

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

FIREBALL!

VOLUME 28, No.1
Winter 2019



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



Happy Holidays



FROM THE BRIDGE

Greetings to All Shipmates, Families and Friends

Plans are almost final for our next reunion to be held in Portland, Oregon. We hope that everyone has been making plans to attend.

As you may be aware, Portland, OR, was the final homeport for the "OZ" before she was decommissioned. We are of course looking forward to seeing everyone in Portland in 2019.

Be sure to call early and make your reservations at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, telephone 503-335-2857, available Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

I, along with Sallae, would also like to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and a Happy and Healthy 2019.

Hope all are well and may God Bless you all, our Great Country and all Americans.

Guy Posey, President
USS Ozbourn Association

USS OZBOURN DD846 2019 REUNION, PORTLAND, OREGON

August 28, 2019-September 1, 2019



Multnomah Falls



"Willamette Star"
Dinner Cruise



Vista House

2019 Biennial Reunion Update

"ALL HANDS, NOW HEAR THIS", Portland, Oregon has been selected as the Host City for the **2019 Reunion of the USS OZBOURN** Association. As all hands are already aware, the Association attempts to vary the sites throughout the U.S. so as not to place a burden on those residing around the entire country. As a result of the 2017 Reunion being held in Norfolk, VA, and the 2015 Reunion being held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, it was once again time to meet in the Western part of the country. After surveying several possible Host Cities, **Portland, Oregon**, the last homeport of the "OZ", was ultimately selected.

Clearly, our reunions are a family event and the Association Officers are very grateful for family members that attend and escort those shipmates who may require a little assistance. We are also very pleased with the number of shipmates who are able to attend the reunions.

Our Host Hotel for the 2019 Reunion is the **Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel**, 8235 Northeast Airport Way, Portland Oregon. The Reunion Committee worked very hard and has negotiated an excellent daily rate of \$119.00 plus tax, double occupancy, that also includes a daily breakfast for two. The hotel has also agreed to offer the same rate for three days prior and three days after the reunion for those wishing to arrive early or stay a little longer, based on availability. The hotel can be contacted by dialing **(503) 281-2500**. or Central Reservations at **(800) 325-3535**. When making reservations be sure to tell the operator that you are requesting the **USS Ozbourn Reunion Group Rate**. **The cut off date to make hotel reservations is August 14, 2019**. The reunion commences on Wednesday, August 28, 2019, with check-in and the Hospitality Room will open at **2:00 pm**. On the final day, Sunday, September 1, 2019, Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**.

The **2019 Reunion Committee**, **Mark Beaulieu**, **Guy Posey**, **Mike Ward**, and **Harold "Mac" McKeenan**, continue to work very hard to ensure that our 2019 Reunion will be one of the truly great ones. Don't miss out, register early.

Please see the Reunion Schedule and Registration Forms located on Page 4 & 5.

PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE REUNION?

As all of you that have been involved in the planning of one of the great biennial reunions are already aware, it takes a great deal of work to arrange a host hotel, motor coaches, excursions, banquet, guest speakers, entertainment, gifts and of course our hospitality room.

On behalf of the 2019 Reunion Committee, **Mark Beaulieu**, **Guy Posey**, **Mike Ward**, and **"Mac" McKeenan**, we are attempting to ascertain the number of members and guests that plan on attending the 2019 Reunion. We of course realize that some members who indicate that they plan on attending, may be unable to attend by the time September 2019 arrives.

In addition, when making plans, be sure to make your hotel reservations as early as possible. This will allow the committee to add to the number of blocked rooms if necessary.

Please notify **GUY POSEY**, Email: **ppapaguy@aol.com** or forward a quick note to Guy at **419 S. Appleway Lane, Glencoe, OK 74032**

Association Officers

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Past Presidents

Years served aboard OZ/Assoc. President

Robert Whitten Jr. (50-52) (93-99)
Cupertino, CA

W.D. Minter (52-55) (99-03)
Texarkana, TX

Rudy Boff (52-55) (03-07)
Pittsburgh, PA

Publication Deadline

If you have a letter, story or photo you would like to share with other Ozbourn shipmates, the deadline for submitting contributions for the **Spring 2019** issue is **February 15th**. Articles may be re-written for purposes of editorial style. Due to limitations, some materials may be used in a future **Fireball** edition.



MAIL CALL

The following letters and e-mails were received by your Association Officers during the last quarter.

YOU NEVER KNOW. USS OZBOURN BASEBALL CAP REUNITES SHIPMATES

Submitted by Jeff Parker, Editor

It was great to hear from **Shipmate James Clay, RM2, (52-55)**, from Florida. James reported that he recently entered his local Walmart wearing his USS Ozbourn Baseball Cap. To his surprise, James was approached by **Gary Faris**, who informed him that he served on the "OZ", around (71-74). Unfortunately, James had misplaced Gary's info. However, we will make every effort in locating Gary who resides in Milton, Florida, so he can be recruited into the Association. A big thank you goes out to James for locating another missing Shipmate.

AMAZING WORLD WAR II STATISTICS

Submitted by Marty Zipser, Lt., (65-66)

History most of us don't know about, or haven't lately recalled.

During the 3-1/2 years of World War II that started with the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941 and ended with the surrender of Germany and Japan in 1945, "We the People of the U.S.A.," produced:

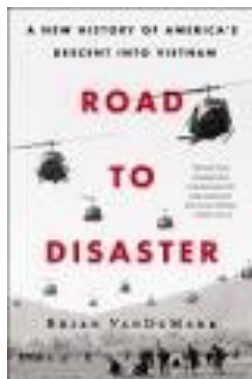
| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 22 Aircraft Carriers | 8 Battleships | 48 Cruisers |
| 349 Destroyers | 420 Destroyer Escorts | 203 Submarines |
| 34 Million Tons of Merchant Ships | 100,000 Fighter Aircraft | 98,000 Bombers |
| 24,000 Transport Aircraft | 58,000 Training Aircraft | 93,000 Tanks |
| 257,000 Artillery Pieces | 105,000 Mortars | 3,000,000 Machine Guns |
| 2,500,000 Military Trucks | | |

We put 16.1 million men in uniform in various armed services, invaded Africa, Sicily and Italy, won the Battle of the Atlantic, planned and executed D-Day, marched across the Pacific and Europe, developed the Atomic Bomb and ultimately, conquered Japan and Germany.

Recommended Read-Vietnam War

Submitted by Reed Jones, Ltjg, (65-67)

As a long time Association Member and contributor to the "Fireball", Reed Jones, wrote that USA Today gave four stars to: "Road to Disaster: A New History of America's Descent Into Vietnam" by Brian VanDeMark.



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

"SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER"

HERBERT D.C. STURM, CSC, (60-64)

"May fair winds and calm seas be with you always"

2019 REUNION SCHEDULE and TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Reunion Check-in: 2:00pm—10:00pm, The Hospitality Room will open for Reunion-Check In as well as meeting friends and enjoying a beverage and snacks. (Dinner on your own). **NOTE: As a result of the State of Oregon Alcohol related Laws, all alcoholic beverages must be served by a licensed bar server. The beverages and snacks served in our Hospitality Room will continue to be complimentary; however, although the Hospitality Room may be open for the purposes of meeting old shipmates, there will be Beverage Service Hours that will vary throughout the reunion.**

Thursday, August 29, 2019

PORTLAND and VICINITY ON YOUR OWN

After breakfast, you may choose to just “hang out” or join friends to tour **Portland and the Vicinity on your Own**. You may wish to visit the downtown shopping area of the Pearl District, walk the Waterfront Loop, tour the famous Portland Rose Garden or take a tour of the PT658, a restored World War II PT Boat on Swan Island. **(Complimentary Hotel Shuttle to the Mt. Hood Station of the Metropolitan Area Express, (MAX), the light rail system serving greater Portland. The MAX System offers those over 65, a \$2.50 All Day Pass).**

Thursday, August 29, 2019

DINNER CRUISE on the “WILLAMETTE STAR”

Our motor coach will transport us from our hotel to the dock where we will board the “Willamette Star” for a buffet dinner and a 2.5 hour cruise of the Willamette River, the last Homeport of the “OZ”, that will provide spectacular views of Downtown Portland. (Cash Bar). **(Depart Hotel 5:00 pm, Depart Cruise at 9:00 pm. Arrive at Hotel at 9:30 pm).**

Friday, August 30, 2019

MEMORIAL SERVICE at WASHINGTON PARK VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, PICNIC BOX LUNCH then VISTA HOUSE, with VIEWS of the COLUMBIA RIVER, then a VISIT TO MULTNOMAH FALLS
Our motor coach will transport us to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial where we will attend our Memorial Service for our shipmates. We will then have a Box Lunch then onto to Vista House for views of the Columbia River. We will then travel to the spectacular Multnomah Falls before returning to our hotel. **(Depart Hotel 9:45 am, and Return to the Hotel at approximately 4:30 pm.)**

After returning to the hotel Friday evening will be designated for relaxation in the Hospitality Room. (Dinner on your own).

Saturday, August 31, 2019

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel at **8:30 am**.

Saturday, August 31, 2019

REUNION BANQUET

We will gather at the Sheraton Hotel Banquet Room for our Reunion Banquet that will include entertainment and our guest speaker. (Cash Bar). (Note: The Hospitality Room will be closed during the Banquet).

(5:00pm , Social Hour, 6:00pm Dinner, followed by Entertainment, and Guest Speaker)

Sunday, September 1, 2019

The Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**. Farewell until 2021.

USS OZBOURN REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour and banquet costs for the reunion. Please enter the number of persons who will be participating in each event, meal choice and the total cost. Send this form and your **check payable to USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION** to: **Guy Posey, 419 S. Appleway Lane, Glencoe, OK 74032**. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payment must be received by mail before **August 10, 2019**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form for your records before mailing.

| | <u>TOURS and BANQUET CHOICES</u> | <u>Price Each</u> | <u># of People</u> | <u>Total Cost</u> |
|------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Thursday, | The "Willamette Star" Buffet Dinner Cruise (Cash Bar)..... | \$110.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Friday, | Memorial Service, Vista House, Multnomah Falls, Box Lunch.. | \$53.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Saturday, | Banquet (Please select your Entrée Below) Cash Bar | | | |
| | #1) Pan seared Salmon filet with Tomato-Caper Vinaigrette... | \$55.00 | _____ | _____ |
| | #2) Chicken Francaise, breast of chicken, battered with lemon butter sauce. | \$55.00 | _____ | _____ |
| | #3) 9 oz Prime Rib of Beef with creamed Horseradish..... | \$55.00 | _____ | _____ |
| | #4) Vegetarian Black Bean Cake w/Pico De Gallo and Avocado Mash . | \$55.00 | _____ | _____ |

All dinners include Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Mixed Vegetables, rolls, Caesar salad, tea, coffee, and Harvest Carrot Cake for desert.

Non-Refundable Registration Fee Per Person.....\$25.00 _____

Total Amount Payable to: USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION.....\$_____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY, Are You Flying? ___ Driving? ___ RV? ___ **E-MAIL ADDRESS** _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Nick Name for Tag _____

Years on Board 19__ to 19__ Last Rate/Rank Held on Ozbourn _____ If Ret. Last Rate/Rank _____

Spouse Name (if attending) _____ Guest Name _____

Street Address _____ Tel No. _____

City, State ,Zip _____

Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated in your wheelchair in order to participate in bus trips?
YES _____ No _____ (We cannot guarantee availability)

Emergency Contact _____ Tel No. _____

Are you staying at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel? Yes _____ No _____ Arrival Date _____

**YOU MUST CONTACT THE SHERATON PORTLAND AIRPORT HOTEL TO MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS
SEE THE HOTEL RESERVATION SHEET ON PAGE-2 FOR DETAILS**

REFUNDS FOR TOUR AND BANQUET CANCELLATIONS WILL BE MADE BEFORE AUGUST 10, 2019

USS OZBOURN DD846 PHOTO GALLERY

Submitted by Shipmate Trifon P. Tripsas, IC3, (56-57)

UNREP MISHAP, NSFO EVERYWHERE

While serving on the "OZ", Trifon P. Tripsas, IC3, (56-57), recalled a great number of good days and a few of the bad days. One such bad day occurred during underway exercises involving several ships that included the USS Princeton off of the coast of San Diego. The exercises included an Under Way Replenishment (UNREP), where the Ozbourn was refueling from the carrier USS Princeton CVS37. Even though the seas were rough, we managed to pass and connect the refueling line and commenced the pumping oil. While doing so, a submarine was detected. We commenced to break away; however, the refueling line was still connected. The line stretched and broke, spewing oil down the side of the Princeton and the deck. The refueling hose was dragged underneath the "OZ" and fouled the rudder, causing a loss in steering which resulted in a near collision with the Princeton. This required the "OZ" to stop dead in the water allowing the submarine to do its duty. After several hours, the divers were able to clear the rudder.

The joke that weekend was "If you go to town, don't say you are from the Ozbourn as there may be sailors from the Princeton nearby." That is how mad the Princeton crew was that were required to clean up the oil from the side of there ship.



USS OZBOURN SHIP'S STORE

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

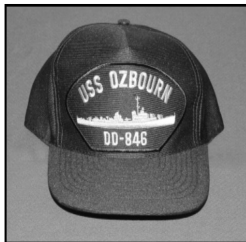


Photos and additional ordering information can be found on the Ozboourn website at www.ozboourn.org under the heading Ship's Store. Orders may be placed with:
 Rudy Boff — 1036 Connor Road
 Pittsburgh, PA
 15234-1033
 Tel: (412) 833-0572

SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

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

- Micro-fiber jacket, fleece lined-water repellent \$95
 - Jerzees Super Sweatshirt, White or Navy Blue \$40
 - Golf shirts, White or Navy Blue \$35
- All items have ship's name and hull number embroidered in gold letters. "Add \$5.00 for size 2XL"



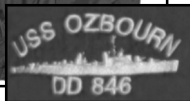
CAP cotton twill Navy blue, brilliant gold letters & Destroyer silhouette. 1 size fits all. Item #C01, \$14 ea. Embroidery on back: Korea, #C01K \$16 ea. Vietnam, #C01V \$16 ea.



T-shirt short sleeve, White or Navy Blue with embroidered logo left side. \$25 ea. Item #T02
 ← Long sleeve. \$35 ea.



AUBURN COACH'S JACKET
 Navy Blue with fleece lining, six matching metal snaps, profile of the ship in silver thread and lettering in gold. \$45 ea. Item #J01



← Logo detail



PATCH fabric, \$6 ea. Item #P01

SHIPPING AND HANDLING

| COST OF ITEM | COST OF POSTAGE |
|----------------|-----------------|
| \$0.01 – 15.00 | \$3.00 |
| 15.00 – 25.00 | 4.00 |
| 25.01 – 35.00 | 5.00 |
| 35.01 – 45.00 | 7.00 |
| 45.01 – 55.00 | 8.00 |
| 55.01 – 65.00 | 10.00 |
| 65.01 or more | 11.00 |

All shipmates, family and friends are encouraged to get their Ship's Store orders in early, to be delivered in time for the 2018 Holidays and 2019 Reunion. These items make great gifts.

"OZ" BANNER

Measuring 3-ft X 5-ft with 2-metal grommets, dyed with beautiful bold colors, printed on one side visible through the fabric, double stitched around all edges with 4-rows of stitching on the flying edge.



\$40.00 plus S&H.

Jeffrey Parker
1036 Calle Venezia
San Clemente, CA 92672



Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn
USMC
Congressional Medal of Honor

FIREBALL! The official newsletter of the USS Ozbourn Association

DUES ALERT!

Are you overdue on your annual dues? Only dues paying members receive the *Fireball* newsletter. Look at your mailing label on your most recent newsletter and find a number such as 17 or 18. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 17 means 2017, 18 means 2018, etc. If you wish, you may pay for multiple years.

Membership dues are **\$15.00** annually and are due in January of each year. Please make checks payable to the **USS OZBOURN Association** and forward them to Philip Roberts, Association Treasurer, at 2608 Bentwood Drive, Palestine, TX 75803.

Your Association officers ask you to.....

DO THE DUES TODAY!

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

The following information can be found on the Association's website: Mission Statement, a list of Ozbourn shipmates, historical photos, Ship's Store and how to Join the Association.

USS OZBOURN COMMANDING OFFICERS

The USS Ozbourn has had 18 different commanding officers during its 29 year history. Do you remember which skippers you served under? If you have an interesting story about any of the Ozbourn's commanding officers to share please forward your experience for possible inclusion in a future issue of the *Fireball*.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| CDR B.A Smith | March 1946-October 1947 |
| CDR N.E Blaisdell | October 1947-March 1949 |
| CDR R.E. Freeman | March 1949-September 1950 |
| CDR C.O. Akers | September 1950-April 1951 |
| CDR W.B. Fargo | April 1951-April 1954 |
| CDR H.T. Scott Jr. | April 1954-November 1955 |
| CDR A.J Toulon Jr. | November 1955-Sept. 1957 |
| CDR C.A. Kuhl | September 1957-July 1959 |
| CDR W.W. Turner | July 1959-March 1961 |
| LCDR D.V. Gorman | March 1961-December 1961 |
| CDR W.W. Lancaster | December 1961-October 1963 |
| CDR D.W. Berger | October 1963-July 1964 |
| CDR N.D. Nelson Jr. | July 1964-April 1966 |
| CDR J.G. Denham | April 1966-September 1968 |
| CDR R.L. Stewart | September 1968-June 1970 |
| CDR E.W. Numbers | June 1970-December 1971 |
| CDR K.L. Costilow | December 1971-March 1974 |
| CDR F.J Furtado | March 1974-May 1975 |

