



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

July 2009



Obon and Hatsubon ***Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs***

I hope you will join us on July 26th for our Obon and Hatsubon service. This service is an important Buddhist time to reflect on those we love who have preceded us in passing to the next life. It is also Hatsubon, first Obon service since passing, for some members of our temple whom we have lost in the last year. We will have a guest speaker for our service, Rev. Jerry Hirano of the Salt Lake City Buddhist Temple. Rev. Hirano was first introduced to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism at the Salt Lake Temple and was able to return to be their resident minister. He is taking time out of his busy schedule to be our guest on 7-26. I know that most of you are very busy too but I hope you will find time to be with us that day and hear Hirano Sensei's Dharma message. Our Obon service day will begin at 9:30 a.m. on 7-26 with a short service that will include a Dharma-message in the Japanese language. Our main service will begin at 10a.m.

The 10 a.m. Service on July 26th will both be the Obon service and the Hatsubon remembrance for those who have passed on since our last Obon/Hatsubon service at the end of July in 2008. We will call the names of those temple members and friends of our temple who passed away this last year. If possible a family representative will come forward to offer incense in their honor. In the case that no family member is able to attend the service we will have one of the Ministers Assistants offer incense on their behalf.

The day before our Obon and Hatsubon service I will make visitations to cemeteries and have a service to honor those whose cremated remains have been placed in our No Kotsu Do [place of reverence for ashes of those we honor].

That Saturday, July 25th I will officiate for a brief service at the Rose City Cemetery at 9 a.m. Next I will go to the Gresham cemetery and hold a service for our members who have loved ones remains kept there. At the Gresham cemetery we meet at 10:30 a.m. I will be back to the temple

for a service at noon. I hope that some of you can join us for these services.

As with the majority of the hundred or so Jodo Shinshu Buddhist temples in North America we hold our Obon service one week and our Obon festival the next week. Having already honored our loved ones in a sincere and somewhat solemn way at the service on Sunday July 26, the next Saturday will be the charming Obonfest where we celebrate our conviction of a positive new life for our loved ones, reacquaint ourselves with Japanese culture and Buddhist traditions and generally have a good time.

Our Obonfest is always the first Saturday of August. This year that is also the first day of August. On Saturday August 1 we would love to have you join us for our Obonfest. Still in the planning stages as I write but we expect to begin about 4 p.m. and finish about nine. The Obon dance segment of the festival is scheduled to start at ten minutes before 7 p.m. The folk dances used to express positive conviction about the future are quite easy and we invite everyone to join us. If you want a preview and a little practice that will be available each Tuesday and Thursday preceding the festival starting on Tuesday July 14th. Lady Sahomi Tachibana will again be the chief instructor for those Obon dance practice sessions. For security reasons we ask that you enter from the temple's back door and come downstairs for the Obon dance practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning in mid-July. We will look forward to having you join us with forms of Buddha recollection rattling around in the back of your mind, forming a ground base in the depths of your heart.

Gassho, Reverend Gibbs

***Obon commemorative lanterns order form and
OBT membership registration form are attached***

"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."

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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 editors: Shinya Ichikawa and Jayne Ichikawa, sjichi@verizon.net

July Highlights

July 10	OBT Board Meeting	7 pm
July 14, 16, 20, 25, 28, 30	Obon Dance Practice	7 pm
Jul 17, 18	DS Rummage Sale	8 am
Jul 18	DS Spaghetti Bingo	6:30 pm
Jul 18	OBWA Meeting	9:30 am
Jul 25	Obon Cemetery Services	
	Rose City	9 am
	Gresham	10:30 am
	OBT	12 noon
Jul 26	Obon Service	9:30 am
Aug 1	Obonfest	4 – 9 pm



Summary notes of June 12 OBT board meeting

Ken Garner, OBT Secretary

- We are looking for volunteers to be co-chairs for the Fall Sukiyaki Bazaar. Any interested person should contact any of the Board members.
- The Board is considering upgrading the windows in the temple to double pane windows. This would greatly reduce our energy usage. David Wright will be getting an estimate for this work.
- Members of the Board have been the acting greeters for the Sunday Service. We invite Sangha members to volunteer for a Sunday to greet and introduce our guests. This is an important task to make our first time visitors feel welcome.
- In an effort to improve the flow of communications, we will be getting additional email addresses that will be used for various functions.
- The Dharma School will be having their annual Rummage Sale (July 17 & 18) and Spaghetti Bingo (July 18) fund raisers (see Dharma school news).
- An update by the committee to look at the property for sale next door to the temple was given to the board. The Board is still looking at the feasibility of any action.

The next OBT Board meeting will be July 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. OBT members are welcome and are encouraged to attend. Minutes of the meetings and reports are available in the temple office in the annex or by contacting the OBT Secretary.



OBWA news

Alice Ando, OBWA President

A half year has gone by and we, the Oregon Buddhist Women's Assn. (OBWA) and associate members (the men), have been busy with activities such as Hanamatsuri, Spring Bazaar and Gotanyé food

preparation. I thank you all for your hard work. We have the rest of 2009 with many more services and activities such as Obonfest, Fall Ohigan, Sukiyaki Bazaar and Mochitsuki which require our participation. In keeping with our mission statement, which I don't think many of you are aware of, I ask for your help and thank you in advance:

OBWA mission statement: "The mission of the Oregon Buddhist Women's Assn., shall be to participate in the social service(s) and self-cultivation activities with respect to the teachings of Jodo Shinshu and to support the goals and activities of the Oregon Buddhist Temple."

We welcome new members and ideas to keep our organization going in the 21st Century. Our monthly meetings are open to all members, so please join us. If you have forgotten to pay your 2009 dues, please contact Tammy Herold or Grace Ishikawa at the Temple

With gassho



Dharma school news

Ann Shintani, Coordinator

Dharma School is over for the Summer...but there is definitely no lack of things to do! Please join us on Sundays as we tend to our Wheel of Dharma garden, work on our Buddhist Churches of America art contest entries, and prepare for the following fundraisers and events.

Dharma School Rummage Sale

Friday, July 17, 8am - 3pm and Saturday, July 18, 8am - 2pm. We are accepting donations, especially children and youth clothing, books, toys and furniture. Please leave them in the annex garage on Sundays. We ask that items be donated in very good condition. If you wish to donate an item that is very heavy, and need assistance, please contact Jerry Sumoge for help. For other questions, please contact Nancy Kajitsu.

We need volunteers for the following days:

Sunday, July 12 (during and after Dharma Exchange) to help unbox items and move tables to annex garage.

Wednesday, July 15 (10am -4pm) and Thursday, July 16 (10am-noon) to help sort, display, and price items.

Friday and Saturday (all day) to help sell and resort items, and clean up on Saturday afternoon. Dharma School families, especially of the Dana Class (7th grade and up), are encouraged to participate.

Spaghetti Bingo

Saturday, July 18, 6:30 pm - 9 pm

Adult: \$7, Children/Seniors: \$5, Family: \$20 (please purchase pre-sale tickets to facilitate food purchasing)

Menu: green salad, spaghetti (regular or whole wheat) with choice of sauce (meat or vegetarian), garlic bread, beverage, and dessert.

Bring at least one wrapped white elephant prize ("adult", "child-girl", "child-boy" labels optional) per person for the Bingo prizes. If you wish to contribute ingredients, we need spaghetti noodles (regular), 10 lbs. of

Contadina spaghetti sauce, French bread, or desserts. Please contact Amy Peterson for questions or tickets.

Obonfest Childrens' Booth

For Saturday, August 1, we will have games and crafts for children in the temple basement area. We need at least two adults and 4 students per shift to sell tickets, help with crafts, and to be game vendors. Please see Ann Shintani or Stan Shiigi to volunteer.

NEW! Be Yourself Buddhism - Summer Day Camp

Tuesday, Aug. 11 though Friday, August 14, 2009

Daily 9:00am to 2:00pm



Lotus circle - July

Jean Matsumoto

Altar flowers arranged on June 6 were donated by Mary Asakawa in memory of (imo) her mother, Kise Kinoshita.

July flowers are provided by:

July 5 - Tom McCormack imo parents, Libby and Mac; and Mitsuko Hasuie imo husband, James

July 12 - Grace Ishikawa imo father, Joe Sadaji Tachibana

July 19 - Ami Kinoshita imo husband Kaz Kinoshita

July 26 - Lily Meiners imo parents, Frank and Mary Kurihara

For information about the Lotus Circle and how to join, contact Jean Matsumoto, 503-280-2463 or e-mail, jamatsumoto@gmail.com.



Garden Clean-up

Jayne Ichikawa

A small garden clean-up crew produced an amazing transformation of the temple grounds on June 7. Thanks to Dennis Yamauchi, Janice Ishii, Shinya Ichikawa,

and Michelle Mundt for weeding, trimming, mowing and cleaning the garden! Thanks to Yoshi Ono for power washing the annex walkway, Kyoto Gibbs who volunteered her time the next day to do more weeding, and Mike Ishii who came out with his spray equipment to do battle with the spreading weeds on Memorial Day. Thanks also to David Wright who mows the grass on occasion in addition to performing maintenance chores. We hope to meet again in July to prepare for the Obon service and festival. Let me know if you are available and interested. More help is needed!



Obonfest 2009 Co-Chairs Stan Shiigi and Judy Hittle

Contact Stan Shiigi and Judy Hittle at

obon@oregonbuddhisttemple.com



Aug 1, Sat, 4-9 pm

Portland Taiko, entertainment, food, gifts
children's booth, temple talks
Obon dancing at 6:30. Practices start
July 14, Tue & Thur, 7:00 pm
OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
3720 SE 34th Ave & Powell Blvd
Portland, OR 97202
503-234-9456; www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com



2009 Obonfest Schedule

**Carol Saiget, Entertainment
Chairperson**

4:00	Opening - Tanuki Taiko
4:30 - 4:50	Temple Talk
5:00 - 5:20	Obukan Kendo Club
5:30 - 5:50	Temple Talk
6:00 - 6:10	Obon Service in temple
6:10 - 6:50	Portland Taiko
6:50 - 7:40	Obon Odori
7:55 - 8:45	Obon Odori
8:45	Raffle
8:50 - 9:00	Obon Odori



Obonfest Omiyage

**Brenda Fugate and
Janice Ishii**

The Omiyage booth for Obonfest needs Asian-inspired gifts to sell. We are looking for lightly used items such as dishware, collectibles, books and accessories. Donations of handmade Asian theme crafts would also be appreciated. Please bring your donations labeled Obon Omiyage with your name to the temple or annex. All proceeds benefit the temple. Thank you.

p.s. A belated thank you for the generous donors of the Spring Bazaar Omiyage table: Yasuko Fields, Edna Koyama, Susan Lily, Alice Ando, Susan Endecott, Jeanine Ishii, Alice Sumida, Eleanor McClung, and June Shiigi.

2009 Memorial Chart

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2008	1 year	1987	23 year
2007	3 year	1983	27 year
2003	7 year	1977	33 year
1997	13 year	1973	37 year
1993	17 year	1960	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.

July Toban

Ando, Alice	Brown, Dana
Dawson, Beebee	Dawson, Charles
Demise, Darlene	Gorawski, Christo
Higashi, Gary	Ikata, Rose
Ishimaru, Ann	Lawson, Brian
Muramatsu, Hank	Nakamura, Colin
McCormack, Tom	Okita, Mary
Reneau, Charles	Seibel, Penny
Semke, Zach	Shiigi, June
Shiigi, Stan	Sugitani, Hiroko
Sumoge, Jerry	Sumoge, JoAnn
Takashima, Jean	Takeuchi, Tom
Takeuchi, Tomiko	Tano, Alice
Ward, John	

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



Thoughts on Asiafest 2009

Etsu Osaki

I've sometimes wondered if OBT really needs to be at Asiafest. This event was held on May 30th at the Oregon Convention Center. Most of

the booths were either commercial or Asian service/social organizations. There were two other spiritual/religious groups besides ours.

I was there to help at our booth along with Rev. Gibbs and other minister assistants Tammy Herold and Cynthia Wong. We were lucky this year that we were included in a treasure hunt where people had to come to our table to learn about our Obonfest. What great publicity!

The program included performances by the various Asian groups. Especially charming were the very young

dancers and singers in their native costumes. The songs and some of the dances for these young ones are pretty much universal, I thought. They didn't sound or look too different from our nursery songs and dances.

A lady came wearing a purple T-shirt with a large wisteria in the front. I asked her which temple she was from. She said she got the shirt at our Obonfest. Rev. Gibbs and Tammy Herold were standing in our booth with their robes on. A Chinese lady came by and asked "What kind of Buddhism is this?" Rev. Gibbs wrote the kanji for Namuamidabutsu for her. She looked at the characters and asked, "Do you know what that means?" Then realizing what she had said, she followed up with "Of course, you are the minister!"

Asiafest is a good opportunity to see and learn about the Asian groups in Portland - and also to let others know about us.



Scrip program celebrates first anniversary

Ken Garner

OBT's Scrip program celebrated its first anniversary on June 1, 2009. In its first year, the program returned \$1102 to OBT. Thank you to all who have purchased scrip over the past year and have helped make this a success. Remember that over 700 retailers participate in the program, chances are that at least some of the stores you patronize have scrip available. With Scrip, you receive full face value for the scrip that you purchase. You can financially support OBT while you shop -- at no additional cost to yourself. Ken Garner, Cynthia Wong and Gordon Wong have a table downstairs after service on Sunday where they have a full list of vendors, take orders and gladly answer any questions about the program you may have. You can also send an email to them at scrip@oregonbuddhisttemple.com.

GRAPHIC DESIGN HELP WANTED

The Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office is looking for a graphic designer to create a course brochure including original photographs, layout and design.

For project details, please contact: JSCC@cbe-bca.org

Selected designer to receive \$500.00

JSCC Office, 2140 Durant Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: 510-809-1441

To: Temple Representatives of BCA, Hawaii Mission & JSBTC

Subject: Announcement to Temple Members :
Graphic Design Help Wanted for Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course

Dear Temple Representatives ,

As you may be aware, the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course (JSCC) is a newly established 2-year on-line program for Jodo Shinshu studies. Now in its third cycle, it is gaining much popularity and interest around the world. To publicize and further expand awareness of the course, the JSCC Office is interested in finding someone to create an exciting, informative and attractive new brochure. The brochures will be distributed to the Temples , Fellowships and Sanghas as well as to colleges and universities around the world. As the JSCC plays an important role in transmitting the teaching of Jodo Shinshu, it is vital that we reach out with inviting information about the course in a visually effective way. The selected designer will receive \$500.00 for the completed work.

BCA Center for Buddhist Education HIGHLIGHTS – July/August 2009

Experience the Jodo Shinshu Center this summer!

2140 Durant Ave. Berkeley, CA 94704

NEW! Visit www.bcacbenews.wikispaces.net

News on upcoming programs at venues nationwide.

FRI. JULY 17 – SUN. JULY 19

IMMERSING in BUDDHA-DHARMA

*Reflect in the Quietude
of the Buddha-Dharma--*

*Meditation * Mindful Buddhist Meals
Calligraphy * Tea Ceremony
Chanting * Dharma Sessions*

Registration: BCA members \$125.00

Non-BCA members \$150.00

Deadline extended to: July 3

Please call.

MON. AUG.3 – FRI. AUG. 7

WAKING UP to the DHARMA

*Start your day with Buddha!
Early morning meditative sessions*

****Daily Schedule****

6:30-7:00 am - Service & Dharma Talk

7:00-7:30 am - Tai Chi

7:30-8:30 am - Chagayu

(Traditional Monk's vegetarian meal)

Attend one morning or the whole week.

All welcome!

Donations accepted at door.

FRI. AUG. 14 – SUN. AUG. 16

ABCs of DHARMA SCHOOL

Sharing the Path:

*A Seminar for Pre-School to 5th Grade
Dharma School Teachers*

Guest Lecturer:

Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto

Registration: \$125.00

Deadline: July 24

Early Bird Registration: \$100.00

Early Bird Deadline: July 1

For more information or if you need forms mailed or faxed to you:

Call: (510) 809-1460 Email: director@cbe-bca.org