



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

By Guy Posey, President, USS Ozbourn Association



Sallae, and have been involved with the Patriot Guard Riders for about a year now. We joined this patriotic organization to honor our fallen heroes when they come home from the battlefront. The group also provides a valuable service by protecting grieving families from protesters who show up at

eran's funeral to protest the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan or to object to the military's don't ask, don't tell policy regarding gays in the Armed forces.

The two of us had the special honor of attending several funerals recently including welcome home and send-off rides for members of the military. We've been humbled, brought to tears and stood proud through all of our volunteer efforts. We have witnessed tough, hard-bitten Marines cry for their fallen comrades. We've been hugged by bereaved family members at funerals. And we've laughed right along with our new-found friends.

My point is this: The Armed Forces are very proud of what our veterans are doing for America. This includes all past, present and future service members. Please take time to hug a service member and say, thanks. Also, support the families of these heroes while they are overseas serving our country. After these valiant warriors return to the good old U.S.A., and regardless of your opinion of these wars, give them a pat on the back and a hearty Bravo Zulu.

Guy Posey

P.S. Support the candidate of your choice and get out and

TIN CAN SAILORS NATIONAL REUNION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Sunday, August 24 through Thursday, August 28 **Hilton Pittsburgh**

his year's Tin Can Sailors National Reunion will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania August 24-28. As most Ozbourn Association shipmates know, Ship's Store Proprietor Rudy Boff lives in Steeltown.

Rudy has extended an invitation to any Ozbourn Association shipmate who is planning on attending the TCS National Reunion this August, to contact him to set up a meeting.

"I think it would be fun to make contact with any shipmate who is headed for the Pittsburgh-based TCS reunion," said Boff. "It would be a great time for me to tell visitors what's happening in Pittsburgh."

Rudy can be reached at (412) 833-0572. It should be pointed out that Rudy has a new e-mail number which should be noted when making Ship's Stores orders. His new e-mail number is boffrudy@verizon.net.

SPEAKING OF REUNIONS

he Ozbourn Association's reunion committee, comprised of Ray Loney, Ken Keene and Tom Perkins, has been looking into several sites for the Association's 2009 reunion.

"During the last reunion in Seattle, the reunion committee was directed to focus on locations in the Midwest," said Loney. "I started calling locations from Chicago to New Orleans."

According to Loney, Chicago and Branson, MO would be very expensive because of transportation considerations. Memphis was also suggested as a potential site, however, the reunion committed discovered that the waterfront's steep walkway presented a challenge to access.

The committee is looking into St. Louis, New Orleans and Nashville. Shipmates with other suggestions should contact Ray Loney at rloney1106@aol.com or (360) 835-0699.

POD FOR FRIDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 1951

Do you remember where you were in September 1951? If you served aboard the USS Ozbourn at the time, you can check out the copy of the POD for Friday, September 14, 1951 and reminisce what life was like aboard a Navy destroyer nearly 57 years ago.

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USS OZBOURN (DD846)
PLAN OF THE DAY
Friday 14 September 1951
Engineering Division rig and unrig for movies
0200 Inspect the ship
0545 Call duty MAA, mess cooks and stewards 0600 REVEILLE - Early mess for mess cooks
0620 Early mess for the crew - Special sea detail at the head of the line
0630 Officer's call
0650 Set the special sea detail
0700 Arrive Hilo breakwater
0715 Moor to pier
---- Secure the mess line after all have been fed
0815 Quarters for muster
       Liberty
1100 Sweepers
1105 Early mess for mess cooks
1130 Knock off ship's work
1145 Relieve the watch
1200 Noon meal
1300 Sweepers - Clean ship
1600 Sweepers - Knock off ship's work
1645 Evening meal - watch standers at the head of the line
1930 Lay before the mast all the eight o'clock reports
       · Commence the movies
2400 Liberty expires on board
                                                                                    ala
NOTES
1. Shore Patrol is assigned as follows:
                                                                                              Sunday
LT AAKHUS
JENNINGS, TM2
Friday
ENS LEWIS
                                                        Servicey
ENS FARNHAM
NOTTER, GML
GRESE, MEL
JONES, F. D., ET2
                                                        OWENS, BML
                                                                                              LELAND, SH2
BLESSING, RD2
                                                        JENNINGS, TM2
                                                        BLESSING, RD2
FLOWERS, MM2
KROEGER, MM2
                                                                                              MOEDER, SKI
OWENS, BAL
                                                        SUMMER, FC1
                                                       GIEMAN, BTL
FITCH, MM2
BROWER, BT2
BROWER, BT2 FITCH, MM2 WEISS, SO1

a. Shore Patrol will be landed prior to commencement of liberty and
will return after expiration of liberty as desired by local authorities.
Specific instructions will be given upon arrival Hilo,
     All hands will refrain from throwing cigarette butts and coffee grounds
in the urinels. Such action results in stopped up drain lines and makes unnecessary work load for the ship fitters.

3. UNIFORM ODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE. Art. 101. Improper use of countersign. Any person subject to this code who in time of war discloses the perole or countersign to any person not entitled to receive it or who gives to another who is entitled to receive and use the perole or countersign a different perole or countersign to any that which to his knowledge, he was authorized
perole or countersign from that which, to his knowledge, he was authorized and required to give, shall be punished by death or such other punishment
as a court-martial may direct.
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Gedunk Call Answer

In the summer 2007 issue of the *Fireball*, the Gedunk Call question was, "The Japanese government just returned to the original name of the island of Iwo Jima to what name?" The Gedunk Call column actually consisted of two questions. The second question was, "Should the US government change the name of the Iwo Jima Monument to reflect the island's name change?"

No shipmate responded to either question, however, readers are going to get the answers to the questions anyway.

As to the island's name change Gedunk Call question, the name change was adopted by the Japanese Geographical Survey Institute in consultation with the Japanese Coast Guard on Monday, June 18, 2007.

Japan renamed the island of Iwo Jima, the site of one of the Second World War's most horrific battles, to its prewar name of Iwo To.

The new name, pronounced "ee-woh-toh," is used by the island's original inhabitants. In Japanese, the name looks and means the same as Iwo Jima or Sulfur Island. The two names, however, have a different sound when spoken.

The island was evacuated in 1944 as American forces advanced across the Pacific. Japanese naval officers moving to fortify the island, mistakenly called it Iwo Jima.

Islanders never liked the name Iwo Jima and were particularly incensed when Clint Eastwood's movies *Letters from Iwo Jima* and *Flags of Our Fathers* were released in 2007.

As to the second question, "Should the US government change the name of the Iwo Jima Monument to reflect the island's name change?" My personal response is no. During the 1945 battle for Iwo Jima, nearly 7,000 Americans and 21,000 Japanese troops were killed. Even though the island was misnamed by the Japanese, it was called Iwo Jima at the time of the battle.

Officers of the Association

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(50-52)
(52-55)

Gedunk Call!

The Gedunk Call for this issue of the *Fireball* is, "Why do the side numbers of U.S. Navy ships look to be faded or washed out?" Submit your responses to Rick Johnson 5899 N. Bronco Lane, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 or e-mail to johnsonsimivalley@yahoo.com.

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 summer 2008 issue is Friday, June 13. Articles may be rewritten for purposes of editorial style. Due to space limitations, some materials may used in a future *Fireball* edition.

"Never Forget"

The new USS New York was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center. It is the fifth ship in a new class of warships designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered to mission targets by helicopters and assault craft.

Steel from the World Trade Center was melted down at a foundry in Amite, LA and cast to form the ship's bow section. When it was poured into the molds on September 9, 2003, "those big rough steelworkers treated it with total reverence," recalled Navy Capt. Kevin Wensing, who was there for the event. "It was a spiritual moment for everybody there."



Foundry Operations Manager Junior Chavers said that when the Trade Center steel first arrived, he touched it with his hand and the hair on his neck stood up. "The Trade Center steel had a big meaning for all of us," said Chavers. "The terrorist knocked us down. They can't keep us down. We're going to be back."

The ship's motto is "Never Forget."

Freedom's Last Stand

By Rick Johnson

I served aboard the USS Ozbourn between November 1961 and May 1964. I came aboard as an RDSN right out of Radar "A" school and left as a second class radarman.

During the ship's 1962 WESTPAC cruise, the OZ steamed up and down the Straights of Formosa for six weeks between early October and mid November.

Editor's note: On the opposing page of this issue of the *Fireball*, there is an article about the change of names for the island of Iwo Jima. There are two other name changes that should be brought up at this time. Taiwan was called Formosa back in 1962 and the Ozbourn's call name had been changed from Fireball to Spread Eagle.

The port of call for the Ozbourn during its Formosa Patrol assignment was Kao Hsuing (pronounced Kao Shung). As the ship approached the southern tip of Formosa, the crew picked up the distinct smell of Kao Hsuing. The stench from the open-sewer bay was so strong, the town was mockingly called Cow Dung.



Ozbourn at Sea — The photo above was taken of the OZ in 1964, three years after a Fram 1 conversion was completed at the Bremerton, WA Shipyard.

On November 1, 1962 the Ozbourn pulled into Kao Hsuing after one of its back-and-forth sweeps of the Straights of Formosa. The event marked the first anniversary since I reported aboard the OZ.

The next day I had Shore Patrol duty in Kao Hsuing. The ship's crew was constantly reminded to be careful who we spoke to and watch what we say to the local Chinese while ashore. Navy officials were worried that sensitive information about U.S. Navy maneuvers would be passed on to the communist Chinese living on the mainland.

During my Shore Patrol duties that day, I met a local resident who wanted to practice his English on me. I was reluctant to talk to him after being admonished by the XO to be careful with whom I spoke to while ashore. Besides, I was on duty. The gentleman was persistent and followed me around as I performed my policing duties.

I was a little suspicious of him to start with and became anxious when he wanted to talk about politics. Then my new-found Chinese friend hit upon a subject that started me to think about world affairs. Remember, what follows needs to be put into the context of 1962 world politics. He told me that if it weren't for the U.S. Navy, most of the Eastern Hemisphere would be overrun by the communist Chinese. He believed that the communist would "island hop" all the way down to Australia and New Zealand and all of the countries in between. He strongly believed that communism would eventually take over the world until only the United States would stand alone as the only non-communist country. He also said that when a communist spoke of peace, he meant that a peaceful bullet would be put into the head of anyone who didn't submit to communist rule.

You could almost take this same story today and replace the word communist with the word terrorism.



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

CORRECTION

In the winter 2008 issue of the *Fireball*, the last name of a departed shipmate was inadvertently left out. The name appeared as Michael Owen, when in fact, the shipmate's full name was **Michael Owen Titus**. The editor of the *Fireball* takes this time to publicly apologize to the Titus family for any feelings that may have been hurt by the printed mistake during the period of family mourning.

KEN LUCIEN

December 6, 2007 ET 1 (1965-68)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

My stepfather Delford LeGrande Taylor was a seaman in the Navy. He served aboard the USS Ozbourn between March 27 and June 13, 1949 according to his military papers. He was discharged from military service on June 16, 1949.

Before that he served on the U.S.S. Rainier for several years. His total years of service in the Navy was from June 16, 1943 through June 16. 1949. He passed away January 29, 1998.

Do you know if there have been any photos submitted that would cover the three-month time period my stepfather served aboard the Ozbourn?

Sincerely,

Debbie e-mail address listed as lldolls@aol.com

MESOTHELIOMA ALERT

The following e-mail was initially sent to Bill Jones, the Ozbourn Association's Recording Secretary.

Hi Bill:

As you have noticed, I am with the Mesothelioma & Asbestos Awareness Center. We aim to provide the most current and accurate information regarding asbestos exposure and its link to mesothelioma cancer. As you know, many Navy veterans were unknowingly exposed to asbestos while working in shipyards, and while onboard ships and submarines. I chose to contact you because the U.S.S. Ozbourn is one of those vessels. When the ship was built at Bath Iron Works, asbestos was used as an insulator for many parts of the engine room and boiler room.

In an effort to spread awareness about this terrible disease, I am trying to reach all those who may have served aboard ships that used asbestos as an insulator. I would invite you to visit our site, especially our Navy section at www.maacenter.org/veterans. I am confident you will find that we have compiled a large resource for those who may be suffering from the disease or have family members who have contracted the illness. The Bath Iron Works page is www.maacenter.org/jobsites/shipyards/bathironworks.php.

Dave Mesothelioma & Asbestos Awareness Center

E. W. NUMBERS

February 14, 2008 Ship's Commanding Officer (June 1970-December 1971)

Former Ozbourn Commanding Officer E. W. Numbers passed away in San Diego, California at the age of 80.

SHIP'S LOG BY DONALD DODD

Listed below are excerpts from a journal that was kept by RD1 Donald Dodd while serving aboard the U.S.S. Ozbourn in 1947.



Shipmate Dodd served aboard the Ozbourn between 1946 and 1948. Donald Dodd passed away on January 11, 2003.

Permission to use all or portions of Dodd's journal was graciously granted by his daughter Susan Dodd.

Monday, March 10, 1947 — Shanghai, China — Wampoo River

We are moored to a buoy with the U.S.S. Wiltsie (DD 716). We are moored fore and aft because of the current in the Wampoo River.

Got up feeling swell after sleeping all day yesterday. Right after quarters, went to work on the SG (radar) and Mr. Lader came over and worked too. It's not working right yet. Butler came around and invited me to go on liberty this afternoon.

We left the ship about 1900 and went to the "Y". Had a good steak. Met Dolan and decided to go to the Little Club. Had a pretty (good) time. Danced and drank a little.

Came back to the ship about 2330. Just made it before liberty expired.

March 11, 1947

Mr. Laden should be here this morning. I hope so. I don't know who is going to help me when he gets discharged. I guess the radar just won't be working.

Have all the guys working, getting the ship cleaned up before we leave for Hong Kong tomorrow. This afternoon we worked on the radar. I tried it myself. I don't know how long it will stayed fixed.

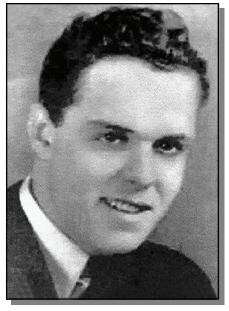
Going to Hawaii? Visit the Grave Site of Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn

vt. Joseph William Ozbourn was born on October 24, 1919 and died during combat on Tinian Island, Marianas Archipelago on July 28, 1944 at the age of 24. He is buried at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Hawaii, Section F Grave 77.

Pvt. Ozbourn was assigned to the First Battalion, Twenty-third Regiment, Fourth Marine Division as a rifleman during the invasion of Tinian Island in the Marianas Archipelago.

Armed with a hand grenade, Pvt. Ozbourn was moving toward an enemy dugout with four other Marines, two on either side of him. Suddenly there was a violent explosion from the entrance to the dugout, severely wounding Pvt. Ozbourn and the other four Marines. Injured and unable to safely dispose of the hand grenade, Ozbourn unhesitatingly fell upon the grenade killing himself while saving his fellow Marines.

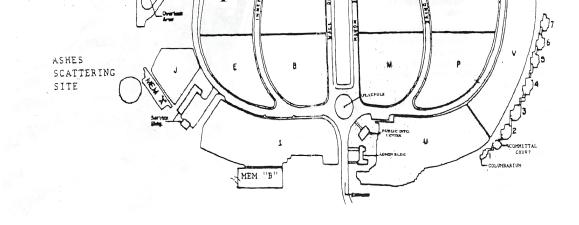
It was his deep devotion to duty and courageous heroism that inspired the naming of the destroyer 846 to the USS Ozbourn.







National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn Section F Grave 77



SHIPMATE NICKNAMES FIT TO PRINT

All of us have had nicknames over the years. Some come from family members, others were given to us from school friends and some we got while in the Navy. Here are a few nicknames that were revealed to me during the recent Association reunion.

Aubrey "Snuffy" White (49-52) EM 2. Had tattoo of Snuffy the funny pages character placed on his left forearm.

Bill "Valentino" Henry (51). Henry was a "B" movie actor and actually played in the movie *Valentino*.

Fred "Large" Conwell (48-51) ICEM 3

Rick "Swede" Johnson (61-64) RD 2. Rick complained vehemently that he was of Norwegian decent and not of Swedish lineage, all to no avail.

Alan "Lefty" Walker (46).

Calvin "Pat" Patterson (50-51) RD 1.

Ray "Red" Loney (66-67) BT 2.

Tom "Dutch" Kishbaugh (61-64) RM 3.

Bob "Klang" Whitten (50-52) Lt Jg. Bob was a Damage Control Assistant and the ship's fire marshal.

Richard "Satch" "Satchell Page" Satchell (55-58) EM 2. James "Mac" McDaniel (49-52) GMSN.

Tom "Perk" Perkins (50-53) FC 1/C.

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

The following information can be found on the Association's Web site: Mission statement, complete history, current and past newsletters, a list of Ozbourn shipmates, the Ship's Store for ordering Ozbourn memorabilia, how to join, and special links.

"The Old Outfit" Written by a WW II Sailor

Come gather round me lads and I'll tell you a thing or two, about the way we ran the Navy in 1942. When wooden ships and iron men were barely out of sight, I am going to give you some facts just to set the record right. We wore the ole bell bottoms, with a flat hat on our head, and we always hit the sack at night. We never "went to bed." Our uniforms were worn ashore, and we were mighty proud. Never thought of wearing civvies, in fact they were not allowed. Now when a ship puts out to sea, I'll tell you son — it hurts when you suddenly notice that half the crew are wearing skirts! And it's hard for me to imagine, a female boatswains mate, stopping on the quarter deck to make sure her stockings are straight. What happened to the kye brush, and the old salt-water bath? Holy stoning decks at night — cause you stirred old boson's wrath! We always had our gedunk stand and lots of pogey bait. And it always took a hitch or two, just to make a rate. In your seabag all your skivvies, were neatly stopped and rolled. And the blankets on your sack had better have a three-inch fold. Your little ditty bag, it is hard to believe just how much it held, and you wouldn't go ashore with pants that hadn't been spiked and belled. We had scullery maids and succotash and good old S.O.S. And when you felt like topping off - you headed for the mess. Oh we had our belly robbers — but there weren't too many gripes. For the deck apes were never hungry and there were no starving snipes. Now you never hear of Davey Jones, Shellbacks or Polliwogs, and you never splice the mainbrace to receive you daily grog. Now you never have to dog a watch or stand the main event. You even tie your lines today — back in my time they were bent. We were all two-fisted drinkers and no one thought you sinned, if you staggered back aboard your ship, three sheets to the wind. And with just a couple hours of sleep you regained your usual luster. Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed — you still made morning muster. Rocks and shoals have long since gone, and now it's U.C.M.J. Then the old man handled everything if you should go astray. Now they steer the ships with dials, and I wouldn't be surprised, if some day they sailed the damned things — from the beach computerized. So when my earthly hitch is over, and the Good Lord picks the best, I'll walk right up to Him and say, "Sir, I have but one request, Let me sail the seas of Heaven in a coat of Navy blue. Like I did so long ago on Earth — way back in 1942."

USS OZBOURN (DD 846) ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

This form is intended as a reminder for payment of dues and to update your personal information in the Association's data base.

Association dues are \$10 per year and the membership period runs from 1 January through 31 December each year. Your dues' status is indicated by a two digit number or letter combination on the mailing label found on the outside cover of the *Fireball* newsletter. For example: "08" indicates a regular member is paid-up through 2008 and so on. The letter "n" indicates a new member with membership in process. The letter "c" indicates a complimentary copy or honorary member. Please complete this form when renewing your annual dues.

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	E-MAIL
YEARS SERVED ON THE SHIP (i.e. 50-51)	
AMOUNT PAID — \$	Make checks payable to the USS Ozbourn Association
Complete this form and mail it along with annual du	ies payment to: Warren Zschach

1311 Ponderosa Drive Petaluma, CA 94954-0469

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 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 New email: boffrudy@verizon.net



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



FRAME, license plate Item #F01 \$5 ea

SAVOR THE REUNION MEMORIES WITH HISTORIC CDs & DVDs

Limited edition photo CDs and DVDs of the USS Ozbourn's Eighth Biennial Reunion are available from the Ship's Store. What better way to relive those special moments with friends and shipmates from our stay in Seattle than to purchase one of these discs. For those shipmates who were unable to attend the 2007 reunion, the purchase of one of these discs is an excellent way to catch up with the history of our Association. The USS Ozbourn Association purchased these CDs and DVDs from the reunion photographer.

- Disc #1 DVD flowing video of reunion & interviews
- Disc #2 Photo CD with 500+ digital photos

\$35 for each disc plus \$3 for shipping

SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

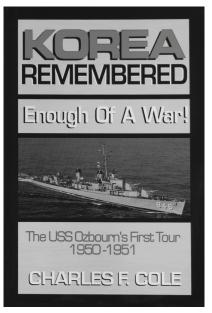
The following items are special order only. Contact Rudy Boff at Ship's Store address at left.

Micro-fiber Jacket, fleece lined-water repellent \$90 Twill Jacket, fully lined with full front zip \$80 Windbreaker, mesh lined and full front zip \$60 Jerzees Super Sweatshirt, assorted colors \$40 T-shirts, both long and short sleeve \$35 and \$20 Golf shirts \$30

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

The book Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!, the USS Ozbourn's First Tour, 1950-1951, is a first-hand account by shipmate Charles F. Cole, as the war "sandwiched between WW II and the War in Vietnam."

Cole's historic account was first published in 1995, just in time for the dedication of the Korean War Memorial, which is in site of the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C.



While the book mainly focuses on Cole's life aboard the Ozbourn during the Korean War, it also includes some of the time he spent as a UDT team member and his Navy Reserve years. The book is no longer in print through Yucca Tree Press.

Charles Cole has graciously donated a box of his book Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!, the USS Ozbourn's First Tour, 1950-1951 to the USS Ozbourn Association. The proceeds from the sale of his book will go into the Association's treasury.

The USS Ozbourn Association wishes to express its gratitude to Charles F. "Pete" Cole for his generous donation.

"Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!, The USS Ozbourn's First Tour, 1950-1951 By Charles F. Cole

\$15.00 plus \$2.50 for shipping & handling

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



An American flag flutters in the breeze as the Washington Monument appears to point heavenward.

FIREBALL! The official newsletter of the USS Ozbourn Association

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 08 or 09 or 10. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 08 means 2008, 09 means 2009, etc. 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 Web site: Mission statement, complete history, current and past newsletters, a list of Ozbourn shipmates, historical photographs, the ship's store for ordering Ozbourn memorabilia, how to join, and special links.