

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Reverend Koshin Ogui, Resident Minister

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Greetings from Reverend Koshin Ogui

Yokihito ni atte oshierare, Ashikihito ni ate furikaeru.

Zen Aku tomoni arigatashi.

When we meet with a good person, we learn from that person.

When we meet with a bad person, we reflect on ourselves,

Not to say, not to do as what that person says, and does.

Namuamidabutsu in Gassho,
Reverend Ogui



Message from the Chairperson

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all members of the Sangha for the success of our recent Bon Odori fundraiser. We were forced by circumstances to prepare and operate under less than acceptable conditions and yet we had a great crowd and all the booths were adequately manned and sold their wares throughout. Per usual, we ran out of musubi and also pork and teriyaki sliders. I believe all of the receipts and expenses are in and we were financially successful along the line of previous fundraisers. Special note should be taken of the Gift Shop headed by Chiho Pewitt. In my opinion, at least 25% of the attendees must have stopped and shopped at this shop and the financial return was directly due to Chiho's excellent business sense, preparation and hard work. Also kudos to Genie Lau and Joe Watanabe who worked so smoothly with our Instructor Dancers, to provide hours of entertaining dancing for all who attended. Joe turned many of the MC responsibilities over to Genie who is understudying to replace Joe when he retires in a couple of years. It should also be mentioned that during set up there was an absence of younger help which must be addressed for the future as the older members were taxed by the requirements of raising all the tents and booths. All in all a truly successful Bon Odori-2015! Hats off to Randy and Eva Chun who stepped up and dealt with the problems of Bon Odori.

Lukas Akiyama, Mitzie and Bob's grandson, approached me and requested to redo (spruce up) our playground area as a project for his Eagle Scout badge. With some guidance from his scout supervisors and his father David, Lukas developed a plan and submitted it to me. The Board approved the project and it was accepted by the Scout Supervisors. Lukas arrived at the Temple on Thursday, August 6, with several other scouts and spent the majority of the day working on the playground. They weeded and spread new wood chips, sanded the existing tables and benches and constructed a new table with benches. Please take the time to visit our renewed playground and enjoy the area and the new sign stating "Private Property-No Unattended Children". The sign was added at my request. Well done Lukas!

In Gassho,
Bill Geenty

Condolences

The temple extends its deepest sympathies to Eva Chun & family on the passing of her father, Waichi Ouye, from Hakalau, Hawaii.

The temple extends its deepest sympathies to Yoshiko & Darlene Yamada & family on the passing of husband and father, Ben Yamada. Ben was a long-standing member of the temple.

**September Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
September 13, 2015 at 11:00 AM**

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of September. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service on Sunday, September 13th at 11:00 am. If any names have inadvertently been omitted, please email office@wrbt.org or speak with Rev Ogui to correct our records.

Toku Norikane	1968	Joe Toshio Nishimoto	2001
Yae Okimoto	1972	Jack Schilthroat	2002
Rikuye Kawasaki	1975	May Fumie Kajikami	2003
Charley Miyoshi	1983	Janis Tsuneko Ikuta	2005
Matsuo Sakagami	1988	Takejiro Hama	2009
Jackie Kawasaki Wills	1991	Edward Tanaka	2013
Edwin Arima	1997	Lloyd Herndon	2014

1 year ~ 2014

3 year ~ 2013

7 year ~ 2009

13 year ~ 2003

17 year ~ 1999

25 year ~ 1991

DESIGNATED MEMORIAL SERVICE YEARS To schedule a family memorial service, please contact office@wrbt.org or speak with Rev Ogui.

Buddhist Education

The "new" **2015 Buddhist Education Events** tri-fold sheets are located in the lobby. Take a look!

We have purchased some **sample copies of service books** published by different temples - one from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and one from Kelowna Buddhist Temple of Canada. If you're interested in reading different aspects of Jodo Shinshu explained in different ways, this is for you. They will be available for check-out from the library soon.

Sat, Sept 26 - 3:00-4:30 pm (earlier start time) - **Rev. Mutsumi Wondra will give a Public Dharma Talk, "Shin Buddhism and My Life!"** Please come to hear Rev. Wondra's life story and support her as our guest speaker. Rev. Wondra will also be BWA's guest speaker for the Sun, Sept 27, 11:00 Eshinni-Kakushinni Family Service. See our website or poster in the temple lobby for more information.

Tues, Sept 29 - 10:00-11:30 - "Memory Enhancement Training - Use It, Don't Lose It!" Don't forget! Come to this Nikkei Concerns class to improve your quality of life & memory with Lisa of Nikkei Manor! Practical applications to help us everyday! No charge for White River & Tacoma Buddhist Temple members, but you must register with Nikkei Concerns. To register, call 206-726-6465 or 726-6469 or < nhinfo@nikkeiconcerns.org > or registration forms will be available in temple lobby soon.

Buddhism 101 Classes

Buddhism 101 will be offered by our resident minister, Rev. Koshin Ogui on Thursdays this fall at the Temple. Everyone is encouraged to attend and questions are always welcome.

September 10 & 17 (6:00—7:00 pm): General Buddhism (1&2)

September 24 & October 1 (6:00—7:00 pm): Shin Buddhism (1&2)

Two dollars per session donation is suggested.

Dharma School News

Dharma School would like to thank Lukas Akiyama and his friends and family. Lukas coordinated the beautiful renovation of the playground for his Eagle Scout Project. Thank you so much!

The Dharma School year will begin September 27th, 10-12 pm. Please keep an eye on the Temple calendar, as we are planning to hold class once a month this school year. See you there!

Thank You....

Lukas Akiyama – Playground clean-up and improvement

Mary Cogger -- Repair and painting of the lobby wall

BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

WR BWA extends its deepest sympathies to Eva Chun & family on the passing of her father, Waichi Ouye, from Hakalau, Hawaii. The family celebrated Mr Ouye's 100th birthday last year.

WR BWA extends its deepest sympathies to Yoshiko & Darlene Yamada & family on the passing of husband and father, Ben. Ben was a long-standing member of and contributor to White River.

Two young ladies from Japan will be guests of Northwest BWA chapters in mid-August. They will visit White River on Monday, August 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to a meet & greet. Thank you, Lilly Kato, for making arrangements.

The NW District BWA is working on **NW District BWA officer rotation**. All chapters are collaborating to establish a fair and agreeable rotation schedule. Members were given the opportunity to vote on their preferences.

A **nominating committee** was formed to search for a new presidential candidate(s) of our White River BWA for next year. Deidre, Karen & Lillian are serving on the committee. It is time to get new energy to inspire us to new heights. Please let us know if you would like to help out.

As part of WR BWA's commitment to and participation in the "\$1,000 x 4 years" campaign to help pay off the final BCA debt for the Jodo Shinshu Center, we continue our fundraising efforts. **Buy a \$5 pass** to support our "**Macy's Shop For A Cause" Fundraiser** and enjoy a day of special discounts on most regular, sale & clearance purchases all day at any Macy's store on Sat, Aug 29. 100% of every \$5 collected for these Macy's passes goes into our fundraiser account! Plus, you can enter to win a \$500 Macy's Gift Card at any Macy's. How about picking up some for your friends & family, too? A win-win situation for all. Ask Karen or Lillian to purchase passes or for more info.

BWA CALENDAR EVENTS:

Sunday, September 13 at 12:00PM - WR BWA General Meeting. The meeting will be held in the classroom at the southeast corner of the temple.

Sunday, September 27 at 11:00AM - Eshinni-Kakushinni Service. Guest speaker will be Reverend Mutsumi Wondra. Everyone is invited to the service and to stay for lunch hosted by BWA afterwards. Note: On Saturday Sept. 26 at 3:00PM to 4:30PM the Buddhist Education Committee (BEC) is hosting a public dharma talk with Rev. Wondra.

Saturday, October 10, 2015 - FBWA 2015 Representatives' Meeting will be held at the DoubleTree Suites Southcenter. White River is in charge of Registration and could use help at the registration table on Friday and Saturday (Oct 9 & 10). A sign-up sheet is posted on the Blue bulletin board. Please ask Karen or Lillian if you have any questions.

Gassho,

Lillian, WR BWA Co-President

bwa@wrbt.org

YEAR-ROUND DONATIONS: JULY-AUG-SEP – School Supplies & Baby Supplies

- backpacks, binders, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, calculators, diapers - sizes 4,5,6 (preferred), wipes, baby or pre-school clothing.

Newsletter by Email

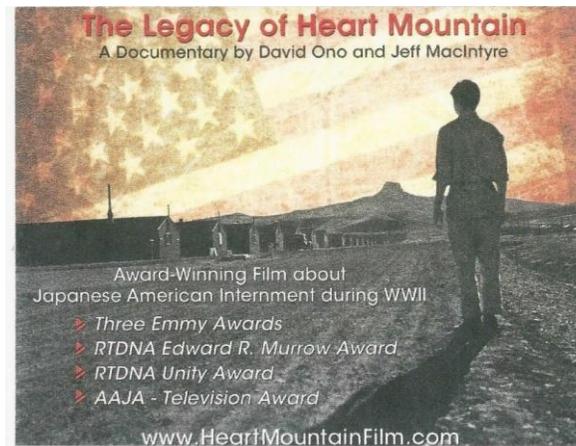
If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact newsletter@wrbt.org



Flower Gardens

It has been a hot, dry, tough summer for the plants in our gardens, but several dedicated members have helped our flowers flourish. Nobi and Sakiko Taguchi have helped with watering, and Janis Yamada has done weeding and removing dead flowers. Thanks for your help!

Growing Up Behind Barbed Wire with Amy and Lilly Kato



Courtesy of the George and Frank C. Hirahara Collection,
Washington State University Libraries Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 3:00 pm Kent Lutheran Church
336 – 2nd Ave. S. Kent, WA 98032

Sunday, Sept. 20, 12:30 pm White River Buddhist Temple
3625 Auburn Way N. Auburn, WA 98002

Program includes:

Showing of the award-winning documentary "Legacy of Heart Mountain"

Slides of Heart Mountain Incarceration Camp, Wyoming

Personal reflections of Amy and Lilly Kato, survivors

Question and Answers

Sponsored by the Greater Kent Historical Society

(253)854-4330 or gkhs.org to RSVP and for more information

Goodwill donation of \$10.00 will be accepted at the door



Receiving the Dharma Elwyn Lapoint

Although my father was a Unitarian Universalist minister, in young adulthood my own personal religious convictions remained as yet unsettled. Nonetheless, I retained a strong professional interest in religious matters. By profession I was an anthropologist. As many of you not doubt are aware, anthropology investigates those human life ways known as “culture.” Every culture formulates a distinctive view of reality which finds expression in religious beliefs and rituals.

The culture to which I devoted the most attention was India. While India was the native land of Buddhism, Hinduism was the dominant religious tradition in the land. It was also the leading religious tradition in the rural community of 3500 where I conducted my investigations. As a result, I had no opportunity to study Buddhism firsthand while I was in India.

Back in the United States I earned my living as a university professor at Eastern Washington University. My teaching responsibilities included offerings in Asian cultures and the anthropology of religion. Since Buddhism is one of the major world religions, a religion of special prominence in Southern, Central, and Eastern Asia, it became necessary for me to study Buddhist literature to prepare to teach these courses. Among these texts were Vasubandhu’s *Instruction and Praise for the Pure Land* and the *Three Pure Land Sutras*.

It was therefore fortuitous that Spokane’s Shin Buddhist Temple was located only several blocks from our home. We began attending services and soon became members. An introductory course offered by Reverend Vielle provided us with further insights into Shin Buddhism. Following this introductory offering, Sensei offered me a tutorial with a view to preparing me as an assistant. With increased familiarity, I became personally committed to the path of Jodo shinshu. Eventually, I co-taught the introductory course to new members of the congregation.

Soon after that my wife and I moved to the western side of the state to be nearer our adult daughters. We also dwelled close to the White River Buddhist Temple. We soon became members of this fellowship and came to deeply appreciate the warmth with which we were welcomed by the congregation. I continued my studies of Buddhism, producing short volumes documenting my research.

My personal conclusions regarding the pure land of Sukhavati is that it represents and introspective intuition of the *dharma*. As for Amida, the Buddha of the Pure Land, he is not an historical figure like Sakyamuni. Rather, I take him to be a metaphor for *tathata*, that is thussness or reality. Indeed, he represents reality as it is in the ideal dharmic state. One attains the Pure Land through *tarik*, Amida’s other power, in which the devotee places his/her trust (*shinjin*). Neither *tathata* nor *Sukhavati* is accessible via logic, reason, or rhetoric. They must be intuited as a form of innermost reality. I begin and end each day by signaling Amida and Sukhavati, invoking the *nembutsu*.

Elwin C. Lapoint is a Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Eastern Washington University where he completed thirty-five years of full-time teaching.

We have four of his books in our library including his latest, *Memoir of an Academic Sojourner*. Elwyn has donated books not only to our library, but also for the purchase price of \$10 which will be donated to WRBT. See Rev. Ogui to purchase. Thanks Elwin

Auburn Pioneer Cemetery Historic Landmark Designation

The City of Auburn is in the process of nominating the Pioneer Cemetery for historic landmark designation. The landmark designation will formally document the history of the cemetery. It will also open up funding opportunities for improvements at the cemetery. Burials will still be allowed following the existing city rules. Traditional uses such as services, ceremonies, and other cultural practices will continue.

A consultant is conducting research and developing the proposal for historic landmark designation. She would like to interview temple members with ties to the cemetery and to learn more about the cemetery’s history and significance to temple members. If you would like to be interviewed or have some information about the cemetery please contact me.

Charles Natsuhara

Simply Social Class & Dance



Learn to connect with a partner and
move around a dance floor.

**Next class is:
August 27th**

Usually the 1st and 3rd Thursdays
7:00 PM-9:00 PM
\$10/person

For Information Contact Either:

Mary Cogger	coggermh@nventure.com
Mark Anderson	Mark@tangointacoma.com 253-222-0105

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

Reverend Ogui's Formal Temple Office Hours

Wed - Sat 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Sunday 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Religious or other consultations and home visitations are encouraged to be made by appointment Wednesday through Sunday. However, Reverend Ogui is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you have a **non-emergency** need for minister assistance, please call the Temple phone (253) 833-1442. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message and Rev Ogui will return your call as soon as possible.

If you have an **emergency** need for minister assistance, call Rev. Ogui's cell phone.

To Email the Temple office: office@wrbt.org

To Email Rev Ogui: RevKoshin@wrbt.org

Mailing Address: White River Buddhist Temple
PO Box 855
Auburn, WA 98071 - 0855

Emergency Contact during Rev/Mrs Ogui's Vacation

During the Temple Summer Break (August 17 - September 8), Rev. Ogui is available for your needs. Please call his cell-phone or home.

During Rev & Mrs. Ogui's vacation period (August 19 -26), please call the White River Buddhist Temple president, Bill Geenty at 253-840-4386 for emergencies. If you are unable to reach him, call Rev. Kojo Kakahara, Tacoma Buddhist Temple minister at 323-614-6635 or Rev. Kosho Yukawa, retired minister in Tacoma at 253-732-5020.

If there is a death in the family, it is recommended to contact the Funeral Home first and arrange for the Bedside Service with the alternate minister at the Funeral Home and later coordinate the Funeral/Memorial Service with our resident minister, Rev. Koshin Ogui.

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