

LOTUS

The newsletter of the Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple

No. 292

2025 SE Yamhill St. Portland OR 97214 (503) 232-8064

September 2010

<http://nichiren-shu.org/portland/>

In Memoriam

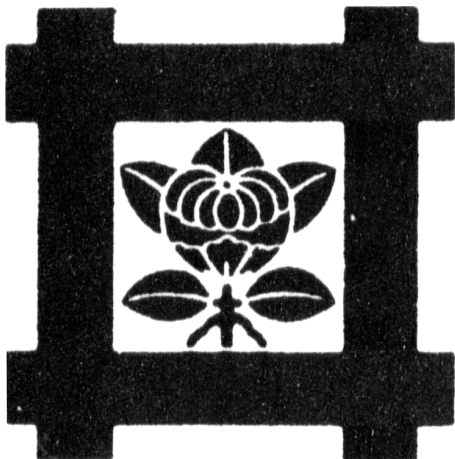
Mrs. Julia Ninomiya, a long time member of the Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple passed away on Wednesday, August 18th, 2010 at the age of 81. A private family funeral service was held at the Rose City Cemetery on Saturday, September 4th, 2010 at 1 pm. The Temple held an informal memorial during the service of August 22nd including a special blessing for her spirit. Julia was well known for her many years of service and participation in Temple activities. She will be missed.

Fall O-Higan Service

O-Higan includes the period of seven days before and after the equinox. This is the time for Buddhists to practice the Six Paramitas (the path of charitable giving or Dana, keeping precepts, endurance, endeavor, concentration of the mind and wisdom) and to attain Buddhahood. We will celebrate the season change at the Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple on Sunday September 26th at 10 am.

Save the date- Luncheon

Immediately following the O-Higan service on Sunday September 26th at 10 am, there will be a light refreshment to celebrate the occasion and our members. Please plan to attend.



Temple news

- The Rummage sale was held over two weekends in August and September. It was a dual purpose fundraiser and social opportunity for our members and supporters. Financially it was our best Rummage sale thanks to the many contributions of clean and usable items. On the social side, members and supporters enjoyed lunch and festive conversation. We had planned to wind this fundraiser down, but this year's success has energized us for at least one more year. The temple has set aside a location to accept donations at any time. No need to wait for a special announcement. Clean usable items should be brought to the temple. Please coordinate drop off times with Sensei (503) 232-8064 so she can let you in to the temple.
- The Belmont street fair will be on Sunday Sept 12th. Please save the date. Volunteers needed for prep and serving. There will be a prep day on Saturday, September 11th at 9 am.
- Vandalism hits NBT: Our Temple has fallen victim to some very unsavory behavior.
A street gang has targeted the freshly painted Belmont face of the building with an extensive amount of graffiti. The wall will require repainting and hopefully can be done by our members with leftover paint from the commercial painter.
Another issue is that a group of homeless persons have targeted the Temple grounds for use as a toilet. Members have cleaned up urine three times now and recently discovered human waste on and near the residence. All members and supporters are authorized and encouraged to remove trespassers from Temple grounds. The non-emergency number for **Portland Police is 503 823-3333** and they can help in removing trespassers from the property. The no-trespassing sign had been removed from the side of the building by persons unknown. A new sign is now re-posted.

Dharma Talk : the Path of the Bodhisattva

In the Dharma Talk of August, I talked to you about the meaning of Bodhisattva. Everyone who seeks to save others and achieve enlightenment oneself can be called a Bodhisattva. Therefore, you and I as well as anyone else who decides to take the path of Buddhism are Bodhisattvas. It is only through “benefitting others” by saving the other that one can perfect “benefitting self”.

How do we learn and practice the path of the Bodhisattva?

Sakyamuni Buddha expounds the teaching of the Six Paramita (the Indian word paramita, meaning “reaching the other shore”.) to the Bodhisattvas. It is suitable for us and causes us to obtain the knowledge of the equality and differences of all things.

The Six Paramita are as follows :

- 1. The path of charitable giving or Dana**
- 2. The path of keeping precepts**
- 3. The path of endurance**
- 4. The path of endeavor**
- 5. The path of concentration of the mind**
- 6. The path of wisdom (having eyes to see actual truth)**

In reality, one of the most important practices of Buddhist daily life is Dana or charitable giving. It includes everything: material, monetary, and spiritual gifts. The gift given could be anything, material or immaterial. It means to give of our time and our compassion to all, to share, to contribute to others, to be helpful in every way, without expecting any return.

Moreover, the Buddha taught us that “the spirit of Dana is to forget three things: **the person whom you gave it to, the thing that you gave, and the self who did the giving.** From this we should be able to understand how difficult the practice of true Dana is.

Sincerely with Gassho,
Rev. Myosho Obata

Memorial Service September & October 2010

50th Year (1961)	Tsuchino Ota (Oct.26)
47th Year (1965)	Masano Kawata (Sep. 6) Katsutaro Fujiwara (Sep. 27)
43th Year (1968)	Ryuichi Iwata (Oct. 16)
37th Year (1974)	Shina Ota (Sep. 20)
23th Year (1988)	Motoe Matsuno (Oct. 10)
13th Year (1998)	Shizuko Hachiya (Oct. 25)
7th Year (2004)	Matsuno Ota (Oct. 4)

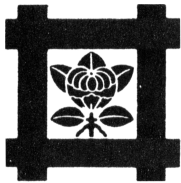
Fall O-Higan Memorial Service September 26th, 10:00 a.m.

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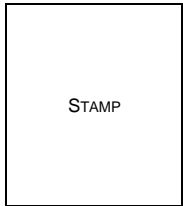
Please write your name and your deceased loved ones on the enclosed prayer form and bring it to the temple or mail it.

Introduction to Nichiren-Shu Buddhism

A new booklet is being prepared for basics of our traditional practice. Please review and provide feedback to Sensei Obata. Copies are available at the Temple



Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple
2025 SE Yamhill Street
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To:

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