



Pureland Path

Oregon Buddhist Temple
established 1903

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Newsletter

June 2014



Trusting-Confidence

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs

As you read this, it may not officially be summer, but it is the month of June and that is good enough to call it summer. Everybody loves the summer. For one reason, because most of us will have some free time. Why

does so much of our time feel un-free?

Thirty years ago I worked in medical insurance billing at Dr. William Ziering's Respiratory Clinic. My direct supervisor there, Laura, used to listen to a radio talk show as she ate her lunch. It was a radio psychologist she listened to, and he had one phrase he often used that stuck in my mind: "This is not a dress rehearsal, this is your real life."

One reason we often feel un-free is that we are treating the present time as a sort of preparation or rehearsal for our real life. And that real life starts when? When we get home from work? When we open our first beer? When we are somewhere safe enough for us to be our true selves? This is our real life that we are living right now! We must live it fully and with self-knowledge. We need to be secure in our hopes to be accepted by others in order to live fully and really. And this brings to mind an old song.

I first heard "Everybody Loves the Sunshine" by Roy Ayers about five years ago. I was surprised to find that it was a song from 1976. It is a very simple little song in a genre I guess we would call Jazz or Rhythm and Blues. The refrain seems almost simplistic, "I'm going to do what I do, when I do what I do, in the sunshine. Everybody loves the sunshine." The implied meaning is as simple as the surface meaning: I'm going to be who I truly am whether others like me or not. ... Some will accept me as I am, just as the sun shines on us each equally. I will concentrate on the sun [and the Buddha] and my friends who do accept me and shine on me like the sun itself.

This is how Buddhists endeavor to live: accepting others in the way that the Buddha accepts them - just as they are. When we do this, we can believe that we too are accepted as we are, we can truly be who we are. When we abandon discrimination and value others for who they are, we too can believe that we are accepted. In the Lotus su-

tra, instead of the sun, the image of rain is used to express the universality of the Dharma: "the rain of the Dharma falls upon the just and the unjust alike." This passage was famously quoted by Jesus, in a slightly altered form. This passage from Buddhist teachings is also the source for the name of the center where many of our friends attend: The Dharma Rain Zen center.

The nembutsu teaching can help us to be who we truly are. In his Dharma talks here last month, Bishop Kodo Umezū, at one point, quoted an analogy he had heard first from Dr. Nobuo Haneda. Dr. Haneda's story is that there are three kinds of skunk. #1 Considers his scent to be pleasant and flits about happily [like Pepe Lepew]. The second type of skunk bathes and scrubs his body furiously, believing that this can erase his natural odor. #3 is the Jodo Shinshu skunk. He doesn't pretend he smells good, or that he can totally change what he is, instead, he accounts for it with humility: "Gomen nasai. I'm sorry. Please excuse me." I swear I was never like skunk #1, but its a long journey from style #2 to true humility.

Gassho, Gregory Gibbs

June Highlights

Sunday, June 1st (FUNdraiser, Paint with Dharma Friends, Temple Basement, 2pm)

Sunday, June 8th (Dharma School Teachers Meeting, 9am)

Sunday, June 8th (Pool Party, 11am-2pm, Holladay Park Plaza)

Saturday, June 14 (Tachibana Dance Recital, 7pm)

Wednesday, June 18th, 7pm (Book Club Meeting)

Saturday, June 21 9:30am (OBWA Monthly Meeting followed by Birthday Luncheon)

Saturday, June 28th (Skosh Japanese Cultural Festival, Gresham)

"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), e-mail: oregonbuddhisttemple at yahoo dot 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 editor: Rev. Diane Johnson, revjishin@gmail.com.



President's Message

Scott Winner

Last month I arrived at the Temple on a Sunday morning. I was greeted, in the corner of the Temple's parking lot, by a pile of broken glass. The glass was from some of these flores-

cent tubes. The kind that make a popping noise when they break. Maybe someone accidentally dropped them or maybe someone was having a bit of fun. I don't know. As my family hustled to service, I looked at the pile of glass and said to myself, "if not me, then who?" Grumbling, I went to get a broom.

But as I swept up the glass to the sound of the Konsho, my attitude changed. When I first saw the pile of glass I was angry that someone left this mess in the parking lot and annoyed that I was the one doing the sweeping. But by the time I was done my attitude completely changed and I was actually grateful to be the one honored to clean it up. You see, the morning was wonderful. The sun was out, birds were singing and the Konsho ringing in the background. It turned out to be a really great place to be. The work was not hard and when it was done, I had a great feeling of accomplishing a task, making something clean. I do these types of tasks at home all the time, living with a six year old there are plenty of opportunities to clean up a mess. But at the Temple it's different.

Only at the temple do I get that great feeling of gratitude when I get the opportunity to do something for the Temple. Whether it is a simple task like sweeping up glass or serving as Temple President, I am honored to do these things and it brings me great joy to serve the Temple. Good news for all of you, I am not a greedy guy. I like to share and there are lots of opportunities at the temple for others looking for a chance to give back or pay it forward. I am grateful to all the wonderful Temple members that give so much to the Temple. We could not function without you. If you are looking for more or something new, please let me know. I would be delighted to share this great feeling of community service with you. That's it for this month, I've got to go. The grass is just begging to be mowed. Namu Amida Butsu.

Hyakudo Kai Club and Portland JACL

Invite you to a Luncheon and
100th Birthday Celebration for

Lilly Ono and Alice Sumida

July 19th at Noon

Cost is \$25

Please RSVP by July 9th

Call/email Setsy 503-698-4656/setsy@pdxjacl.org



OBWA News

Alice Ando

OBWA gratefully acknowledges the donations received during April/May, 2014:

Grace Ishikawa - In appreciation
Nobuko Uyetake - For Hanamatsuri otoki
Hank Muramatsu - For Hanamatsuri otoki
Etsu Osaki - Rennyō Shonin Service

Thank you Etsu Osaki for collecting toiletries for Raphael House. I'm sure the items collected will be appreciated by the organization.

On April 20 Etsu Osaki chaired the Rennyō Shonin Service. This is the first time we have honored Rennyō Shonin at the Oregon Buddhist Temple. This is because the Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations brought this up at one of their meetings and felt it was important to honor him as we do Shinran Shonin. Thank you to Etsu for preparing the program and Rev. Gibbs for conducting the service.

The Aging Wisely Series presented at the April meeting by Speaker Bob Ernest was very interesting as he spoke about the Senior Health Information Benefits Assistance and Medicare. On May 10, Co-Presidents Jayne Ichikawa and June Shiigi attended the NWBWA meeting in Yakima, WA. May has been a very busy month. We met with Bishop Umezu on May 14 and 15. Thank you Susan Endecott for preparing refreshments for this occasion. On Saturday, May 17, Toban Ladies met early in the morning to prepare Udon for Gotanyō Service which was held on May 18. On the 17th the Richmond School held their Spring Festival and June Shiigi, Kiyomi Dickinson, Atsuko Richards and Alice Ando sold dorayaki and four other kinds of manju, scrubbies and cute origami boxes made by Atsuko-san and Kiyomi-san. The boxes were filled with Japanese candy and the children just loved them because they could be purchased for 25 to 50 cents. We thank Kyoko Gibbs for making all the arrangements for this event. The weather was just beautiful and was appreciated as our booth was outside. The money made at this event will be appreciated by the Oregon Buddhist Women's Assn.

If you are interested in joining the Oregon Buddhist Womens' Association, please contact Co-Presidents: June Shiigi (shiigisj@comcast.net) or Jayne Ichikawa (jayneichi@gmail.com).



Bon Odori Taiko

Bon Odori Taiko: We are delighted to announce that we will again be enjoying Portland Taiko at our August Obonfest. In addition, we are seeking community members to volunteer as the taiko drummer during the bon dances, and in our new drum platform ("yagura"). These drummers ensure that the dancers stay on the beat (with the music), which is VERY important. Wynn and Traci Kiyama, our own taiko instructors, plan to have a few lessons for those who are up for the challenge.

Sunday, July 6th (Bon taiko practice, after service)
 Sunday, July 13th (Bon taiko practice, after service)
 Tuesday, July 15th (Bon odori practice, 7pm)
 Thursday, July 17th (Bon odori practice, 7pm)
 Tuesday, July 22th (Bon odori practice, 7pm)
 Thursday, July 24th (Bon odori practice, 7pm)
 Tuesday, July 29th (Bon odori practice, 7pm)
 Thursday, July 31st (Bon odori practice, 7pm)

Come Paint with your Dharma Friends!

OBT will host an Art School Studio painting class on Sunday June 1st at 2pm. All materials and instruction will be provided for participants to create, and go home with, a wisteria still life picture. The cost is \$30 per person with a portion of the proceeds going to the Dharma school. Checks may be made out to **The Art School Studio** at time of the class. This event is a nice fit for ages 9 to 109 regardless of artistic experience. It is an opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow Sangha members, explore your creative side, and to improve the Dharma school's resources.

If you would like more information or to sign up, please email Phaedra Urban at u.phaedra@gmail.com.

June Book Club Meeting

Our next meeting is June 18th at the Lucky Lab, 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, 7pm

Our book selection is "The Untethered Soul: The Journey Beyond Yourself" by Michael A. Singer.

In this selection, the author guides you thru your thoughts and emotions. He wants you to find inner peace, freedom and to get rid of unnecessary limitations and boundaries. Singer blends East and West traditions, in finding solutions to the everyday hazards of life. In less than 200 pages, the author gives simple answers to big questions. Singer is a New York Times best selling author and founder of a Meditation and Yoga center in Florida.

From Karol Kennedy
 Portland, Oregon

Dharma School News

APRIL VISITS: In April we enjoyed visits with Mr. Hiroshi Yamauchi and Mrs. Nami Sasaki, elders in our Sangha. Afterwards, students were treated with an egg hunt in the temple garden. Thank you to Amy Peterson for arranging our visits, Kyoko Gibbs for providing our gifts, and Beatrix, Midori, Mika, Ren, Sho, and others for participating in the visits and egg hunt activity.

POOL PARTY AND TAMARIBUCHI-GIBBS FAMILY FAREWELL JUNE 8: Dharma School invites you to our annual Pool Party at Holladay Park Plaza. On Sunday, June 8 from 11am (after service), bring your swimsuit and a potluck dish to celebrate Summer. We will also be giving well wishes to Tara (Tamaribuchi), David and Beatrix Gibbs, who are moving to Seattle. We have invited Beatrix friends and family to join us. Tara was our temple newsletter editor for the past year, an active Dharma School parent of Beatrix, and one of our organists. We will surely miss them, but they promise to visit often! This is a private pool, so RSVP is required by either signing up at temple, or email Ann your full names at ann@hoonko.com.

RUMMAGE SALE: We are seeking volunteers to chair and work this annual fundraiser, which we propose for August 15-16. Funds raised are used to support teachers attending Dharma School conferences and seminars, and purchase gifts. We are requesting items for sale that are clean, and in good condition (please no items that are damaged, or have missing parts).

Hatsumairi 2014

The annual Hatsumairi service was held on May 18th along with Gotan-e, the celebration of Shinran Shonin's birthday. It was an occasion to introduce children new to the temple and also to welcome new adult members.

- Maritza Reyes Grates, daughter of Alfred Grates & Courtney Acostagrates
- Charlotte, Michael & Calvin Jarvis, children of Shouun & Corinne Jarvis
- Fletcher Johnson, son of David Johnson
- Ruby Lonergan, daughter of Jennifer Lonergan
- Drake Rodriguez, son of Pedro & Troya Rodriguez
- Milo Litchfield, son of Matt & Kirsten Litchfield
- Daphne Kaya Buxton, daughter of Lauren Yuko & Dan Buxton, granddaughter of Kats Amasuga
- Rev. Diane Johnson
- Kathy & Doug Oh-Keith
- Heatherann Price



Root Ball

Angie Hughes
OBT Board Secretary

When I first started gardening about ten years ago, I had absolutely no idea what I was doing. I went to the nursery, bought two healthy rhododendron bushes for my new home, and got started. When I pulled the plants out of their buckets, I was perplexed. There was a complex system of roots, dirt, and tiny white balls mixed in. Where was the actual stem of the plant? I had no idea, but I was going to find it. I took my gardening tool and started beating at the dirt and excess, though it clung to the plant. After about thirty minutes of this, I emerged, dirt covered and triumphant. I had exposed the core of the root system and all that remained was the plant and one long root.

I plopped them in the shallow holes I had dug for them, filled in the dirt, and left them alone—looking forward to watching them bloom. It's probably easy to guess what happened next. After about four or five days, I noticed that the plants were withering and browning a bit. I poured extra water on them, expecting them to perk up. By about day ten, though, it was obvious that the rhodies were dead and there didn't seem to be anything I could do about it.

Now, after ten years of cultivating my garden, I clearly see my errors. When I do my spring planting, I view the safe handling of the root ball of each plant as the most important part of my job. To protect that root ball means that I will enjoy a summer's worth of beautiful blooms and my family will benefit from vegetables grown in our little garden. I look back on that day, where I senselessly beat the root ball of each plant, depriving them of everything they needed to survive, and I say Namu Amida Butsu to those two teachers.

Of course, I have been faced with many other obstacles since that one and I just continue to hope that each time, I can grow and perhaps handle my learning curve as gracefully as possible. Soon, my family and I will travel overseas for several months and I am anticipating an amazing number of learning opportunities for all of us. My hope is that, as we bumble through many different cultures and customs, we will not beat on the root ball too loudly and we will remember to be thankful for our many teachers.

I would also like to say thank you to Ray Fukunaga and Craig Yanase, who will be taking over my temple duties while I am away. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer, full of bright blooms and memorable experiences.

Sahomi Tachibana Dance Recital

Dance Master Sahomi Tachibana will hold her annual Japanese Classical Dance recital in the OBT basement on Saturday, June 14, at 7 p.m. Sangha members Ann Shintani, Wynn Kiyama, Joy Yuzuriha and Tara Tamaribuchi-Gibbs are among those performing. Dances include intangible cultural assets of Japan. This might be one of the last recitals for Tachibana Dance of Oregon. The recital is free and open to the public. Please enter through the back door.



Skosh Japanese Cultural Festival

On June 28, in Gresham Main City Park there will be a celebration ... actually 3 events in one.

Skosh (a little) Japanese Cultural Festival will present the opportunity to experience special things from Japan: relax at a Japanese tea ceremony, look at and try your hand at calligraphy, try your musical skills with a koto, see food demonstrations and sample special dishes, kick up your heels with all comers street dancing ... and much more.

Our second focus will be the re-opening of the Gresham Japanese Garden - Tsuru Island. This garden was built by local Japanese-American farmers and donated to the city of Gresham in 1975. After years of neglect the Friends Tsuru Island began work to renovate this special place in 2011. Now we are ready to unveil our new look. There will be tours and a plant sale.

To expand our garden theme, we will have an environmental fair. Friends of Trees, Johnson Creek Watershed, and the City of Gresham Recycle Department will be there to share information. Talks will be held on beavers (we have a family in our stream), koi and water gardens, clean rivers ... and again much more.

Put this date down on your calendar ... jump on MAX and join us south of Powell in downtown Gresham. Our Farmer's Market will be going on, and all of our downtown shops will be open to welcome you.

If you would like to be a part of the event, or want to volunteer ... please contact Tomiko: Tomiko@frontier.com



Lotus Circle - June

Jean Matsumoto

How grateful we are to have such lovely flowers for our Flower Toban members to arrange so artistically on our altar for our temple services. This is due to the members of the Lotus

Circle whose generous donations in memory of loved ones makes it possible to purchase the flowers. For June the contributions will be made by:

- June 1 – Sumie Ishida in memory of (imo) her parents, Yoshikiyo and Hisayo Yamamoto

- June 8 -- Amy Peterson imo grandfathers, Katsumi Mishima and Hachiro Takao, mother Aster, brother John and sister Charlotte Mishima
- June 15 -- Anonymous imo Ochiai family: Zenza-buro and Tamiyo, son Kazuo, daughters Nobu Susaki and Shiz Okazaki
- June 22 – Jerry Koike imo grandparents, Yosaku and Sueko Aono
- June 29 – Nami Sasaki imo husband, Arthur Ojiro, and daughter, Susan Myers

Ken Garner (webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com) has set up a webpage for Lotus Circle members to share memories of loved ones. We hope you will check it out. For any questions about Lotus Circle, please contact me at 503-280-2463 or jamatsumoto@gmail.com.

April 2014 Donations

In memory of Akira "Cap" Saheki

Saeko Saheki
Kaneko Wagar
Setsy & Chip Larouche
Lew & Jean Tomita
Alice Kida

Harry & Elaine Gekko 10th year memorial

Joann, John, Ethan & Christopher Ng

Sauda Kinoshita 7th year memorial

Family of Sauda Kinoshita

In memory of Fumi Okubo

Jean Matsumoto

Lotus Circle

Kazuko Sunamoto
Lily Meiners
Jane S. Hunt
Kiyomi Dickinson

Tamura-Terakawa Scholarship

Susan Endecott

Special donations

Alice Sumida (Osonae)
Philip L. Kollas
Nobuko Fujinaka (Nokotsudo)
Atsuko Richards
Steven Yamami
Takako Maeda (Rennyō service)
David & Jay Mizuta
Ruby
Philip L. Kollas
Kiyomi Dickinson (Rennyō service)
(Eshin-ni-/Kakushin-ni service)
Alice Sumida (Rennyō service)
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa

Hanamatsuri

Anonymous (5)
Gerald & Joann Sumoge
Angela & Glenn Nakashima
Nobuo & Takako Ishida
Richard & Kumiko Mishima
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa
Grace & Katsuya Amasuga
Terry Wakabayashi Courter
Katie Tamiyasu
Chiho Okita
May Kasahara
Susan Endecott
Ben & Sumie Ishida
Harry & Jane Nakaue
Grace Aoki
Sahomi Tachibana
Joyce F. Olsen
Toshiko Hayashi
Herb & Etsu Osaki
Tamiyo Watari
Nobuko Masuoka
Misako Kodama
Setsy & Chip Larouche
Yoshi & Tomoko Ono
Pat Hokama
Terri & Tom Carrollo
Joseph & Lora Wahl
Kiyomi Dickinson
Takako Maeda
Benny & Alice Tano
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Alice Ando
Ray & Lori Fukunaga
June & Stan Shiigi
Randy & Dana Kunisaki
Alfred Ono
May Ishida
Kimiko Iwamoto
Fumi Saito
Atsuko Richards
Craig & Lisa Yanase
Anna & Timothy Tanada

Lily Meiners
Miyeko Yagi
Jean Matsumoto
Gerald & Joann Sumoge
Alfred Ono
Dana Kakishita
Kaoru Hori
Yoshie Kagawa
Ami Kinoshita
Rei Okabayashi
Henry Mishima
Teruko Nishikawa
Duane Watari
Fusako Ouchida
Jean Takashima
Diane Ando Harder

Gotan-e

Ami Kinoshita
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa
Nami Sasaki
Lily Meiners
Ben & Sumie Ishida
Sahomi Tachibana
Richard & Kumiko Mishima
Henry Mishima

2014 Membership donations

Misako Kodama
Tamiyo Watari
Junko & Kenshi Iwao Toll
Mike Yasui
Nobuko Fujinaka

Member pledge donations

Diane Ando Harder
Gerald & Joann Sumoge
Jean Matsumoto
Takako Maeda
Gary Higashi
Robert & Bettina Ishimaru

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 Email: sjendecott@gmail.com

June Toban

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

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

2014 Memorial Chart

Year of Passing	Memorial	Year of Passing	Memorial
2013	1 year	1998	17 year
2012	3 year	1990	25 year
2008	7 year	1982	33 year
2002	13 year	1965	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.

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
MEMBERSHIP 2014
NEW OR RENEWAL REGISTRATION

NAME _____ DATE _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____
 EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP DONATION:

INDIVIDUAL: MINIMUM \$250.00 PER INDIVIDUAL ADULT
 FAMILY: MINIMUM \$500.00 PER FAMILY
 SILVER: \$500.00 PER MEMBER
 GOLD: \$1000.00 PER MEMBER

With Silver and Gold membership you receive our deep appreciation and your name will be listed in the newsletter as special donors, unless you request not to be listed.

Membership allows voting privileges, a subscription to **Wheel of Dharma** newsletter from Buddhist Churches of America, and most importantly, demonstrates your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

ENCLOSED MEMBERSHIP FEE _____
 ADDITIONAL DONATION _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Drop off this form and a check or mail both to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple
 3720 SE 34th Avenue
 Portland, Oregon 97202



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