



Fireball!

USS OZBOURN DD 846

"the Happy Ship"

Vol. 3, No. 1 January 1994

President's Report

You all did it! — You inflicted Bob Whitten on yourselves, as first president of the USS OZBOURN Association. I am honored.

I am pleased to report that the other candidates for office were elected (41 votes for, no votes against, one ballot invalid) — see the Masthead on page 2. The by-laws were also approved. I currently hold all the records, assets, etc. and am now in the beginning stages of transferring them to the appropriate officers, which I expect to complete within 90 days. I am also pleased to report that current assets (January 1, 1994) are \$3806.31, which all of you have generously provided to make our next reunion easier to plan. We also have some "in kind" assets — 4 hats with scrambled eggs and five with plain bills for sale. (see *Artistic* advertisement on page 3 for prices).

With regard to the next reunion, we need to form a reunion committee in the near future to select a site and a date. I need some volunteers NOW to begin work. Failing volunteers, I will enact a draft!!

Finally, I give a tip o' the hat to former CO Charlie Akers and former CO Barr Palmer for their hard and successful work with the nominations and elections.

Best wishes to all for a happy and prosperous 1994.

Bob Whitten, President and Shipmate

Letters from Shipmates

The last issue of Fireball! featured the diary of Paul Logan, who just missed being a plank owner. Since that issue, I have received two letters, one from "A. C." O'Halloran and the other from John Ulicni who served in "OZ" at the same time as Paul. They have slightly different stories to tell.

"A. C." writes regarding the mine "... I was sitting in the Captain's chair on the starboard side in heavy seas when dead ahead I spotted this huge ball that appeared to be a mine. (Continued on page 2 — Letters)

Another Report on the Loss of the Bow by Shipmate Bernie Kern

Bernie writes . . .

The night of October 27th the OZBOURN was in the Yellow Sea with the T.E. CHANDLER, two other destroyers and USS ST. PAUL playing war games. We were trying to locate a US cruiser and four other destroyers. About 2130 hours the skipper, Captain Norman E. Blaisdell, received a signal to change course 180 degrees. The captain got on the squawk box and asked the command ship to repeat the signal. The admiral understood that Captain Blaisdell was receipting for the signal. The admiral executed the turn. The next thing that I knew, I was looking up to see the T.E. CHANDLER plowing into the bow just forward of mount 51. She bounced off, hit again just forward of the bridge, and then hit again at the after signal light where I was working. The blow knocked me across the signal bridge and I was holding onto the starboard signal light to keep from going over the side. I looked down to the water and saw the bow of our ship floating by.

The next day the headlines in the San Diego Union had USS OZBOURN sunk with all hands. Not True!

We backed down to Tsingtao where the tender put a plywood cover over the hole. We left there for the shipyard at Yokosuka, Japan where Mount 51 was removed and placed on the dock. I'm told it's still there today! From Japan (Continued on page 2 — Bernie)

News of Shipmates

As promised in a previous issue of Fireball!, I have searched in vain the San Francisco Bay Area telephone directories for John Moriarty, the boat officer who helped rescue CDR Tvede. I plan to stay at it. If we can locate Moriarty, we can probably locate some of the other boat crew as well. If any of our shipmates have a clue as to the whereabouts of any of the crew, please let me know.

**USS OZBOURN (DD 846)
Association**

Officers:

President - Robert Whitten
Vice President - Curtis Anderson
Recording Secretary - Henri Lindhurst
Corresponding Secretary - Paul Logan
Treasurer - Paul Hecht
Fireball! Editor - Robert Whitten
Advisor - Charles Akers

Editorial Office:

1117 Yorkshire Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014
Tel. 408/252-9213

(continued from page 1 — Letters)

I always was messing around on the bridge — 'Mine dead ahead, all engines reverse!' I hollered. Mr. Seacord said 'O'Halloran, do you mean it?' I believe he beat Cheever to reversing the engines. When the skipper hit the bridge, which was darn fast, and was informed of the situation, he asked who spotted it. He looked up at me and I said 'it's out there, Captain.' He picked it up with his glasses. After maneuvering around and pouring plenty of ammo into it, it would not blow. Someone said it looked like a giant fender. Anyway, we secured from quarters and before he left the bridge, the Captain gave me a 'well-done.' Thirty some years later I sent for about \$140 worth of OZBOURN deck log for every day I spent on her. It gave the same story that Paul Logan provided. At the top it said 'Classified,' at the bottom it said 'Re-Classified.'

John writes "... One of my first jobs aboard the OZBOURN (known as the 'Dirty O' to us at the time) was, as torpedoman striker, to paint the depth charges. After painting the charges with yellow chromate, I was standing at quarters next to Mount 53 when I looked over at the ones nearest to me on the starboard side and noticed one was missing. I ran over to (continued on page 3 — Letters)

(continued from page 1 — Bernie) we sailed first to Midway and then to Pearl Harbor where the yard put on a false bow for the trip to Long Beach. The yard had a new bow waiting. Thirty days from the day we went into drydock we were back at sea testing our new mount at the San Clemente range. Then to San Diego for Captain Blaisdell's court martial.

"JB" Julsis (sic) Bartholomew Chastine was quartermaster of the watch for GQ. The court asked "JB" what the OOD was doing. He told them that the OOD was standing around with his thumb up his _____. That didn't go over too well. "JB" was a southern gentleman and he apologized to Mrs. Blaisdell who told him " 'JB,' tell it like it was."

When the court martial was over, Commander Blaisdell walked out a brand new captain. "JB" was the first man to salute him and the "old man" gave him a brand new silver dollar!

Life of a Destroyer Man

Author unknown — submitted by Shipmate Ted Lofgren

There's a roll and a pitch
And a heave and a hitch
To the nautical gait
They take.
For they're used to the cant
of the decks aslant
As the white-toothed
Combers break.

On the plates that thrum
Like a beaten drum
To the thrill of the turbines'
Might.
And the knife bow leaps
Through the mighty deep
With the speed of a shell
In flight.

Oh, they're scorn is quick
For the crews that stick
To the battleship's steady
Floor.
For they love the lurch
Of their own frail perch
At thirty-five knots
Or more.

They don't get much
Of the drill and such
That the battleship jockeys
Do.
But they sail the seas
In their dungarees
A grimy destroyer's
Crew.

They don't climb
At their sleeping time
To a hammock that sways
And bumps.
But leap "kerplunk"
To a cozy bunk
That quivers and bucks
And jumps.

They hear the sound
Of the waves that pound
On the half-inch
Plates of steel.
And they close their eyes
To the lullabies
Of the creaking sides
And keel.

They're a lusty crowd
That's vastly proud
Of the slim gray craft
They drive,
Of the roaring screws
And humming flues
That make her a thing
Alive

They love the lunge
Of her surging plunge
And the murk of her
Smoke screen toe
As they sail the seas
In their dungarees
A grimy destroyer's
Crew ...

(continued from page 2 — Letters) the starboard side, thinking someone had moved it for a joke. There was also one missing on the port side. There were traces of yellow chromate on the lower life line and on the edge of the hull on both sides. Somebody had launched two depth charges! After reporting this to our division officer, who then told the skipper, a diver was hired to go down and retrieve the depth charges. The skipper restricted the whole ship until somebody would come forward and confess. The guilty parties turned out to be a TM2 and a GM2. I don't recall what punishment they received other than restriction. This happened while we were moored at the Charleston Navy Shipyard prior to sailing for the west coast.

"While at the shipyard I met our first ship's mascot, a small pup brought aboard in a chief bos'n's pocket. After being aboard for awhile, he ('Sparky') would run aft to the fantail, where my GQ station was located, whenever the alarm sounded. He was strange because he didn't know how to act like a dog (except for sex — you had to be careful when crossing your legs in front of him). He slept on his back in a bunk like we did, ate fruit and vegetables, and drank coffee! When we arrived at China, the squadron commander made us send him back to the states on board a destroyer. He was put in kennel in San Diego until we returned."

John says he has other sea stories for a later date.

Thanks to the loan by Shipmate Mike Quinn of a volume entitled US Navy Destroyers at War 1941-1945 (Sea Classics Special, 1984), I found reference to a TM 1/c A. C. O'Halloran who was serving ON (his word!) USS INGRAHAM (DD694). "A. C." (I assume our A.C. O'Halloran — there can't have been two of them in the Pacific Fleet!) describes the sinking of USS MORRISON off Okinawa. More about it next month.

Did you know that the U.S. Navy has its own Scottish tartan? Tartan ties and golf hats are now available from:

R. P. Blandford and Son, Ltd., 204

Orange Street, Redlands, CA 92374, tel. 909/798-1060.

The price is \$12.50 plus \$ 1.00 shipping (call them for the cost) plus 8% tax if you live in California. Order

For all destroyer sailors

The Tin Can Sailor Association puts out a great paper giving all sorts of stories about "tin cans" and the men who manned them.
P.O. Box 100, Somerset, MA 0726; dues \$25 and tax deductible.

Missing Photo

Shipmate Bernie Kern of Virginia Beach, Virginia kindly loaned us his collection of photos dating from the 1940's. Two vanished but one ("Signal Gang") turned up and was returned to Bernie; however, the other ("Wharf Rats") is still missing. We think that someone gathered it up thinking it would be lost if it was not picked up. If the current holder would kindly return it to me or to Bernie (see Directory), we would appreciate it much.

This the second notice — if a reader still has the photos, please send them to Bernie at your earliest opportunity. Thanks much. **LET US KNOW IF YOU RECEIVE IT, BERNIE.**

Reunion Organizing Committee

Notice! We need to begin thinking about the next reunion — where, when, who. Please let me know your wishes — a phone call or drop me a note. Also, we need a committee. Volun-teers are welcome! No Volunteers? We'll use the old Navy approach — selected volunteers!

The **OZBOURN** hats raffled at the reunion were provided by "**ARTISTIC**" 17197-J Newhope St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708, Tel. 714/540-9970. Items available are:

1. Hats - with scrambled eggs, \$13.50, without s/e \$10.50
2. Windbreaker - Navy blue or white, SM 36-8, MED 40-2, LG 44-6, XLG 48-50, \$28.00
3. Golf shirt - Navy blue or white, SM 34-6, MED 38-40, LG 42-4, XLG 46-8, \$19.50

Add 3.00 shipping plus 7.25% for CA residents.

Artistic will sell hats at the above price only in pairs. As a result, I have some hats on hand (with/without scrambled eggs) which may be obtained from me. I had to pay the CA sales tax so the price is (with shipping charge) \$17 with s/e, 13.25 without s/e.

Shipmates -- USS OZBOURN (DD 846)

Name	Address		Years on Bd	Tel. No.
Charles O. Akers	3261 Falkland Circle	Huntington Beach CA	92649 50-52	310/592-1053
Stephen R. Alexander	10211 Sitkum Drive, SE	Olympia WA	98513 66-68	206/491-6306
Curtis Anderson	7121 Killeen Place, SW	Port Orchard WA	98366 53-56	206/895-3190
Bob Ash	20140 Northeast Sandy	Troutdale OR	97060 62-66	503/661-3607
Peter Athanas	2205 West Preston Drive	Richland Center WI	53581 46-48	608/647-3396
George R. Badger	1171 Island Drive	Alameda CA	94501 55-56	510/865-7241
John R. Barber	7047 Parfet Street	Arvada CO	80004 51-54	303/424-1294
William R. Barnett	4132 NW 175th Place	Portland OR	97229-3 74-75	/629-9890
Joseph Berriman	3009 Conner Way	San Diego CA	92117 52-53	619/273-1159
John S. Blonsick	7970 P.O. Box 2817	Oak Harbor WA	98277 50-51	
Rudolph J. Boff	1036 Connor Road	Pittsburg PA	15234 52-55	412/833-0572
James W. Brian	3185 Contra Loma Blvd.	Antioch CA	94509 46-48	510/778-9644
Robert Brodie, III	107 Front Street	Hertford NC	29744 51-52	919/426-5595
George S., Jr. Brown	P.O. Box 718	Pisgah Forest NC	28768 46-47	704/884-9763
George, R. Burrows	5712 Holiday Park Blvd.	Northport FL	34287 46-48	813/423-1384
Thomas Butler	173 Dexter Avenue	Redwood City CA	94063 60-62	415/364-8428
Billy Baker Bybee	14423 Locke Lane	Houston TX	77077 49-51	713/493-2438
Daniel Camp	7928 Mallow	San Antonio TX	78239 50-53	210/599-2387
John Carvalho	13641 Lorena Street	Garden Grove CA	92644 57-59	714/893-5544
Joseph R. Chapman	P.O. Box 90343	Santa Barbara CA	93190-0	805/683-0712
Charles F. Cole	1040 Woodman Drive	Columbus OH	43085 50-52	614/846-0326
Lloyd J. Cole	Route 1 -- Box 174C	Coloma WI	54930 47-53	715/228-2385
Paul Conley	160 Dameron St	Long Beach CA	90805 66-69	310/639-9818
Eugene Connelly	361 Main Street	Keansburg NJ	07734 46-47	908/787-8926
Fred R. Conwell	4780 Stratford Avenue	Fremont CA	94538 48-51	408/452-0262 (W)
Walter W. Crabtree	8115 John Dower Road,	Tacoma WA	98499 68-69	206/581-3804
Paul Edward Cranmore	2521 West Brooks	Norman OK	73069 49-52	405/364-8231
Willis L. Creagle	6685 Indian Drive	Magalia CA	95954 48-50	916/877-0508
Wesley O. Cressey	23 Jersey Ave.	Portland ME	04103 58-62	207/797-2514
Kent Curl	111 Vista Del Lago	Los Gatos CA	95030 60-63	408/376-0430
Joe R. Davis	102 Cedar Lane	Haslet TX	76052 48-52	817/439-3077
Wallace S. Deeter	975 Gladstone N	Camano Island WA	98292 48-49	206/776-0338
John G. Denham	2749 Grande Camino	Walnut Creek CA	94598 66-68	510/938-1143 (H)
Donald Dickerhoff	828 Stone	Ballwin MO	63021 51-52	314/256-8511
Frank J. Dolson	P.O. Box 102	Stockbridge MA	01262 68-69	413/298-3488
Paul H. Edwardsen	259 Sunrise Drive	Arroyo Grande CA	93420 47-51	805/481-5842
William M. Ellis	17011 12th Ave S.	Seattle WA	98148 50-54	206/242-6333
Joe Escajeda	2000 Judes Ferry Road	Powhatan VA	23139 48-51	804/598-3229
William B. Fargo	903 First Street	Coronado CA	92118 52-54,58	619/435-8643
George Fink	1142 Spanish Oak Court	Fort Collins CO	80525 46-48	303/223-1956
John D. Fleming	Route 2, P.O. Box 183	Guymon OK	73942 54-57	405/338-1680
James Gibson	4108 North de Graff Road	Oak Harbor WA	98277 67-72	206/679-4682
John U. Hadley	13006 Shorewood Drive	Seattle WA	98146 50-51	206/244-3490
Jimmie O. Hanson	2300 14th Street	Bellingham WA	98226 52-54	206/733-0615
H(iram) Harris	415 West Third Street	Gastonia NC	28052 46-47	704/865-4466
Paul W. Hecht	P.O. Box 3534	Portsmouth VA	23701-0 46-47	804/488-2419
James M. Helland	P.O. Box 487	Daphne AL	36526 3/46-9/4	205/626-1056
Keith A. Henderson	120 Hall Lane	Trout Creek MT	59824 48-50	406/827-3942
Harry Holloway	1655 East Main Street	Montrose CO	81401 48-52	303/249-3411

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Name	Address	Years on Bd	Tel. No.
Jack G. Huppert	747 Magellan Drive Sarasota FL	34243 53-54	813/755-6340
W.A. ("Sam") Huston	1225 Comanche Drive Auburn IL	62615 54-57	217/753-6895(B)
Philip Ihme	Route 1, Box 1144 Moncure NC	27559 46-48	919/542-2711
John Jackowski	3184 Crisfield Drive Grand Rapids MI	49505 60-62	616/363-1867
Charles B. Jarrett	1414 Grant Bldg, 300 Pittsburgh PA	15219 50-52	412/765-0655(O)
K. V. Jensen	Park Blvd Stamps, 4980 Pinellas Park FL	33565 57-59	813/544-3533
Harold D. Johnson	P.O. Box 552 Lone Grove OK	73443 55-57	405/657-3165
David L. Jones	7441 Varsity Lane Bremerton WA	98310 67-68	206/692-5096
Algis Kapocius	6264 Thorncrest Drive Greendale WI	53129 59-60	414/425-1909
Bernard Kern	4745 Deerfield Lane Virginia Beach VA	23455-5 48-50	804/497-0371
Joseph V. Kirby	15 Walnut Drive Lake in the Hills IL	60102-1 65-70	708/658-8865
Alfred J. Koch	270 Chapel Avenue Cheektawaga NY	14225 47-51	716/633-8174
John H. Kough	P.O. Box 210 Moses Lake WA	98837 51-54	509/762-5902
Dennis La Crosse	37000 Cypress Drive, NE Hansville WA	98340 63-70	206/638-1500
Richard La Fond	76 Front Street Suncook NH	03275 46-48	603/485-3547
Donald Lafeniere	85 Arnold Street Methuen MA	01844	508/686-1871
Richard F. Lay	22 Cranberry Lane East Brewster MA	02631 46	508/255-7364
Guy J. Le Breton	1000 North Point St San Francisco CA	94109 47-50	415/776-9219
Henri Lindhurst	P.O. Box 1214 Pleasanton CA	94566-0 50-52	510/846-3040
Theodore T. Lofgren	20073 Pugh Road NE Poulsbo WA	98370 52-54	206/779-4215
Raymond B. Lopez	184 Idaho Street Gridley CA	95948 46-49	916/846-2614
Paul Lukefahr	172 North Delmar Ave Chula Vista CA	91910 51-52	619/426-7756
Sam M. Mauck	1411 East Meadow Mere Springfield MO	65804-0 67-68	417/862-4654
Vernon H. McCord	860 South 136th Street Tacoma WA	98444 48-49	206/531-2748
John A. McCoy	2335 Blue Bonnet Houston TX	77030 51-54	713/667-9515
Don McElravy	1505 West 5 Port Angeles WA	98362 60-65	206/457-7285
"Mhoire" G. McIntosh	South Gundurimba Australi	2480 46-49	066/29-0311
W. P. Minter	4206 Buchanan Loop Texarkana TX	75501 52-55	903/794-4748
Melvin J. Mitchell	7543 Greenhaven Drive Sacramento CA	95831 66-69	916/421-4951
Roger A. Nelson	526 Melcher Drive Port Orchard WA	98366 64-65	206/876-2510
Paul E. Nixon	2800 Plaza Del Amo #144 Torrance CA	90503 50-52	310/783-0358
A. C. O'Halloran	P.O. Box 846 Ehrenberg AZ	85334 46-47	
Walter Ousey	10 El Patio Vallejo CA	94950 50-51	707/648-2823
H. Barr Palmer	P.O. Box 503, 16926 Via Rancho Santa Fe CA	92067 1/51-1/5	619/756-4579
Jeffrey W. Parker	936 Falcon View Street Upland CA	91786 70-74	714/981-4624
David D. Paulson	477 West Cessna Drive Elko NV	89801 52-57	702/753-5390
Lester (Pike) Peich	3542 Ingraham Street San Diego CA	92109 52-?	619/274-3914
Thomas M. Perkins	2240 Pine Tree Drive Port Orchard WA	98366 50-53	206/871-3361
R. D. Peruchiti	9105 Barnveld Street Spring Valley CA	91977 57-60	619/479-4764
Richard C. Planck	509 South 78th Street Omaha NE	68114 51-52	402/393-2890
Stephen C. Pleasants	14602 Lilva Drive Centreville VA	22020 46-48	703/631-9081
Mike Quinn	P.O. Box 90231 San Jose CA	95109 54-58	408/287-2007
Anthony Ramirez	P.O. Box 390402 Anza CA	92539 48	909/763-5295
Frank Rauch	1124 Marcy Loop Road Grants Pass OR	97527 62-64	503/476-6398(B)
William F., Jr. Riedel	15 Warren Street Little Ferry NJ	07643 46-47	201/641-2018
Port Rigby	Star Route, Box 13A Conrad MT	59425 69-72	406/627-2397
Robert G. Rogers	P.O. Box 1856 Port Townsend WA	98368 50-51	206/385-9016
Daryle Root	4475 Mixedwood Drive Ladson SC	29456 59-63	803/873-6763
Richard E. Satchell	404 East Riverboat Way Orange CA	92665 55-58	714/974-1429

Shipmates -- USS OZBOURN (DD 846)

Name	Address			Years on Bd		Tel. No.
Gary L. Schwerr	61 North 69th Avenue	Pensacola	FL	32506	58-61	904/453-0267
Howard T. Scott, Jr.	791 King Street	Chappaqua	NY	10514	54-56	914/238-3484
Wilson J. Sheets	40392 Diane Avenue	Buena Park	CA	90620	62-65	714/527-1588
Warren R. Sheldon	3233 Elgin Drive	Akron	OH	44883	46-48	216/666-4082
Jerome ("Abe") Simon	P.O. Box 2942	Sierra Vista	AZ	85636	50-52	602/458-812
Donald L. Smith	375 McClellan Drive	Carson City	NV	89784	65-69	702/849-2864
James M. Smith	P.O. Box 1017	Oquawka	IL	61469	56-59	
Robert F. Sommer	RR1, P.O. Box 272	Augusta	NJ	07822	46-48	201/875-1874
Fred Souza	4127 Long Lake Way	Ellenton	FL	34222	46-47	813/729-1650
William "Bill" Speers	1953 Lawrence Street	Klamath Falls	OR	97601	62-64	503/885-1394
Frank Spittle	23521 Lipari	Laguna Hills	CA	92653	48-50	714/581-8377
Herbert W. Sturm	P.O. Box 203	Santa Paula	CA	93061	60-64	805/525-7716
Philip Swigard	P.O. Box 414	Kingston	WA	98346	64-66	206/297-9537
James R. Talley	P.O. Box 301	Solomon	KS	67480	66-68	913/655-3600
John H. Thornton	P.O. Box 456	Newcomb	NY	12852	46-47	518/582-5111
Daryl M. Turner	2218 Gird Road	Fallbrook	CA	92028	48-52	619/731-0760
Ralph M., Jr. Tvede, Jr.	3051 Woodhills Drive	Memphis	TN	38128	51	901/388-4243
Billy R. Tyree	302 West Maryland St.	Evansville	IN	47710	52-53	812/423-9670
Jackson R. Tyree	3405 Sheridan Road	Evansville	IN	47710	52-55	812/426-078
John Ulicni	29 Dowling Way	West Paterson	NJ	07424	46-48	201/256-7284
David L. Vrba	11432 Pollard Drive	Garden Grove	CA	92641	69-72	714/539-9468
Jim Ward	P.O. Box 1123	Georgetown	CA	95634		916/333-1394
Tom Whaley	1808 Tolworth Drive	Virginia Beach	VA	23454	66-68	
Robert C. Whitten	1117 Yorkshire Drive	Cupertino	CA	95014	50-52	408/252-9213
Monte Williamson	RR#3, P.O. Box 196	Rockville	IN	47872	67-70	317/569-5938
Paul Williamson	4 Victoria Rise	Fairport	NY	14450	64-66	716/223-8871
Dwight E. Witte	33401 Breezy Place	Dana Point	CA	92629	56-57	714/240-0484
Clarence Wood	118 18th Street, SW	Great Falls	MT	59404	52-55	406/454-1994
Jim Wood	10 Hathaway Crescent	Aurora	IL	60506	71-73	708/466-4510
Warren E. Zschach, Jr.	1311 Ponderosa Drive	Petaluma	CA	94952		707/762-0469

USS OZBOURN (DD846) Association -- Membership Form (for those shipmates who DID NOT reply to previous questionnaires)

Name _____ Wife's Name _____
Address _____ Street _____ City _____ State, Zip _____ Telephone: _____

Period served in OZBOURN (Mo./Y) _____ Billets(s) _____

Help in the planning/execution of the reunion? ____ If so, in what capacity? _____

May we list your address, telephone no. and years of service on board OZBOURN in future newsletters?

Yes No

Names/Addresses of shipmates not on the list: _____

Comments: _____

Please clip the foregoing and return to Bob Whitten at your earliest convenience. Do NOT return if you have previously replied.