



Oregon Buddhist Temple
established 1903

Celebrating OBT's 110th Anniversary on the

Pureland Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Newsletter

November 2013



Honor the Past, Live the Present, Build the Future

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs

Here we are in November and about to begin our 111th year in Portland Oregon. Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, as a distinct school, is about 800 years old. In the 20th Century its teachings have been carried

from Japan to Hawaii, to North America, to Brazil and Argentina, to Europe and Africa, to Australia ... to much of the world. In the 21st century, Jodo Shinshu has spread to Nepal and, it seems, Colombia. We will celebrate our 110th Anniversary on the 16th and 17th of this month and we hope to see as many of our members and friends as possible at the activities on those days.

I want to speak a little about the panel discussion and seminar on November 16 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. You could get details about this event elsewhere in this newsletter but I want to point out that you will be hearing from three quite distinct ministers. Our perspectives converge or diverge depending what the exact topic of discussion is.

Our main speakers will be, of course, our guest ministers, Rev. Harry Bridge and Rev. Dr. Mark Unno. Dr. Unno is well-known to many of you, but this will be Rev. Bridge's first visit to the Oregon Buddhist Temple. They will speak in Japanese from 1 to 2 p.m., on November 16 and also summarize their remarks briefly in English. They will also take questions and remarks from the attendees. After about an hour and a break between they will resume with presentations in English. For the English-language session, on Dr. Mark Unno's urging, I will join them.

You get a chance to hear me to speak about the Dharma every week. You get a chance to hear a guest minister's take on the Dharma, usually, about four times a year. However, you seldom see me sit down with other Jodo Shinshu ministers and address the same spiritual concerns with them. Although we are all on good terms with one another, Rev. Bridge, Dr. Unno and I each have our own styles of understanding Jodo Shinshu. I hope that many of you will come out on Saturday, November 16, to draw the three of us out on the issues that are important to you.

It is a matter worth celebrating that we have been here in Portland, sharing Jodo Shinshu Buddhism together for 110 years. This is a broad and accepting tradition which includes a variety of possible interpretations. Dr. Mark Unno and I believe that what Shinran experienced at Rokkakudo temple was a samadhi-based realization culminating a successful meditative retreat.. Dr. Nobuo Haneda thinks it was a dream following an experience of failure. What does Rev. Bridge think about this? Perhaps one of you can ask him at the panel on November 16. What I'm sure you will find is that sometimes we have exactly the same opinion (as with Dr. Unno and myself on the event at Rokkakudo), but sometimes each of us will have a distinct take on the same aspect of the Buddha-dharma. Please come, draw the three of us out on our own interpretations of the Buddha-dharma, and then formulate your own, unique, perspective.

I often dialog with rabbis, Christian ministers and representatives of other streams of Buddhist tradition. I do not, often, get a chance to have these public Dharma discussions with other Jodo Shinshu teachers. So, ... I'm looking forward to this panel, and I hope that many of you are too. Whether you can attend our 110th Anniversary festivities or not, thank you for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple. We have been in Portland for 110 years. With your continuing support I am sure we will be here, sharing the Dharma, for another 110 years and more.

Gassho,
Gregory Gibbs

November Highlights

- 11.8 Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11.16 OBWA Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 11.16 110th Anniversary Panel, 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- 11.17 110th Anniversary Service, Luncheon
- 11.23 Craft Show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

110th ANNIVERSARY, November 16-17, 2013

Saturday Seminar featuring Rev. Harry Bridge, Rev./Dr. Mark Unno • Sunday Eitaikyo Service and Anniversary Luncheon and program featuring Nisei author and playwright, Hiroshi Kashiwagi with readings from his book, Starting in Loomis and Other Stories. A group of OBT members will read from Kashiwagi's Shoe Box Plays. • Bento order forms due Nov. 3 (enclosed). • Photos needed of members for anniversary update will be taken at temple or email dharmaschool@oregonbuddhisttemple.com.

"The purpose of the Oregon Buddhist Temple is to insure that the Jodo Shinshu Sangha have the facilities, resident minister and other resources they need to share the BuddhaDharma in their daily lives and during their major life events." Oregon Buddhist Temple, 3720 SE 34th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202-3037, 503-234-9456 (ph), 503-231-1551 (fax), e-mail: oregonbuddhisttemple@yahoo.com, website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>. This monthly newsletter is published by the Oregon Buddhist Temple, a Buddhist Churches of America temple affiliated with Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-Ha. Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address. Send news items to the editors: Tara Tamaribuchi-Gibbs, tamaribuchi@gmail.com.



President's Message

Ken Garner

The shadows are now long, the mornings are getting chilly, and leaves are in their full glory. We are in the middle of Autumn, heading into the holiday season. In short order Halloween, Thanksgiv-

ing, My Birthday, Christmas, New Year will be celebrated. Of all these American holidays, Thanksgiving is by far my favorite. And not because of the traditional feast ... well at least not entirely! As I have gotten older, I have developed a better understanding of the purpose and sentiment of the holiday. It really is a simple holiday, one of appreciating the amazing bounty in our lives. It is about home and friends and family. It is not associated with a particular religion. Regardless of a person's faith, or lack thereof, you can be thankful. Being about gratitude, it is the national holiday that most resonates with Jodo Shinshu.

In a departure from my typical president's message, I am not going to regale you with OBT's financial situation or exhort you to volunteer for anything. One of my duties as temple president is to express words of appreciation at the end of our special services. In this, one of the more enjoyable presidential tasks, I recognize and thank those people who had a role in the service. I wanted to do the same thing in this note, to thank, on behalf of our Sangha, those whose efforts helped to make 2013 memorable. As I started to draft a list of those to thank, I quickly realized that the list of individuals would be too long for this column. So many people have contributed to OBT. Whether you served as an event chair, greeted first time visitors, pulled weeds in our garden, or performed any other of the many tasks to keep our temple operating we thank you. To those who have attended an event at OBT, thank you. To all our members and friends, thank you.

On a personal note, I recognize how truly fortunate I am. There is so much in my life for which I am grateful: family, home, friends, our community, the Dharma. What more can I say except Namu Amida Butsu.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving
In Gassho,
Ken



Musings of an OBT Board Member

Amy Peterson

We are fast approaching our 110th anniversary of incorporation. When my grandfathers came to Oregon in the early 1900's they were far from home and didn't have a home, let alone a home

shrine. Both my grandfathers worked for the railroad, one as a bookkeeper. The other, who had visited while working on a sailing ship, decided to return and work in Timber, OR, cutting down trees, making railroad ties and laying track to the coast. My paternal grandfather's picture along with his older brother is just inside the basement (opposite sides of the first row). My other grandfather's picture can be found at the Idaho-Oregon Temple as he settled there with my uncle after internment.

I used to go with my grandparents to the Howakai (an outreach meeting in rural areas) at the Gresham-Troutdale Hall and sit while the people chanted and sang in Japanese. I'm sure there was a Dharma message there, but in Japanese. Later, my parents took us to the temple on 10th and Everett, where they both taught Sunday School. I left when I was in high school, too busy for religion.

After my mother passed away, when my daughter Wendy was not even a year old, I found comfort and acceptance at the temple. Back then, Dr. Al Ono delivered several temple kids. I've been active ever since, and hope my children will continue to find comfort, family and ownership in the Dharma and their local temple.

While many of our members today do not have a long line of family members at the temple, they are now a part of our OBT family and share a long heritage that still provides a place for us to come and hear the Dharma, to share with, and grow.

My hope and that of the Board is that we'll make everyone feel welcome so they'll take ownership in the care, running and support of not only the buildings, but the Sangha as well.

If you are an "old" member, please welcome everyone. If you are new, please introduce yourself and volunteer. Please don't be offended if it takes us a while to know you're not a first timer or if we forget your name. Some of us are getting to be old-timers. Either way, you'll have a much better experience when we share the experience.

Fear

Diane Jishin Johnson

Fear is a powerful emotion.
It eats away at my very core at times.
Fear becomes so powerful within me that
I am frozen and can not move forward.
Fear fills me with a darkness that only Amida can penetrate.
Some days I do not have the strength to shine bright.

Amida Buddha
shining bright
light
life
wisdom
compassion
kindness
love.....always calling me home.....

Namu Amida Butsu



Honor the Past. Live the Present. Build the Future

Carol Saiget

I grew up attending Sunday school at our old temple in NW Portland. In my high school and college years I taught Dharma School and enjoyed many YBA activities. I was married in the temple

and made sure each of my sons attended Dharma school. I was present at the dedication of our current facility and served on the 100th Anniversary committee. I will step away from my stint on the board at the end of the year. Yes, I guess you could label me an “old-timer”. But most significant, I have witnessed our temple go through tremendous change.

Much like raising children, it is sometimes bittersweet to let go of the experiences and fond memories. When each of my sons left for college, I knew they would never come home (to stay) again; I knew I had to let go. They each had to define their own lives and we had to redefine our roles as parents. Similarly, our temple has and will continue to change. It is rare to see many Issei and our strong cultural ties are fading. Our temple’s role in the Nikkei community changed and the Nikkei community has changed, as well. It isn’t always easy to accept the changes that our temple has experienced over the years, but it is inevitable; it is life. Over the years, my relationship with and involvement in our temple has changed. Rather than living a life of regret (hoping that those old experiences and memories will return), I am reminded to live a life of appreciation.

The Oregon Buddhist Temple will always be an institutional center for Buddhism, and for this, we all should be truly grateful. For me, “Honoring the past, living the present and building the future,” means I will participate and try to make positive contributions to the temple and temple community. I will respectfully honor our temple’s past with great appreciation and will continue to help influence and build its future.



2013 FBWA Meeting

Jayne Ichikawa

I would like to thank the Oregon Buddhist Women’s Association for allowing June Shiigi and me to attend the 2013 Federation Buddhist Women’s Association Delegates Meeting held at the West Los Angeles Bud-

dhist Temple on October 12. June was the OBWA delegate representative and I was the NW District BWA representative. An important issue that we voted on was the resolution proposal to amend the Constitution and Bylaws of the FBWA which changed several cabinet positions, specifically: eliminating the 2nd vice president (Japanese speaking) office, eliminating the Japanese speaking treasurer office, and eliminating the Japanese speaking auditor office. This resolution passed. At our September monthly meeting, our OBWA members also voted affirmatively on this resolution.

During the meeting we heard two outstanding speakers: Rev. Marvin Harada spoke on “Buddhist Education and What You Can Do at the Local Chapter Level.” and Reverend Shoko Angelo Oh spoke on “Buddhism and Social Justice.”

A paper was submitted by our NW District BWA representatives, which presented many successful programs created and organized by our NWBWA based on World BWA policies. It was well received. June and I will share it at our next monthly OBWA meeting.

The next big challenge will be to participate in selecting a slate of officers from the NW District BWA for the 2015-2016 FBWA cabinet. June and I are hoping our OBWA will help with this important selection.

It was a dynamic day for us meeting so many devoted people committed to the growth and understanding of the Jodo Shinshu teachings.



BWA News

Alice Ando and June Shiigi

On October 19 a few OBWA members and friends attended a very inspiring 2nd Seattle Buddhist Temple Women in Buddhism Conference “The Heart and Mind That Benefits Others” or “Rita no Kokoro”. The speakers were Rev Patti Usuki of West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple, Rev Mariko Nishiyama of Pearl City Hongwanji Temple, and Associate Professor of Fine Arts at Seattle University Naomi Kasumi and moderator Associate Professor of History at Farhaven College, Western Washington University Midori Takagi. We learned more about the personal life of



Lady Takeko Kujo founder of the Buddhist Women’s Association as well as her compassionate humanitarian efforts in helping others.

The OBWA would like to thank the following for their generous donation for the month of October and for our Past Members Memorial Service (PMMS) held on October 20, 2013:

Anonymous (October donation), Fumi Saito (IMO Tomo Sunamoto), Mary Yamaguchi, Kiyomi Dickinson, Alice Sumida, Atsuko Richards, Dana Kakishita, Alice Ando, Katie Tamiyasu Lew & Jean Tomita, Lynette Sunamoto (IMO Tomo Sunamoto), Alice Kida, Miyeko Yagi, Takako/Laura Maeda, Jean Matsumoto, Stan & June Shiigi, Susan Endecott (IMO Toshiko Tanaka & Tomo Sunamoto), Jean Takashima, Yoshie Kagawa, Fumi Saito (PMMS)

Also thank you to Alice Sumida for her generous donation for her 99th birthday gift from OBWA.



Please Come to the 2013 OBT Holiday Craft Show!

Angie Hughes

We have an amazing vendor list of crafters and artists lined up, including many talented OBT members, who will be participating in the November Craft Show.

Please come out and support them and OBT-and plan to stay for lunch! The success of this show and its hoped for outcome of finding additional ways for OBT to branch out in its fundraising will depend largely on how many people attend. My goal is to try and buy at least one item from each vendor, in hopes of working towards a new and different source of income for OBT in 2014. Please join me in celebrating handmade goods and quality work, while taking home a few treasures of your own!

2013 OBT Holiday Craft Show Details

Saturday, November 23, 2013

3720 SE 34th, Portland, OR 97202 (just off of S.E. Powell Blvd), 10AM-4PM, No admission fee!

Quality crafts at affordable prices! Concessions available! In the basement, we will have coloring and light activities for the kids in case parents would like to shop solo!

More info at

<http://www.portlandwt.com/2013OBTHolidayCraftShow.htm> or contact Angie Hughes at amhcreations@hotmail.com.

Hope to see you there!



Book Club

Karol Kennedy

Our November and December selection is Dixie Dharma: inside a Buddhist Temple in The American South by Jeff Wilson.

We will read the first part for November and the second part for December meeting.

Dixie Dharma is basically about a very unique Temple located in Richmond, Va. The temple is made up of several Buddhist groups. It was founded by a former Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America due to the fact that Buddhist Temples were rare in the American South. It is written in an academic style, published in 2012 and has a 3+ star rating. "Dixie Dharma" is described as admirable, a highly readable study, impressive, enlightening and a fascinating look at Buddhism in the South.

The Book Club meets 7 p.m., Wednesday, November 20, at the Lucky Lab, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd., in Portland.

67th NW Buddhist Convention - Portland Airport Sheraton - Feb. 7-9. 2014

Please join us by participating or volunteering at the upcoming convention in February, hosted by our temple! We host this every five or so years, so this is our time to shine in our unique way.

Rev. Dr. Jeffery Wilson, professor and author of Buddhism of the Heart and Dixie Dharma will give the keynote speech. Workshops in Japanese and English are planned for adults, YBA/college-age, families and students, as well as meetings of the NW District temples, BWA, YBA (youth group), and Dharma School teachers to coordinate and share.

Registration is \$110 for adults, \$90 for YBA/college, and \$70 for students up to 6th grade, and includes Friday night activities, workshops on Saturday, Saturday box lunch, Saturday evening banquet and entertainment by the Minidoka Swing Band.

Individuals and families may stay at the hotel at reduced rates starting at \$109/night (please see flyer), but it is not required. There is an optional Sunday bento for \$15 pre-order. Deadline for registration is Dec. 31, 2013. A late registration fee of \$20 will be added after that. If you are a member of the OBWA or a student participating in OBT's Dharma School, please inquire about programs to help reduce registration costs. It would be so nice to see you there! Please be on the lookout for registration information in the lobby, on our website, or call Ann Shintani at 503-753-1813 (ann@hoonko.com).

By attending, not only will you be doing your share to support Oregon Buddhist Temple's effort in hosting this annual event, you will also be hearing different perspectives, discuss common concerns, listen to serious chanting, and get to know each other in a different way. It is our time to be part of a larger, Jodo Shinshu Buddhist community.



Dharma School News

Amy Peterson

Temple Girl Scout Troop is looking for more girls aged 5-7 to join new Daisy's. Our Older Girls are helping with our Girl Scout Program for them as well as working on their leadership projects.

The troop meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 12:215 to 1:15 PM. For more information please contact the troop through dharmschool@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

Comments are being requested regarding improving our DS curriculum. Any suggestions welcome.

We are also looking for a volunteer to do our newsletter reporting.

September 2013 Donations

In memory of Kan Yagi

Kazuko Sunamoto*
Pat & Tom Hokama
Tamiyo Watari
Herb & Etsu Osaki (to Hishinuma fund)

In memory of Tomo Sunamoto

Kazuko Sunamoto*

Hisako Kakishita 3 yr memorial

Kakishita family

In memory of Phyllis Muramatsu

Matt Muramatsu

In memory of Martha Kenmatsu

Jan Kenmatsu

In memory of Fusae Junne Hirai

Hirai, L. Stuart
J. Gail & Ronald Stinnett

In memory of Junne & George Hirai

Dina & Michael Ahten

In memory of Kazue Itamura

Carl & Valerie Itamura

In memory of Edith Itamura

Carl & Valerie Itamura

In memory of Dani

Beatrix, David & Tara Gibbs
Charlie & Mary Gibbs

In memory of Nekotaro

Ray & Yasuko Fields

Lotus Circle

Ray & Yasuko Fields
Terri & Tom Carrollo
Angela & Glenn Nakashima
Alice Kida and Tomita Families
Misako Kodama
Ami Kinoshita
Dana Kakishita
Carolyn Saiget

Special donations

Ray Fields (Obonfest)
Alice Sumida (tree trimming)
Junko Haynes (2)
Tadakazu & Michiko Kumashiro
Tracy Joy Babione & Scott Oldfield
Amy Kennedy
Wendy Wyant
Alice Kida (newsletter)
Diane E. Johnson
Philip Kollas
Elisa Butteser
Atsuko Richards
Janet Wong & Steve Hay

Autumn Ohigan

Anonymous
Miyeko Yagi
Fumiko Okubo

Autumn Ohigan continued

Henry & Eulia Mishima
Lily Meiners
Jean Matsumoto
Fumi Saito
Kimiko Iwamoto
Ben & Sumie Ishida
Richard & Kumiko Mishima
May Kasahara
Teruko Nishikawa
Grace Aoki
Misao Minagi
Chiyo (George) Okita
Jean Takashima
Debra Strugar
Alice Sumida
Dana Kakishita
Randy & Dana Kunisaki
Kaoru Hori
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa
Takako Maeda
Yoshie Kagawa
Atsuko Richards
Kiyomi Dickinson
Amy Long
Herb & Etsu Osaki
Alice Ando
Pat & Tom Hokama
Jean Tateishi
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner
Amy Peterson
Yoshi & Tomoko Ono
Carolyn Saiget
June & Stan Shiigi
Susan Endecott
K. David Itamura
Alfred Ono
Ami Kinoshita

2013 membership donation

Teruko Nishikawa

Member pledge donations

Jean Matsumoto
Charles Bickel
Susan Endecott
Angela & Ryan Hughes-Davis

***Correction:** Donations previously received in memory of Tomo Sunamoto and Kan Yagi should have been recorded as given by Kazuko Sunamoto, not by Richard Sunamoto.

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
e-mail: sjendecott@gmail.com



Lotus Circle - November

Jean Matsumoto

This article is being written while looking out the window at glorious fall colors and sunny blue skies which we have had for almost a week with a forecast of continuing temperatures for another week—the

same gorgeous colors we can look forward to seeing on our temple altar during the month of November. We are truly grateful for the donations we receive to purchase the flowers and for the Flower Toban members who donate their time to arrange these flowers. Thank you for the generosity shown by the following to remember loved ones:

- November 3 – Kiyomi Dickenson in memory of (imo) father, Yoshio Kitagawa; Elsie Onishi imo parents, Chieto and Yachiyo Morita; Jean Matsumoto imo father, Kametaro.
- November 10 – Janice Okamoto imo parents, Henry and Ayame Matsunaga, and sisters, Nancy Sakuragi, and Jeannie Matsunaga.
- November 17 – Angie Nakashima imo mother, Clara Okita; Grace Aoki imo Chiyoko Yoshihara; Etsu Osaki imo parents, Reverend Tatsuya and Yasashi Ichikawa.
- November 24 – Misao Minagi imo husband, Eddie Yoneo; Grace Ishikawa imo mother, Toki Tachibana; and Yasuko Fields imo mother, Tomoko Maekawa.

Our temple president, Ken Garner (webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com) has graciously set up a webpage for the OBT Lotus Circle where information, memories, and pictures of loved ones can be shared. Please check it out. For information about the Lotus Circle, please call me at 503-280-2463 or email jamatsumoto@gmail.com.

2013 Memorial Chart

Year of Passing	Memorial	Year of Passing	Memorial
2012	1 year	1997	17 year
2011	3 year	1989	25 year
2007	7 year	1981	33 year
2001	13 year	1964	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.



Scrip makes gift giving easy

As we near the gift giving season, remember that scrip gift cards make great gifts. Gift cards ship well and guarantee that recipients will get a gift they want. You can also use scrip to make gift purchases. The proceeds support our temple at no additional cost to you. And as the tax year comes to an end, it is good to know that donations OBT receives as a result of scrip purchases are TAX DEDUCTIBLE. For example, if you buy a \$25 Lands End card (currently 17% contribution and redeemable at Sears), \$4.25 goes to OBT and you can claim a \$4.25 tax deduction. So you get full value for your scrip card, OBT benefits from your purchase, and you get a tax deduction. The more you buy, the more deductions you can claim. These tax deductions add up quickly and all at NO NET COST TO YOU. We are tracking purchases by family and at year end will have your tax deductible amount calculated and available at your request.

There are over 700 vendors who participate in the scrip program so chances are good that you will find scrip for someplace where you normally shop. Visit the Scrip Sales a table downstairs

after service on Sunday to see the full list of vendors and the current bonuses in effect and to place an order. We will gladly answer any questions about the program you may have. You can also send an email to the team at scrip@oregonbuddhisttemple.com.

November Toban

Chisholm, Ian	Ono, Ai	Tanaka, Bill
Hittle, Judy	Ono, Tomoko	Tanaka, Linda
Hittle, Paul	Ono, Yoshi	Yanase, Craig
Hokama, Pat	Okamoto, Janice	Yanase, Lisa
Hokama, Tom	Shikatani, Cathy	Yuzuriha, Elaine
Larouche, Chip	Stoeller, Willem	Yuzuriha, Todd
Larouche, Setsy		

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

New Book in our Library

Shin Buddhist Service Book by Orange County Buddhist Education Center, Orange County Buddhist Church, 2013
We received a copy of this new service book but decided not to purchase it because our old ones are still in good condition. This book has a number of new features. There is a good introduction of Jodoshinshu, a section on temple customs, new wordings of readings. There is also a section of selected sayings by Shinran, Rennyo, Thich Nhat Hanh, and the late Rev. Kenryu T. Tsuji. The book includes a number of new gathas, with five by Donna Sasaki of Tacoma. Take a look in our library.

LAST CHANCE!

OBT 110th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON - pre-order required 110th Anniversary Eitaikyo service & Celebration Sunday, Nov. 17

Services will be followed by a catered bento featuring author and playwright,
Hiroshi Kashiwagi who will share a reading from his newest novel,
Starting from Loomis and Other Stories

Name(s) _____ please print all names

of lunches _____ x \$20 = _____ (amount enclosed)

preordered must be received by NOVEMBER 3.

Mail to: Oregon Buddhist Temple, 3720 S.E. 34th Avenue Portland OR 97202

A small lunch alternative will be provided for the Dharma school children.