

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

Happy Obon Season!!

July into August in the Northwest is recognized as Obon season. This is where we are able to go to different temple's Obons and have a great time with not only our friends and families, but also with those that we have lost in the past.

I am pretty sure that everyone has heard the origin story of Obon. This story is about Mogallana, one of Shakyamuni Buddha's disciples, and his mother, who had recently passed. As an arhat, Mogallana had the ability to look into the various realms we can reincarnate to. He was devastated upon finding his mother reincarnated into the realm of the hungry ghosts where she is unable to eat [the realm of the hungry ghosts is a lower realm in which beings are unable to eat because the food turns to ash before they reach their mouths or that their throats are too skinny to allow anything to go through].

In anguish, Mogallana asked Shakyamuni Buddha what he could do to help his mother. The Buddha answered Mogallana's inquiry and told him to host a service in honor of his mother with offerings of food. Immediately, the arhat conducted the service with the drive to help his mother escape this lower realm.

After the service concludes, Mogallana immediately looks into the realm of hungry ghosts to find his mother again and see if anything changed. He finds his mother able to eat and in joy of this discovery, celebrates by dancing in happiness. This is the origin of Obon and Obon Odori or Obon dancing.

Obon is a time for us to not only make memories and have a fun time with friends and family, but also be able to think upon all of those who have passed.

So this Obon season, please have a fun time while also remembering those who have passed on before us.

Greetings from the President



I want to thank everyone who took part in this year's rummage sale. It was a huge success and possibly our biggest ever! The event was not only to raise funds for the Temple but also to embrace the values of recycling, non-attachment, and dana. We appreciate everyone who donated their items, time, and shopped during this annual event and look forward to an even bigger event next year.

This year we are so pleased to once again bring our Bon Odori back to the public. Many in our community, even outside our Sangha, look forward to this annual event. I encourage you and your families to attend our Hatusbon service on July 16th and of course our Bon Odori on July 22nd. We are continuing to look for your support in making it a success. Sponsor a dance on behalf of your family or loved ones! Or if you're interested in

volunteering, please reach out to me and we'll find a job for you! More information can be found at www.wrbt.org/bonodori2023.

Finally, as we continue our commitment toward the community, White River will be hosting a blood donation drive in partnership with Bloodworks Northwest on August 19th at the Temple from 8 am - 2 pm. More information to follow!

Thank you again for your support

Gassho,
Kendall

July Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service**IN PERSON (and Streamed Live) Service****July 2nd at 10:30am****www.wrbt.org/service**

COVID protocols will remain in place with well fitting masks and social distancing.

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of July. If any names have inadvertently been omitted or if you have any questions about Shotsuki services, please contact office@wrbt.org

Tsuruichi Komoto	1974	Noriko Tanabe	2005
Minoru Terada	1979	Yooko Watanabe	2010
Kiyomi Mizoguchi	1980	Stanley Doi	2010
Mike Arima	1987	Sayoko Kawasaki	2011
Isamu Suyematsu	1989	Kazuko Watanabe	2013
Yoneko Terayama	1990	Hiroshi Nakai	2014
George Takeshi Watanabe	1991	Ben Yamada	2015
Misue Komatsu	1995	Doris Sagara	2019
Mitzi Mitsuko Ibuki	1998	Yae Mikami	2019
George Tonojo Kawasaki	2002	Kayo Terayama	2020
Tokio Toyoshima	2005	Amy Kato	2020
Nancy Mikami	2005	Shiyoji Kawabata	2021

1 year ~ 2022 3 year ~ 2021 7 year ~ 2017 13 year ~ 2011
17 year ~ 2007 25 year ~ 1999 33 year ~ 1991 50 year ~ 1974

MEMORIAL SERVICES To remember those that we have lost, Jodo Shinshu has the tradition of holding memorial services in certain years after their passing. If you would like to schedule a service for your loved one who passed in the following years, please contact Rev. Cyndi via email at rev.jikaku.yasaki@wrbt.org.

Buddhism Discussion

We will be taking a break for the summer and re-summing our Buddhism Discussion sessions in the fall. If you have any ideas of topics that you would like to explore, contact office@wrbt.org

Library Reopening

The renewed library will reopen on July 2nd for the Shotsuki Memorial. You will be able to:

Tour the library

Check out books

Browse through the many surplus books we have. They will be free with a suggested donation.

Service Volunteer Sign Up

Sign up to help with weekly services.

- ◆ Chair service
- ◆ Bring and arrange flowers for the onajin - we can help arrange if you wish.
- ◆ Bring fruit for the onajin
- ◆ Ring Kansho before service



Sign Up at bit.ly/WRBTservice (case sensitive) or contact office@wrbt.org.

Newsletter Reminder

July newsletter articles are due **Sunday, July 16th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. We encourage you to sign up for our newsletter by email if this is an option for you. **Contact newsletter@wrbt.org or call 253-833-1442 to opt out of the hard copy newsletter.**

一緒に親鸞聖人のみ教えを聞きましょう！

いつ：7月14日午前11時

なぜ14日？毎月の14日は蓮如上人のご命日です。その日に親鸞聖人が作った正信偈と和讃を唱えみ教えを聞き蓮如上人の御文章を聞く

一日です。

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

See's Candy Fundraiser. Not to rush anything, it's only July. BWA will have a winter holiday fundraising candy sale. Last year's was such a success. I'll send out details after See's makes their announcement in September. All are welcome to place orders. You do not need to be a Temple or BWA member. Start making a list....

Georgette's observations. The Temple has been open for in-person services since April. In these three months, I am so glad to see the Temple has regained its character. We are able to be together and bring life to our building. Hanamatsuri, BWA Spring Tea, plant and rummage sales brought fun, creativity and rekindled relationships among our members and all those who helped make these events possible. The ever present, abundant snack table and coffee were there to nourish and recharge us, from setup to cleanup. That is one of the WR ways of gently seeing that needs get filled. Not only at event times do I see that there's a little something delicious available in the kitchen or back table. Thank you to all the thoughtful, generous, kind people.

I am grateful for the efforts of the White River BWA to make all feel welcome and at home. I am a member of BWA and the Temple, not only for the Dharma, but for the warmth and support from our Sangha. Here is a place where I know I belong and am accepted, just as I am, hats and all. I feel, see and hear this acceptance not only during Pride Month, but all year around.

What unexpected gifts will our Bon Odori deliver in July? See you there.

Gassho (My sincere thanks and gratitude),
Georgette I

Rummage Sale was a Success!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!! Your donations, assistance, and purchases led to the success of our Rummage Sale and we could not have done this without all of you! Leftover clothing, shoes, and linens were brought to the Auburn Food Bank/Ray of Hope, Vision House, and Vine Maple Place for use by their clients. Special thank you to Dave W. who helped by organizing, lifting, helping during the sale, and assistance with every drop off.

In addition, we were able to recycle used batteries, lightbulbs, and 3 very large bags of styrofoam!

Thank you for keeping this out of our landfills and helping save our planet for the future!



ABA

An ABA sponsored joint field trip to the Rhododendron Botanical Gardens and the Pacific Bonsai Museum in Federal Way was held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. The 2-hour Pacific Bonsai Museum tour was attended by 8 dedicated bonsai enthusiasts. Our very knowledgeable docent patiently explained the history, technique and philosophy behind each of the 50 bonsai plants currently on display. The Bonsai tour was followed by a guided tour of the Rhododendron Botanical Gardens. A tasty Hawaiian BBQ lunch at the Pac Island Grill capped off a very enjoyable and informative day. A good time was had by all.

Next on the schedule is an ABA sponsored field trip to a baseball game at T-Mobile Park where our Seattle Mariners take on the LA Angels and Shohei Otani on September 13, 2023 at 1 pm. Currently we have 14 seats on the third deck behind home plate, rows 4,5 & 6. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up on the sheet on the back hallway bulletin board if interested. A fall field trip to the Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park in late September is also being planned. July kicks off the ABA summer recess, so our next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2023 at 1 pm.



Bon Odori Committee

Event date: Saturday, July 22, 2023

Co-chairs: Randy Okimoto & Char Grinolds.

A second Bon Odori Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

This year's Bon Odori is a public event and will need volunteers from outside the temple, to be successful. So please start recruiting helpers from friends and relatives. All volunteers that will be handling food should have a current food handler's permit from King County Health Department.

Since this is the first public Bon Odori event since the pandemic, we are again allowing individuals, families, friends and relatives to sponsor each of the fourteen individual dances performed this year. They are 1. Mi Kokoro, 2. Tanko Bushi, 3. Shaiwase Samba, 4. Pokemon Ondo, 5. Oyama Ondo, 6. Isson Ippin Ondo, 7. Soran Bushi, Dai Hiroshima Ondo, 9. Hanabi Ondo, 10. Goshu Ondo, 11. Omikoshi Ondo, 12. Hokkai Bon Bushi, 13. Omatsuri Ondo, and Zenkoku Ondo.

The Committee decided to shorten the booth hours to 4:30 to 8:30 pm. Our next Bon Odori meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 2, 2023 after service.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from May 23rd through June 20th. Thank you to the many people whose financial donations, as well as their donations of goods, energy, and time help us to conduct services, programs and maintain the temple. Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org. Donations can be sent directly to the temple or you can also make a donation by credit card at the temple website <https://www.wrbt.org/donate>.

Total Donations Received - \$2540

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	June Shotsuki
Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Mr. Charles Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Ms. Kelsey Asato	In memory of Lillian Asato
Ms. Tessa Asato	In memory of Lillian Asato
Mr. Joe Watanabe	In memory of Gary Watanabe
M/M Alvin and Mitsuko Terada	June Shotsuki
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Kitaro and Charles Tsuji
Mrs. Yuki Iwai	In memory of Shina Iwai
Ms. Laurie Tanaka	In memory of Aiko Horiuchi
Mrs. Margaret Teramoto	In memory of Fukujiro & Setsu Yanagawa, Roy & Josie Taketa, Mary Mizuta, Tets Yanagawa, Yanagawa Children
Ms. Susie Taketa	In memory of Roy Taketa, Tsutae Tiny Taketa, Ben Taketa, George Taketa, Masaru Kato, Naomi Martin

Gotane

Mrs. Yuki Iwai	Mrs. Tomeko Taketa (omissions from June newsletter)
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Memorial Day Cemetery Service

M/M Calvin & Yvette Terada	M/M Ron & Suzuko Terada	Ms. Kayoko Terada
M/M James & Ikuko Dodobara	Ms. Laurie Tanaka	Mrs. Mabel Nishizaki
M/M Mark & Sharon Kosai	Michael & Gayle Teramoto	Ms. Lorraine Blackler
Michael & Gayle Teramoto		

General Donations

Anonymous	Rummage sale
Anonymous	Network for Good

**2023 Pledge Totals
May 1 - 31, 2023**

Thank you for your support in 2023!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
June 9, 2023	\$4,520	\$33,240	38	\$3,855	\$27,460
<u>For Comparison</u>					
June 7, 2022	\$200	\$30,440	38	\$600	\$23,970

Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:

Amount Not Specified for Publishing: James R Pewitt Chiho Pewitt Lilly Kato

Under \$500:

\$500- \$999:

\$1,000- \$4,999: Randy Okimoto Anonymous #9

****Views expressed in articles by individuals do not necessarily represent the views of, and should not be attributed to the Temple or Sangha members****

Formal Temple Office Hours by Appointment Only

For ALL ministerial needs (including emergencies), please call Rev. Cyndi Yasaki's cell phone. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Temple office

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