

# 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

At the end of 2015, Bill Geenty will have completed the end of a two year term as our president. His vision and leadership has encouraged, challenged, and pushed me to be more creative for the benefit of our temple and community.

Under his administration, the Naijin has seen many changes. Four frames for the wall-mounted shrines were created by Dennis Nishimura, curtains to cover the accordion doors were donated by Yoshiko and Darlene Yamada in memory of Ben Yamada, and two tables were built by Stan Tsujikawa to match the three tables which were made by him in 1970's.

These are just a few of the accomplishments under his guidance.

I am thankful for his positive attitude and action.

Gassho,  
Reverend Ogui



### Message from the Chairperson

My term as your President is fast coming to a close so I want to take a few minutes to thank all the members of the Sangha who have supported the Board of Directors and me for the past two years. This has been a very rewarding position for me and I have had the opportunity to meet and get to know all the members of the Sangha. You have been forthright in making your thoughts and desires known to both the Board members and myself. We haven't always been able to satisfy your desires but I like to think we have made every attempt to satisfy your concerns. I have been very lucky over the past two years to have outstanding and cooperative members of the Board of Directors. The few times we experienced difficulties in our discussions, we were able to rectify the problems through democratic voting. It is safe to say that I may have lost a few more of my recommendations than winning but that is the beauty of a competent Board! The support that I received from Rev Ogui and his wife, Mayumi was total and much appreciated. We understood each other and I was the receiver of his wisdom and experience throughout my term.

I feel that the Board and I were able to successfully accomplish most of the major undertakings of the past two years and I leave the Temple in good strong hands to continue to solidify the future of White River Buddhist Temple. Your new officers will be elected on Wednesday, December 9th and will begin their terms after their investiture in early January. My compliments to all the Board members and especially to Wayne Mizuki, Valerie Chun and Ruth Terry who have completed their terms and are leaving the Board. I also want to recognize and welcome the new Board members elected by the Sangha. Welcome to Shirley Kanda(Fukai), Sharon Kosai, Connie Toda and J.R. Pewitt. May you enjoy success in this endeavor.

Thank you all for a busy but pleasant term as your President and rest assured that I intend to be available to White River in any capacity that the Sangha and Board indicate that they desire my services!

May you and your families and friends of WRBT have a joyous holiday season and continued success in our growing temple.

Gassho,  
William Geenty

### Ho-On-Ko Service Notice

In this month's newsletter you will find an invitation for the Ho-On-Ko service, with Rev. Warrick as our guest speaker, to be held on Sunday, January 10th. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

For those who receive their newsletter electronically, envelopes will be available at the Temple.

**January Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service**  
**January 3, 2016 at 11:00 AM**

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of January. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service on Sunday, January 3rd at 11:00 am. If any names have inadvertently been omitted, please email [office@wrbt.org](mailto:office@wrbt.org) or speak with Rev Ogui to correct our records.

Ume Nakanishi	1966	Akiko Shimatsu	2001
Takishiro Nishimoto	1967	Masao Tom Sutow	2001
Tase Sagara	1973	Sunao Iwai	2001
Jintaro Nakayama	1973	Masako Shimomura	2004
Harry Nakagawa	1977	Sachiko Nakayama	2005
Hajime Nakai	1977	Takio Hank Nishimoto	2006
Jack Kaoru Arima	1979	Yoshi Porky Nishimoto	2007
George Satoru Miyaki	1980	Shizuko Higuchi	2007
Ura Toyoshima	1983	Masami Iida	2008
Masao Tsuji	1987	George S. Ikuta	2008
Yoshito Tanaka	1991	Dorene Nakayama	2010
Minoru Koga	1992	Katherine Dodobara	2010
Yoshiko Mary Matsuyama	1994	Duane Hamamura	2011
Mary Yukie Hiranaka	1996	Frank Okimoto	2011
Chie Onchi	1996	Roy Hajime Taketa	2012
Shizumi Fujimura	1998	Hiroshi Takashima	2014

**1 year ~ 2015                      3 year ~ 2014                      7 year ~ 2010**  
**13 year ~ 2004                      17 year ~ 2000                      25 year ~ 1992**

DESIGNATED MEMORIAL SERVICE YEARS To schedule a family memorial service, please contact [office@wrbt.org](mailto:office@wrbt.org) or speak with Rev Ogui.

### Buddhist Education

Thank you to all participants & planners for supporting our seminars. Your participation, donations, and encouragement, along with the generosity of the Akiko Mikami Shimatsu Foundation funding are what keep us going.

Here are some excerpts from questionnaire comments about the Fall Body and Mind Seminar:

"Qi Gong routines were very interesting. Some routines were similar to my voice lesson routines that I practice. Will add some routines to my voice lesson."

"I never thought of breathing as birth and death."

"... it certainly made me think later about what I do receive from Buddhism that continues to make me return ..."

"I liked how fun and relaxing the whole seminar was. I was just impressed with the program being so well planned with good balance and being suited for people of all ages."

"The most impressive part ... of Rev. Aoki's presentation where we saw the English gentleman taking care of the scroll of Amida Buddha with his white gloves on."

"... I hope that people who have attended will tell other friends that this seminar is very relaxing and fun that one day is not anything difficult and leaves the attendee refreshed and so worth the day."

"It was another wonderful seminar. Exactly what I needed, again! I appreciate the experience of timelessness and spaciousness of the Dharma. It was good to "reexperience", "resee" and "rehear" with your help."

"Guest speakers have all been great for as long as I have been attending these seminars. In addition, Rev. Ogui and Ikuko round out the seminar. I totally enjoyed my day."

### Newsletter by Email

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact [newsletter@wrbt.org](mailto:newsletter@wrbt.org)



## BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our condolences to the families of Harry Taketa and Doug Yamada.

A lot was accomplished at the December 6 BWA General Meeting . We voted to prepare meals at Fisher House every other month. We also voted to raise our annual dues to \$15 starting in 2016 since \$4 will go to NWD BWA dues and \$4 to FBWA dues.

Mary gave an update on the Dorothy Yaguchi Memorial Garden project. The granite bench and water feature are installed, and the Japanese lantern is currently being wired for lights. The plantings have been moved to fit the landscape plans. Memorial signs are being worked on. Finishing touches are being planned. The garden should be finished by late winter – early spring at which time a dedication service will be held and donors Mas & Kathy (Yaguchi) Yamamoto will be invited.

Lilly reported on the Fisher House visit last month. She, along with Darlene, Wayne, Sally, Char, and Karen prepared a meal for vets and families staying at the Fisher House on the VA Hospital campus. The menu consisted of stir-fried chicken & vegetables, fried rice, won ton soup, and chocolate cupcakes. The group ate with the guests and spent time visiting. All were very appreciative of the meal. Everyone agreed that it was a very rewarding experience.

The last gift card sales fundraiser was a big success. The November sales resulted in 200 gift cards sold for a total of over \$6,000. Our profit is \$375. Thank you, everyone, for supporting BWA.

We looked at 2015 in review:

- Community Service = made 50 gallons of Stone Soup + prepared 2 Fisher House meals with visitations + made 352 scarves + donated over 250 pounds from Year-Round Collections
- 2 Gift Card Fundraisers + Macy's Shop For A Cause = \$631 profit
- World BWA Resolution referenced events
- Fun Fellowships - Afternoon of Games, Auburn Ave Theatre, Green River CC, EQC
- Spring Tea and welcomed 2 new members
- Dorothy Yaguchi Memorial Project Groundbreaking
- Made 4 years x \$1000 pledge to pay down BCA JSC debt

Hearty congratulations to the 2016 BWA Cabinet. Let's give them support forward to our best year yet!

President	Norma Geenty
Vice President	Darlene Yamada
Secretary	Deidre Lorenz
Treasurer	Pat Kawabata
Auditor	Gayle Takemura

BWA 2016 Calendar:

Jan 9	Sat	Stone Soup. Information and sign-up sheet will be posted on the blue bulletin board.
Mar 20	Sun	Spring Tea and BWA General Meeting
Mar 26	Sat	2016 winter scarf-making

Can you believe it? It's been 5 years! Thank you for your support through our terms as BWA co-presidents.

We wish you your best life for whatever is your life balance and for re-discovering what brings you joy.

Gassho,  
Lillian and Karen  
bwa@wrbt.org

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WR BWA gratefully acknowledges receipt of \$20.00 from Greg Watson.

**Year-Round Donations**  
January-February-March  
Paper Supplies (kleenex, toilet tissue, etc)

### ABA News

ABA expresses its condolences to the Doug Yamada family. Doug has been a White River Temple member for many years and has helped at our fundraisers.

Our sympathy to the family of Harry Taketa. He has been a member of White River Temple many years.

ABA is sponsoring its annual food bank collection for the Auburn Food Bank. They are very appreciative of the food that we have collected and given to them in the past.

### Welcome New Pledge Member Kenneth Greg Watson!



First, sincere thanks to Ogui Sensei and the many other people who have been so welcoming to me at White River Buddhist Temple.

I was born in Knoxville, in the Smoky Mountain foothills of eastern Tennessee. All my family and ancestors have lived in the same area for five or more generations. I am of the first generation in my family not born on the farm, and am the first person in my immediate family to attend college, so I grew up admiring people with practical skills, a love of the land and a strong sense of home and community. Since moving to Washington in 1977, my educational and spiritual journey has provided many friends and teachers who have shared practical values and shown the way toward compassion and a wider sense of spiritual wisdom. I humbly thank them and want to do my best to follow their examples. I have lived in Auburn for more than ten years and have worked here for the past fifteen years as a teacher for the Auburn School District. I have often attended Obon and the fall bazaar, but within the last few months I have been attending services, talking with Temple members (and my dear friend Fumiko Uyeda Groves from Seattle) and have decided to ask for inclusion in the Sangha of this temple. I hope to be useful to the community in any practical way, but have a special interest in helping with community outreach and fundraising events.

Sincere Thanks,  
Kenneth Greg Watson

### Dorothy Yaguchi Garden



The garden committee has come a long way since the BWA first asked for ideas to commemorate Dorothy Yaguchi. At this writing, the garden has two of the main pieces in place. Todd's Nursery installed the water feature and bench the week of Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Soil from the hole made under the water display is being moved to create a mound to highlight the Japanese lantern. In memory of signs will be added later toward spring.

Many people have helped with the installation. Charles Natsuhara and Craig Cogger are pictured above rearranging the garden entrance. Charles used his dahlia expertise to dig and store the tubers. Darlene Yamada has worked several times moving plants and soil as well as pruning. Garik Kosai helped reposition the bench with his strong, young muscles. Alva and Dennis Nishimura are lending help moving big plants and removing a juniper with their truck.

As the winter progress and weather allows, the garden will need more work. We need to replant, reshape, spread bark and black bark. Let Mary Cogger know if you are interested in helping.

**Condolences**

The temple extends its deepest sympathies to the family of Doug Yamada. Doug could always be found helping at our fundraisers and Dharma School activities. He was known for taking a lot of photos and generously sharing them.

The temple extends its deepest sympathies to the family of Harry Taketa. Harry was very active in ABA, serving as advisors for Dharma School and YBA, and spent many hours doing repairs around the Temple.

Both were long time members of the White River Buddhist Temple and they will be sorely missed.

**\*\*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](mailto:office@wrbt.org)

To Email Rev Ogui: [RevKoshin@wrbt.org](mailto:RevKoshin@wrbt.org)

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