

OBON SOCIETY



OBON SOCIETY heals the lingering grief in veterans and their families while also providing a path for international reconciliation with former adversaries.

OBON SOCIETY: *Defined*

In the United States we recognize *Memorial Day*; the Japanese have an equivalent called **OBON**. It is a time to remember the lost relatives and to offer goodwill to their spirits. We borrowed this name because honoring past relatives and healing grief of lost ancestors is part of our core mission.



Rex Ziak- Co-Founder
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To obtain photos call Rex

OBON SOCIETY: *Vitals*

- ***Email address:*** media@obonsociety.org
- ***Mailing address:*** P.O. Box 282 Astoria, OR 97103
 - ***Phone number:*** 503-741-3733
 - ***Year founded:*** 2009
- ***OBON SOCIETY History:*** [How it all began](#)
 - ***Headquarters:*** Astoria, Oregon
 - ***Co-Founders:*** [Rex and Keiko Ziak](#)
 - ***Website:*** www.obonsociety.org
- ***Number of items returned:*** Over 450
- ***Non Profit status:*** 501(c) (3) tax-exempt Oregon non-profit corporation



OBON SOCIETY: *Media*

OBON SOCIETY related stories have appeared in 500+ news stories in print and television and Podcasts around the world, including the following:

[A Marine took a flag from a fallen Japanese soldier. Decades later, it's back with the soldier's family.](#)

Washington Post Aug 14, 2017

[Japanese siblings accept WWII Soldier's flag from U.S. Veteran](#)

The Today Show 2017

[South Korea-based US Airman Returns Japanese Flag Taken as War Trophy in Battle of Iwo Jima](#)

Stars & Stripes Magazine March 2019

[Joe Rosenberg tells the history of the Yosegaki Hinomaru Flag](#)

99% Invisible Podcast with Roman Mars and Joe Rosenberg

[Small Japanese diary from WWII goes home](#)

Reading Eagle 2018



Visit the OBON SOCIETY [YouTube Channel](#) for a complete list of videos available to view including these:

[A Brother receives his lost Brother's remains: Yosegaki Hinomaru Tsukashima Return](#)

[Dr. Mark Shelton from Louisiana returns the Spirit of a WWII Japanese soldier to Hokkaido sisters](#)

[Board Member talks about grandfather who died at Pearl Harbor and working with OBON SOCIETY](#)

[Daughter receives her father's flag after 70 years: Welcome home Mr. Iwasaka](#)



OBON SOCIETY: *Photos*



Rex and Keiko visit with Caroline Kennedy (above), Prime Minister Abe (below left) and American veterans (below right).





OBON SOCIETY: *Family Photos*



Japanese families benefitting from receiving their loved one's flag from the American veteran families who are eager to return these personal items.

Below- WWII Veteran [Marvin Strombo](#) hand delivered his flag to the siblings of the fallen soldier.

