



PureLand Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

May 2015



President's message.

Greetings,

A long time member of OBT, Ben Ishida, passed away on April 2nd. Although I can't say I knew Ben well and I have not seen him for several years, growing up around the temple everyone knew him as an important member and leader at the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

Recently, I had a conversation with Jean Matsumoto about the upcoming 50th anniversary in 2016. She mentioned a story about Ben and his role in the history of our temple. I contacted Tets Tamaki (who was also a very active and strong leader at OBT before he moved away) for more details. Tets recalled a story that I'd like to share with you.

This incident took place more than 50 years ago when our temple was housed in an old building on NW 10th. Both Tets Tamaki and Herb Osaki were fairly new members on the OBT Board and probably the youngest, too. Looking toward the future, they brought up the idea of building a new temple. At the time the Board was not receptive to what would have been most likely, the biggest undertaking our temple has ever attempted. Sometime later, it was Ben Ishida who expressed his feelings to the Board. Tets recalled Ben saying that it may seem foolish, but he'd rather try and fail than not try at all. It was Ben's insightful words that motivated the other members to think realistically about a new temple. Even today, to suggest, support and oversee the undertaking of a building project like this would be courageously bold and would require an extreme amount of dedication and commitment. Ben's passion sparked the Board into making the decision to build our current temple.

Unfortunately, many of you did not know Ben Ishida. However I think it's important that we as well as future members recognize the importance of his contributions. It's people like Ben, whose intuition and devotion enable us to share the Buddha-Dharma in our temple today. Thank you Ben.

We extend our deepest condolences to Sumi and the Ishida family. Namu Amida Butsu.

In Gassho,

Cathy Yarne



Does anyone have a "gently used **desk chair mat** that we can use in the minister's

office? This mat enables the desk chair to roll around easier.

Person to mow the lawn: We need a volunteer(s) who can cut the grass on a regular basis. We have the equipment.

Please contact Cathy Yarne if you are able to fulfill our "wishes."

Until we have a resident minister, several office volunteers are responding to phone calls. If you have an URGENT matter and need to speak with someone immediately, please contact Cathy Yarne @503 319-7071.

Safety and Sanitation Concerns

We've had a reoccurrence of homeless people using our backdoor area for shelter. The police caution us about confronting strangers by ourselves. Instead, contact the police (non-emergency number 503-823-3333) and they will come and address the problem. I've submitted a Trespassing Agreement with the Portland police which allow them to act in our behalf. (Please let me know if you do contact the police)

Also, we've had people using our dumpster or leaving personal trash next to our garbage containers. Please make sure the dumpster is securely locked after each use.

The Board will be discussing solutions to address these concerns.

Thank you. Cathy

"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 Buddha Dharma 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 editor: Amy Peterson newsletter@oregonbuddhisttemple.com



OBWA News by June Shiigi

Our deepest condolences to OBWA member Sumi Ishida and her family on the passing of her husband Ben Ishida. Ben, who was a long time member of Oregon Buddhist Temple, passed away on April 2. Our condolences also to the family of Frances Yamada who was a member of the San Francisco Buddhist Temple.

Thank you to Kiyomi Dickinson, Julie Kagawa, Judy Yamauchi and about 20 OBWA members and friends who helped prepare manju to be sold at the Salmon&SushiFest and the Richmond Elementary PTA Spring Festival 2015. We had a great team and everyone enjoyed working together. Nancy Kajitsu and Jayne Ichikawa's lunch was delicious!

Thank you to Service Chair Janice Okamoto and Minister's Assistant Etsuko Osaki who officiated at the annual OBWA sponsored Es shin-ni and Kakushin-ni Memorial Service. Etsu's Dharma Talk described details of the lives and contributions of Es shin-ni and Kakushin-ni. Service donations will go to the furtherance of Buddhist education for the youths at OBT. At the Dharma Exchange Etsu gave us a test and responded to our questions.

Thank you to OBWA members, friends and April Toban who helped prepare the delicious Hanamatsuri otoki: chirashizushi (Etsu Osaki and Yoshie Kagawa), chicken (Mark Achterman), broccoli (Pat Hokama) and oranges (Katie Tamiyasu). The otoki deliveries to about 25 homebound members was organized by Jayne Ichikawa.

Join us for the following:

- May 16, 9 am Gentle Yoga by Susan Lilly; 9:45am OBWA meeting
 - May 16, 11 am to 4 pm Richmond Elementary PTA Spring Festival: sell manju
 - May 17, 10 am OBWA sponsored Rennyō Shonin Commemoration Service
 - May 23, 9 am and May 24, 8 am Gotan-e udon food preparations
 - May 24, 10 am Gotan-e Service by Rev. Fujimoto
 - May 25, Memorial Day Services:
 - 9 am OBT Nokotsudo
 - 10:30 am Gresham Cemetery
 - 12 noon OBT service at Rose City Cemetery
 - 1 pm Community service at Rose City Cemetery
- by Rev. Uzunoe
- 2:30 pm Lone Fir Cemetery

If transportation is needed to attend any of our OBWA activities, please contact June Shiigi at 503-997-3742 or Jayne Ichikawa at 503-639-0067.

Please consider joining the Oregon Buddhist Women's Association. Contact June Shiigi at obwa@oregonbuddhisttemple.com or Jayne

Ichikawa at jayneichi@gmail.com or phone 503-639-0067 for questions or interest.



<http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/links/2015-bca-fbwa-representatives-meeting/>



Midori, Terri-Ann and Brenda making manju for the upcoming Richmond Elementary School Spring Festival.

Dharma School News

The DS has been busy with practice for the Hanamatsuri program. They hope you will all come and enjoy it.

Thanks to Marilyn and Ann for coloring spring eggs and an Easter Egg Hunt.

Amy Peterson will be attending the Federation DS Teacher's League (FDSTL) in LA at the end of the month and hopes to bring home new ideas.

We are waiting for the release of a new Earth Day Gatha from Seattle. We'll keep you posted.

Kirt Achterman and Joy Yuzuriha have applied to attend the YAC retreat this summer.

The students were treated to meet and greet the neighbors and their new kid goats.

Girl Scout News

The troop welcomes a couple of new girls to the troop. They want to thank all those who supported them in their efforts and are planning a camping trip to Newport this summer.

**From the NW District Dharma School Teachers:
Greetings!**

The results are in! Judges Rinban Don Castro, Rev. Kojo Kakihara and Ron Murakami have selected the winners of the FDSTL/Northwest District art contest. Thank you judges for taking part in this first time event. Hopefully we will have even more entries next year.

Preschool - 1st grade: No entries

2nd – 3rd grades: Nao Wainer (Tacoma Buddhist Temple)

4th – 5th grades: Mayu Garner (Oregon Buddhist Temple)

Each winner will receive \$35 as was decided at the February 2015 NWDSTL meeting. The artwork of both students will be displayed at the FDSTL conference later this month. Congratulations to Nao and Mayu!

Theme Gratitude



We know Maho Garner is a very talented and gifted artist and OBT has been the beneficiary of her talents and generosity. She has passed this talent to her daughter Mayu, who has recently won two poster contests. Although these are not Mayu's recognitions as she won a BCA poster contest in the past. Not only are her posters winners, she completes them including her personal life, family and friends. We encouraged her to enter the Federation of Dharma School teacher's contest. Mayu was recognized at Hanamatsuri. We know her poster will be a strong contender at the FDSTL meeting the end of this month.

When the DS visited the Oregon Humane Society for a field trip and to deliver the donations we collected, we learned about a poster contest. We encouraged the students to enter and Mayu did. We were pleased to learn that she won her age category and will be recognized on Sunday the 26th the same date as the Salmon&SushiFest.



As reported in the March newsletter, Maho Garner recently won a Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations poster contest and her winning design is being used for the FBWA Representatives' Meeting to be held in October at Seattle. (For more information, click on the FBWA program and registration link on page 2.)



Congratulations to the Garner family!
(Watch for Maho's design for our Obonfest)
Check the OBT website newsletter copy for the color photos.



Tara Tamarabuchi Gibbs attended the Tomodachi Luncheon fundraiser of the Japanese Community Cultural Center of Seattle. George Takei, renowned Japanese American actor, Buddhist, gay, Nikkei and general community activist was the honored guest.

MAY TOBAN

Ando, Alice	Babione, Tracy
Cantonwine, Randy	Demise, Darlene
Hardman, Jacob	Long, Amy
Oldfield, Scott	Price, Heatheranne
Reneau, Charles	Shiigi, June
Shiigi, Stan	Sumoge, Jerry
Sumoge, JoAnn	Takashima, Jean
Takeuchi, Tom	Urban, Phaedra

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

Congratulations to Charles Dawson on his recent job change and move to Washington. I told him I'd take him off the toban list if he'd visit when he's in town, or maybe come in for

Lotus circle – May by Jean Matsumoto



Spring arrived in all its glory this year for us to have colorful flowers for our Flower Toban to arrange on our altar this month. Apologies are extended to the Meiners family

who supplied the flowers last month in memory of their son, Wallace Meiners, not Kurihara. We would also like to acknowledge the donation made by Michael Ishii last month in memory of (imo) his uncle, Don Ishii, who passed away in California in February. For the month of May, our generous donors are:

- May 3 – Miyeko (Miki) Yagi imo of her husband Kan, her parents Koichi and Koto Aoki, and her parents-in-law Takutaro and Riyo \
- May 10 – Ron Shiraishi imo parents Yutaka and Kazue
- May 17 – Anonymous imo Zenzaburo and Tamiyo Ochiai, their daughters, Nobuko Susaki and Shizuko Okazaki, and son, Kaz
- May 24 – Kiyomi Dickenson imo her mother Toshiko Kitagawa
- May 31 – Sumie Ishida imo parents Yoshikiyo and Hisayo Yamamoto

Thank you to all the families whose generous donations pay for the altar flowers in memory of loved ones. We are also grateful for Ken Garner (webmaster@oregonbuddhisttemple.com) who has set up a webpage for the lotus circle. For further information about how the lotus circle works, please feel free to contact me at 503-280-2463; or e-mail jamatsumoto@gmail.com.

Do you have a Dharma Talk or Dharma Exchange topic you've had stuck in your head? If so, contact one of our Minister's Assistants to volunteer or suggest the topic (if you're a little shy). special events. Ed.

Oregon Buddhist Temple Donations

March 2015

In memory of Wayne Winner

Ann Shintani & Scott Winner
Yoshiro & Kazumi Shintani
Herb & Etsu Osaki
Pat Hokama
Susan Endecott
Jean Matsumoto
Amy Peterson

In memory of Nami Sasaki

Shiz Inaba
Mitsuko Hasuike
Taka Mizote

In memory of Rev. Dr. Taitetsu Unno

Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa

In memory of Don Ishii

Michael & Janice Ishii

In memory of parents

Jennifer Hoang

Lotus Circle

Alice Kida & the Tomita family
Setsy & Chip Larouche
King & Patricia Quan
Misako Kodama
Michael & Janice Ishii

Special donations

Linh Son Buddhist Assn
Akiko Pinard
Keiko Takahashi
Silicon Valley Comm. Foundation
Nobuko Fujinaka

Salmonfest donations

Chris Dart
Herb & Etsu Osaki

Judy Hittle
Lynn Grannan

Spring Ohigan

Anonymous
Alice Sumida
Carolyn J. Saiget
Amy Peterson
Ray & Lori Fukunaga
Alice Ando
Fumi Saito
Henry & Eulia Mishima
Richard & Kumiko Mishima
May Ishida
Toshiko Hayashi
Gerald & Joann Sumoge
Sahomi Tachibana
Tsuyako Monas
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa
Ben & Sumie Ishida
Chiho Okita
May Kasahara
Kimiko Iwamoto
Teruko Nishikawa
Jean Matsumoto
Susan Endecott
June & Stan Shiigi
Yoshie Kagawa
Herb & Etsu Osaki
Dana Kakishita
Takako Maeda
Pat Hokama
Grace & Katsuya Amasuga
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Kiyomi Dickinson
Susan Leedham
Setsy & Chip Larouche
Misako Kodama
Katie Tamiyasu
Alfred Ono
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner

Roberta Ando
Kayoko Kaye
Randy & Dana Kunisaki
Takako Maeda

2015 Membership donations

Junko Iwao Toll - SILVER LEVEL
Fumi Saito
Ernest Takeda
Richard & Karen Shiraishi
Alfred Ono
Phaedra Urban
Nobuko Fujinaka
Mike Yasui
Sumiko Ikata
Kaoru Hori

Member pledge donations

Angela & Ryan Hughes-Davis
Gerald & Joann Sumoge
Susan M. Lilly
Takako Maeda
Jean Matsumoto
Diane Ando Harder

Thank You for Your Donations by Envelopes and PayPal

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

PayPal donations can also be made by following a link to the OBT donate page at:

<http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/donate/paypal.html>

There are several links on this page, which goes directly to OBT's PayPal account and can be used by anybody to make a donation to OBT – they do not need to have a PayPal account. Follow simple instructions for donation designations.

OBWA Donations

Etsu Osaki, general donation
Susan Endecott, general donation

Etsu Osaki, imo Nami Sasaki
Anonymous
Kaoru Hori, general donation



MEMBERSHIP Alfred Ono (chairman)

It is April; spring is here even with a little chill. April showers bring May flowers if they are not up already. I hope your taxes are done- if not you are too late by the time this article is published. However, you are not too late to sign up for Oregon Buddhist Temple membership. We have 91 members signed up –HURRAY. However we must at least cross the 100-member mark

Some have said, "What do I get for membership?" We do not give out OBT mugs or T-shirts, but you get that "good Karma" feeling. Adding your support of OBT is like bricks or beams under a building that make a building stronger the more support you give to the structure. If you want a certificate, I can make one but many times these get tossed out instead of framed and hanging in your living room.

In my informal survey, some have felt the dues were too high. If we bring the dues down, hopefully, we will get greater membership numbers but everyone then needs to support the Temple at special services, each Sunday service and even remembering us as you pass along.

Some have said it is not the money but the turmoil of last fall. I hope that has passed on, and we are not stuck in the mud of our past. You can only live in the present. Come on back and support the Temple like you did before. Some of you are waiting for a new minister. Rev Fujimoto is coming monthly. He is doing a great job with the Temple and is giving very meaningful Dharma messages. I have talked with him about advice to me on how to give better Dharma talks. I have found him very friendly, approachable, helpful and informative and well versed on the Dharma and how to present it. We need a great turnout when he is in town. Moreover, invite him to lunch or dinner to meet and talk with him when he comes to Portland. I know he would enjoy meeting you.

We need membership support to allow him to keep coming and for him to feel it is worth his time. Also as I have said before, if we look like a strong Temple with strong support of its membership, I presume that the national Buddhist Churches of America and the Bishop would look more favorably on us to appoint a minister to our Temple.

As Nike say "Just Do It" and sign up and join the Oregon Buddhist Temple. Also if you do have comments, I will have a basket at the entrance table for comments. Better yet, E-Mail me or call me or just talk to me to tell me how you are feeling about the temple both positive and negative. Do not be modest or passive, but let us know your thoughts about membership in the temple and why or why not you want to join. My E Mail is onog@aol.com

I hope to see your membership form. For those who have signed up-Thank you

In Gassho
Alfred Ono

2015 Oregon Buddhist Temple Membership Dues

New or Renewal Registration

- Membership donation is \$250 per individual adult, \$500 per family
Silver level is \$500/member, Gold level is \$1000/member
- Optional pledge payments of \$25/mo or \$75/qtr for individual or
\$50/mo or \$150/qtr for families
- A limited number of subsidized memberships are available.
Please indicate here to be contacted by membership committee

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership allows voting privileges, a subscription to the Wheel of Dharma newsletter from the BCA, subscription to Pureland Path newsletter, and most importantly, demonstrates your support of the Temple.

Please mail this form with check to:
Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

Enclosed membership fee: _____

Additional donation: _____

*Help subsidize other members: _____

Total enclosed: _____

**if you wish to encourage membership and participation by helping those unable to make dues payments.*
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Please refer to previous page for Pay Pal link



Summary of the April 2015 Board Meeting Minutes by Angie Hughes

(The complete minutes and supporting reports can be found in the library binder.)

There have been no calls regarding security issues at the temple this last month and Cathy Yarne expressed thanks to everyone for helping to keep the temple secure. The board hopes for continued diligence with procedures for locking up the temple. Amy Peterson will be contacting all key holders, asking them to please follow the checklist when locking up.

As a regular part of the newsletter, the goal of establishing a wish list will continue, in hopes of providing members with an opportunity to identify needs around the temple.

An orei for Reverend Fujimoto and IOBT was discussed and agreed upon.

Jayne Ichikawa reported that OBWA is focusing on finding transportation for home-bound members who might like to attend Hanamatsuri. Other April highlights can be found in the binder.

A maintenance report was given by Ray Fukunaga and some time was spent discussing various projects around the temple. For example, the basement door, just outside the kitchen, is not latching correctly and this will be fixed soon. Also, the tree between the temple and the annex will be cut down within the next month. Finally, the board is aiming to make the thermostats in the temple more user-friendly.

Facilities use for the coming month will include Minidoka Band Practice after Hanamatsuri on April 19th and the Unite People Chili and Curry Feed, hosted by Connie Masuoka, on May 16th.

The OBT car is still for sale and the asking price is \$10,000. It is a 2012 Nisan Versa with 40,500 miles.

Membership has increased this month to 91.

Salmon&SushiFest planning is coming along well. There are several cooks lined up, with an estimated 400 servings planned. Many more volunteers are needed for prep work and on the day of the event.

It is hoped that more senior members will be able to mentor junior members for ObonFest this year (and in coming years), so that as individuals retire their positions, others will have the ability to step in and have an understanding of what each job entails.

The board is looking for a toban-cho to help with organizing toban.

Cathy Yarne is working on assembling a team that will get the frozen food in the freezers inventoried, valued, and then priced to sell.

Ryan Davis and Angie Hughes will co-chair Sukiyaki Dinner.

Shinya Ichikawa and Cathy Yarne will be standardizing suggested funeral fees and procedures so that families will know what to expect and what the role of the temple will be in the process.

The board will be looking more seriously at charitable giving and connecting with temple members about bequests, estate planning, and living estates. Al Ono will lead this effort.

As always, the OBT board is very grateful for all the volunteer hours which temple members and friends donate and the board members are looking forward to participating during the upcoming Salmon&SushiFest.

TEMPLE TID BITS

CALENDAR CORRECTIONS! ! ! !

Please check the updated calendar at the Temple or in the website newsletter! The information for Memorial Day in the OBWA News has the updated information as well as some added times that did not make it to the printed calendar.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

Temple Garden

This year we are planning on planting more Japanese/Asian produce. If you are interested in helping, even if to just turn on the water for a while, please email dharmaschool@oregonbuddhisttemple.com. If you see our neighbors, Frank or Amy in the garden, stop by and say HI! They are also lending us the use of their goats to help control some invasive weeds. THANKS FRANK AND AMY!

AUDIO/ VIDEO

We are still looking for input on evaluating and improving our audio / video needs. If you have any suggestions or comments, please email, board@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

SalmonSushiFest

It's not too late to come to the SalmonSushiFest
Sunday April 26th!

Lots of great food, dine in or take out!

Great entertainment, schedule will be posted!

Donations for ingredients can be made by contacting Carol Saiget.

(This is an old tradition that the OBWA used to do with chow mein)

50th Anniversary of OBT Building

Where were you over 50 years ago when the current temple was in the planning stages?

Were you or your family involved with the building or other areas?

We just learned professor and author Linda Tanaka's father donated the cherry trees by the parking lot that are currently blooming.

Design meetings were held at Janice Okamoto's dining room table.

Were there others like that, that we don't know about?

Please contact Jean Matsumoto, Stan Shiigi, Phaedra Urban or Amy Peterson if you have pictures, stories, etc. or would like to help with the project to celebrate 50 years since it's dedication in 1966.

