





Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn Tinian, Marianas Islands 28 July 1944

The official newsletter of the USS Ozbourn (DD 846) Association

Dedicated to perpetuating the memory of a gallant Marine and the history of a fine ship

Visit our website at www.ozbourn.org

# FROM THE BRIDGE

the S S bourn Associa-President, tion shipmates have contacted over the past four years for various reasons. All of them have reminisced



time spent aboard the Ozbourn. Some of their favorite memories are humorous while other stories tell about our ship's great history.

Do you have a tale to tell? Rick Johnson, editor of the Fireball, would like you to share some of your personal experiences with all of the shipmates. It is remembering the past and talking about those memories that keeps the USS Ozbourn alive in our hearts and minds. Think of it as a bull session on paper. So please take a few minutes and write your article and either e-mail or US mail it to Rick as soon as possible (please see list of Association Officers located on page 2). Your experiences will be enjoyed by all of the shipmates and maybe stir up their recollections of happy times spent aboard a great destroyer.

Every two years, the Ozbourn Association holds an election of officers, which is conducted in conjunction with the biennial reunion. Like any organization, we need men that are willing to devote some time to the various offices that keep the Association functioning. Throughout our organization's history, we have been very fortunate to have a group of dedicated shipmates that have done an excellent job in getting this organization started and keeping it active,

modern and solvent. Perhaps you would like to be part of this team. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the organization, please get in touch with one of the officers. I promise, unlike the Navy, you will not be sorry if you volunteer as an Association officer.

As I write this article for the *Fireball* at my home in Pennsylvania, it actually looks and feels like spring and just maybe Punxsutawney Phil's forecast for an early end to winter wasn't too far off. All of this makes me think about vacation plans.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in the organization, please get in touch with one of the officers.

Top on my list for this year is the reunion in Seattle. September is just six short months away and it is time to give the reunion some serious thought.

In this issue of the *Fireball*, you will find all of the information you need to schedule your trip to Seattle, WA. The Ozbourn reunion is not just a meeting of organization members, it's a chance to spend time with shipmates that were an important part of your Navy life.

I don't have the words to express the feelings I receive from the camaraderie shared at these festive gatherings. I am hoping to see all of the shipmates that have made the past reunions so memorable for me with the opportunity to meet new shipmates. Please make an effort to attend even if you don't know anyone that is going. There are no strangers at these reunions. We are all brothers joined by the brief time we served together aboard the USS Ozbourn.

Rudy Boff, President

## SHIPPING-OUT FOR SEATTLE

eattle, WA is the site for the USS Ozbourn Association's eighth biennial reunion. Scheduled for September 12-16, your Association officers have planned a fun-filled, memorable and very rewarding reunion. If you have never attended a reunion before, now is the time to do so. It's an experience you'll never forget. If you've been to one of the seven previous reunions, then you know how much fun and informative they can be.



One of the planned tours is to the Bremerton Naval Ship Yard where the Ozbourn underwent its FRAM Mark 1 conversion in 1961. While visiting the ship yard, shipmates will board the **USS Turner Joy DD-951**, which is part of the **Bremerton Naval Memorial.** 

**Fast Facts:** (Historical information provided by the Naval Historical Foundation) On 4 August 1964, The USS Maddox (DD 731) and the USS Turner Joy (DD 951), were attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats while operating in international waters in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam. The two US ships returned fire on the radar contacts, claiming to have possibly sunk two of the enemy craft.

(Please see Turner Joy back page)



Navy Hymn
Eternal Father, strong
to save, Whose arm
doth bind the restless
wave, Who bidd'st the
mighty ocean deep its
own appointed limits
keep; O hear us when
we cry to Thee for
those in peril on the
sea.

#### TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

## **Beale Barnard Denton**

January 30, 2007 FN—(46-48)

It is with both sorrow and joy that we send you notice that our beloved **Beale Barnard Denton**, has gone to be with his Lord and Savior on January 30, 2007. He was surrounded by his loving wife Betty, his children and grandchildren. **The Denton family** 



# **Christian Ronald Fries**

December 11, 2006 FN—(53-54)

**Ron Fries** passed away on December 11, 2006. He graduated from Central Union High, Fresno, CA in 1950. He served in the Korean War aboard the USS Ozbourn.



## **USS OZBOURN SHIP'S STORE**

Open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week — Rudy Boff, Proprietor



CAP cotton twill Navy blue, brilliant gold letters & destroyer silhouette. 1 size fits all. Item # C01, \$14 ea Embroidery on back: Korea, #C01K \$15 ea Vietnam, #C01V \$15



PATCH fabric, \$6 ea Original design, Item #P01 Revised design, Item #P02





MUG, coffee 11 oz Embossed with Ozbourn patch & destroyer silhouette. Item #M01, \$8 ea, 2/\$12, 6/\$30

FRAME, license plate Item #F01 \$5 ea

The following items are special order only. Contact Rudy Boff at Ship's Store address below.

Micro-fiber Jacket, fleece lined-water repellent
Twill Jacket, fully lined with full front zip
Windbreaker, mesh lined and full front zip
Jerzees Super Sweatshirt, assorted colors
T-shirts, both long and short sleeve
Golf shirts
\$30

All items have ship's name and hull number embroidered in gold letters.

Photos and additional ordering information can be found on the Ozbourn Web site at www.ozbourn.org under the heading Ship's Store. Orders may be placed with:

Rudy Boff — 1036 Connor Road Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1033

Tel: (412) 833-0572 — email: boffrud@juno.com

## **BE REUNION READY!**

Get ready for the eighth biennial Ozbourn reunion by ordering Oz clothing and memorabilia from President Rudy Boff and bring it with you to the reunion in Seattle.

For general information about the reunion such as reunion and hotel registration information, tours, and meals, contact **Warren Zschach** at: 1311 Ponderosa Dr., Petaluma, CA 94954-4393, (707) 762-0469 or e-mail hwz@comcast.net.

## Officers of the Association

#### **President**

Rudy Boff (52-55) 1036 Connor Road Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1033 Tel: 412 833 0572 Email: boffrud@juno.com

#### Vice President

Kenneth E. Keene (71-74) 9995 Perry Highway Meadville, PA 16335-6445 Tel: 814 337 3197 Email: kkeen@gremlan.org

# Corresponding Secretary and Editor of Fireball

Richard N. Johnson (61-64) 5899 North Bronco Lane Prescott Valley, AZ 86314-5892 Tel: 928 775 4205 Email: johnsonsimivalley@yahoo.com

#### **Recording Secretary**

William L. Jones (51-52) 15721 Piccadilly Road Goodyear, AZ 85338-8767 Tel: 623 935 1073 Email: arizonawill@cox.net

#### **Treasurer and Historian**

Warren Zschach (52-55) 1311 Ponderosa Dr. Petaluma, CA 94954-4393 Tel: 707 762 0469 Email: hwz@comcast.net

#### Past Presidents

Robert Whitten, Jr. (50-52) Cupertino, CA W.D. Minter (52-55) Texarkana. TX

We're on the Web at www.ozbourn.org

## PUBLICATION DEAD-LINE

If you have a letter, story or photo you would like to share with other Ozbourn shipmates, the deadline for submitting contributions for the summer 2007 issue is **Friday, June 15**. Articles may be rewritten for purposes of editorial style. Due to space limitations, some materials may used in a future *Fireball* edition.

## USS OZBOURN ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before August 9, 2007. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. PO Box 11327 Norfolk, VA 23517 ATTN: USS OZBOURN

	OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check #	Date Received	
Inputted	Nametag Completed	_

**Price** 

# of

CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/9/07	Price	People	Total
TOURS			
THURSDAY: CITY TOUR	\$35		\$
FRIDAY: USS TURNER JOY / BREMERTON	\$30		\$
FRIDAY: IVAR'S RESTAURANT	\$55	-	\$
SATURDAY: MUSEUM OF FLIGHT	\$29		\$
MEALS SATURDAY: BANQUET (Please select your entrée)			
TOP SIRLOIN STEAK	\$29		\$
CHICKEN DIJONNAISE	\$29		\$
SUNDAY BREAKFAST	\$16		\$
MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE covers administrative expenses	\$12		\$
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cancel@afri.com to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

## MARRIOTT SEA-TAC AIRPORT- SEATTLE, WA (206) 241-2000

The Seattle Marriott Sea-Tac Airport is located at 3201 South 176th Street, Seattle, WA 98188. The hotel is ten minutes from Boeing Field, twenty minutes from downtown Seattle, and in easy reach of many major attractions. Upon arrival, you're greeted by a sunny, plant-filled atrium and Marriott's thoughtful hospitality and services. All 459-guest rooms feature remote control color TV with your favorite sports and cable movie channels; along with in-room pay movies. Each room is decorated in soothing pastel colors and is complete with extras like two phones, a large work desk, and Marriott's advanced fire and safety protection system. Many rooms offer views of Mt. Rainier or the atrium. Each guest room also features hairdryers, iron and ironing boards, and coffee makers with coffee. A hotel gift shop is convenient for guests. For recreation, the Seattle Marriott has a health club complete with sauna, Universal gym, treadmill, and more. There is even a game room. The luxurious indoor heated swimming pool and whirlpools are located in the tropical atrium. Massage is available by appointment. The hotel offers handicapped accessible rooms, which are based on availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservation. Parking at the hotel is currently offered at a discounted price of \$8 per day and \$10 per night for overnight guests. Check-in time is 3:00pm; and check-out is 1:00pm. Yukon Landing, the hotel restaurant, serves breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a daily brunch buffet. The Lobby Lounge, in an atrium atmosphere, offers cocktails and the ideal setting for good conversation. Room service is available.

The hotel provides complimentary shuttle transportation from 5am to 12midnight, seven days a week. The shuttle runs automatically once every fifteen minutes. The hotel has a wheelchair accessible van available upon request. You may want to consider other transportation services, as space is always limited on complimentary services.

Driving your RV? RV parking is allowed in the hotel lot if guests are staying in the hotel. If you require full hookups, the Seattle / Tacoma KOA located approximately five miles from the Seattle Marriott. Call (253) 872-8652 for information, reservations, and directions.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888) 441-7575 for details.

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RATE: \$109+tax (currently	12.4%) for 1-2 peop	le in room. Rate honored 2	2 days before/after o	official reunion dates,
based on availability.				
<b>CUTOFF DATE</b> : 08/09/07.	After this date, rese	rvations will be processed o	n space & rate avail	ability.
<b>CANCELLATION POLICY:</b>	Deposit is refundab	ole if reservation is cancelle	d by 6pm on the day	y prior to your arrival
day.				
All reservations must be gua	aranteed by credit ca	rd or first night's deposit en	closed.	
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Mail to: Marrie	ott Sea-Tac Airpor	t * 3201 South 176th Str	eet * Seattle, WA	98188

## USS OZBOURN DD-846 ASSOCIATION REUNION SEPTEMBER 12-16, 2007 MARRIOTT SEA-TAC AIRPORT-SEATTLE, WA

## Wednesday, September 12

2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Reunion Registration open

## Thursday, September 13

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. **Reunion registration open** 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. CITY TOUR (Description at right) 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. **Reunion Registration open.** 

Additional hours will be posted at the reunion if necessary

#### Friday, September 14

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. USS TURNER JOY/BREMERTON (Description at right) 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. IVAR'S RESTURANT (Description at right)

## Saturday, September 15

10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. MUSEUM OF FLIGHT (Description at right)

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Business Meeting

6:00 p.m.- Reception with Cash Bar

7:00 p.m.- Banquet begins

## Sunday, September 16

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Farewell Breakfast

# CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable registration fee (\$12 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable registration fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 or e-mail cancel@afri.com to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

# SEE YOU IN SEATTLE!

For general information about the reunion such as reunion and hotel registration information, tours, and meals, contact **Warren Zschach** at: 1311 Ponderosa Dr., Petaluma, CA 94954-4393, (707) 762-0469 or e-mail hwz@comcast.net.



#### **TOUR DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **CITY TOUR**

Thursday, September 13

Depart hotel for the trip into the city that goes past the Boeing Field where we see new planes ready for delivery and those awaiting test flights. Then we cross a floating bridge across Lake Washington where we see the homes along the lakefront. Both Paul Allen and Bill Gates of Microsoft fame have homes along this shoreline. We head north to access the ship canal, passing some colorful houseboats that are a popular form of living here. We will see Husky Stadium and the University of Washington campus as we continue onto the Government Locks and the salmon ladders. The King Salmon (or Chinook) are heading for the spawning grounds in September. We head back to the central area of the city to see the Space Needle, and then to the historic district for a stop at the Klondike Gold Rush Museum and glass blowing studio. Lunch and shopping on your own at Pike Place Market.

10:00 a.m. board bus, 4:00 p.m. back at hotel. \$35/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.

#### **USS TURNER JOY/BREMERTON**

Friday, September 14

**B**oard bus for Bremerton, home of the USS Turner Joy DD-931, also known as the Bremerton Naval Memorial. We'll participate in a Memorial Service, and then tour the ship. Free time for lunch and shopping on your own before returning to the hotel.

9:00 a.m. board the bus, 1:00 p.m. back at hotel. \$30/Person includes bus, escort, and admission. Lunch on your own.

## IVAR'S RESTAURANT Friday, September 14

Enjoy dinner tonight on Seattle's waterfront at the famous Ivar's Restaurant. Dinner includes your choice of salmon, beef, or chicken. Your entrée includes salad or clam chowder, along with a beverage.

5:00 p.m. board bus, 8:00 p.m. back at hotel. \$55/Person includes bus, escort, and dinner.

## MUSEUM OF FLIGHT Saturday, September 15

The Museum of Flight is our destination. View "The Dream," an eight-minute film on the history of flight. After the film enjoy a guided walking tour of the six-story steel and glass Great Gallery where over 20 full-size airplanes are suspended in air, and 15 are grounded for your close inspection. In the adjacent Red Barn, stroll through exhibits dating from the dawn of aviation. Also on display is the first Air Force One Presidential plane. There is also a Concorde on display.

10:00 a.m. board bus, 1:30 p.m. back at hotel. \$29/Person includes bus, escort, and admission.

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled departure time.

All trips require a minimum of 30 people, unless otherwise stated.

Richard N. Johnson, USN Ret. 5899 North Bronco Lane Prescott Valley, AZ 86314-5892



Veterans Field of Valor and Walk of Honor Mt. Washington Forever, Independence, MO Cemetery and Library of Lives



WANTED — A volunteer to design the program brochure for the Association's upcoming reunion in Seattle. Information, times, dates, etc., will be provided. We need some would-be-artist out there to take on this task. It involves primarily, designing the brochure, front, inside, and back and getting enough cop-

ies printed for those attending the reunion. Costs will be reimbursed by the Association. Contact W.L. Jones at arizonawill@cox.net for details.

# FIREBALL! The official newsletter of the USS Ozbourn Association

(Continued from front page)

Bad weather hampered the operations of F-8 Crusaders sent from the carrier USS Ticonderoga (CVA-14) to assist the destroyers, preventing a visual sighting of the torpedo boats

On August 5, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered the U.S. Navy into action, launching Operation Pierce Arrow from the carriers Ticonderoga and the USS Constellation (CVA 64), essentially starting the Vietnam War.

#### **DUES ALERT!**

Are you overdue on your dues? Only dues-paying members receive the *Fireball* newsletter. Look at the mailing label on your last newsletter and find a number such as 06 or 07 or 10. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 06 means 2006, 07 means 2007, etc. Your Association officers ask you to...

#### DO THE DUES TODAY!



#### **Gedunk Call Answer**

In the winter 2007 issue of the *Fireball*, the Gedunk Call question was, "what ship was saved by a poem written by Oliver Wendell Holmes?" Shipmates Van Nield, Tom Perkins, Dick Clark and Tom Dumstorf all gave the correct answer as "Old Ironsides." Thanks for the correct answer guys.

#### **Gedunk Call!**

This issue's Gedunk Call is, "Name the location of the last two Ozbourn reunions (2003 and 2005). Submit your responses to Rick Johnson, 5899 North Bronco Lane, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 or email to johnsonsimivalley@yahoo.com.

# **SHIPMATES IN SEATTLE!**

- 8th Biennial Reunion, September 12-16, 2007
- Seattle Airport Marriott Hotel, Seattle, WA
- Meet with friends and shipmates!
- Time for bull sessions!
- Several guided tours including destroyer Turner Joy at Bremerton Shipyard
- Share memories with old friends
- Mark your calendars today!
- Let's all have fun!
- See inside for registration forms and more details!