorman
- February 2011 - When You Reach Me / Rebecca Stead
- March 2011 - You Were Born for a Reason: the Real Purpose of Life / Kentetsu Takamori et al.
- April 2011- The City & the City / China Mieville
- May 2011- Just As You Are : A Manga Biography of Pure Land Master Honen Shonin / Ko Kawamoto & Tetsuro Sayama
- June 2011 - Lean On Pete / Willy Vlautin

Please join us on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm in the room behind the o-naijin. All are welcome as long as the opinions of others are respected. Books can be purchased online through the Amazon.com portal on the temple's website (lower right-hand side of the home page). There is also a link to information about the Readers' Club at http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/about/Sangha/readers_club.html. You can also try to secure a copy from your local public library, but do so in advance as copies are limited and

there is often a waiting list for the great books that we read. Hope to see you at the Readers' Club sometime soon!



Sukiyaki bazaar - Oct. 3, 2010

Ann Shintani

We are seeking donations and volunteers for our fall fundraising event. If you have family that you can offer up to volunteer, please let me know how they can help, or I will offer to call them (Ann Shintani, ann@hoonko.com or 503-753-1813). Also, if you have never worked in the kitchen, or you plan to help, again, please join us as we get together to practice making sukiyaki dinners (and other items) on Sep. 18. This will be a time to improve our knowledge, discuss our plans, and develop teamwork (and eat)!

Sukiyaki cooking demonstration

Saturday, September 18, 11:00 am

Temple Kitchen (after the OBWA meeting)

Please RSVP to Ann Shintani (ann@hoonko.com or 503-753-1813) by Sep. 11, 2010.

Oregon Buddhist Temple June 2010 Donations

In memory of Bob Sunamoto

Sunamoto family
Mr & Mrs Dennis Creed
Art & Suzanne
Dick & Jackie Sunamoto
Daniel Nishida
Ochiyo & Michael Hasuike

In memory of Ronald Oshiro & James Kunisaki

Randy & Dana Kunisaki

In memory of Bunta Sono, Yone & Frank Murazen

Francis Gale & Ruth Sono Watanabe

In memory of Don Greenwood

Carol J. Sohrweid

In memory of Bob & Sakae Ando

Roberta Ando
Diane Ando Harder
Jay & Sandi Ando Lessert

In memory of Diep Lien Tran

Ben Tran

In memory of Yohko Ouchida

Ami Kinoshita

Lotus Circle

Ami Kinoshita
Mitsuko Hasuike
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa

Nist/Nakamichi wedding

Paul Martin Nist

Special donations

Alice Sumida (for tree trimming)
Anonymous (Hishinuma Fund)
Leke Nakashimada (Father's Day)
Portland Shotokan (facility use)
Japanese-Amer. Graduation Banquet
James & Judith Nakashima
Nishiura Ryokusuido Inc.
Joann H. Ng

Obon/Kangi-E

Ami Kinoshita
Henry & Eulia Mishima
Lily Meiners
Ben & Sumie Ishida

2010 Membership donations

Diane Ando Harder
Mitsuko Hasuike
Shizuko Ouchida

Member pledge donations

Marlene Moro
Helena Heartt
Susan Endecott
Susan M. Lilly
Jean Matsumoto
Gary Higashi
Katie Bretsch

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