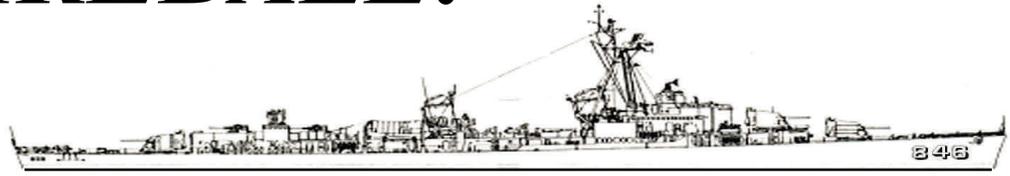




# ***FIREBALL!***

VOLUME 17, NO. 1

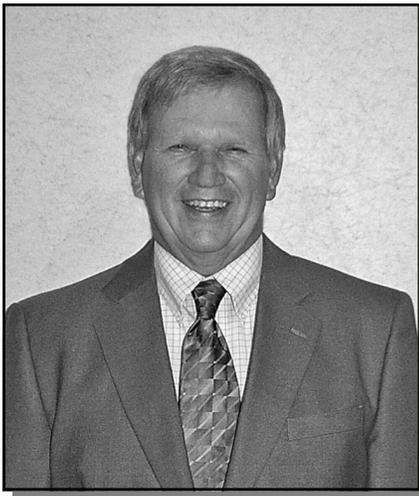
WINTER 2008



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](http://www.ozbourn.org)

## **FROM THE BRIDGE**



I hope that each shipmate and guest attending the last reunion in Seattle enjoyed themselves as much as I did. Our reunions are a great place to renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

I was sitting in my hotel room in Seattle when I remember reading an article in a past issue

During our tour of duty, we became best of friends. Of Course we had different outlooks on life. Bill was a very religious man, and while I was raised in the same manner, once I left my home in Stillwater, OK and away from home for the first time, I wanted to have fun.

After we both left the Ozbourn, we stayed in contact for a while. Bill was the best man at my first wedding. After a few years, however, we lost touch with each other. I did not hear from Bill for many years.

Bill finally contacted me just before the San Antonio reunion. We both made plans to attend the 2003 reunion which included trying to contact other shipmates from the Oz. We were able to find two other shipmates and met at the reunion. What fun we had.

While attending the last three reunions, I have met so many wonderful shipmates that served before and after I was aboard. I consider all of them my best friends.

As the current USS Ozbourn Association President, I hope that I will do as wonderful a job as the former presidents have done before me. We have a great group of shipmates, their wives and families — all of whom support our great association. I hope to see all of you in just two short years somewhere in these great United States of America.

**Guy Posey, President**

of the Fireball from Rudy Boff. Rudy mentioned how he met a fellow recruit and how they became best of friends. They both served on the Ozbourn together, yet lost contact for many years after they got out of the Navy. Rudy went on to say that the two of them got reacquainted through the USS Ozbourn Association.

I had an experience similar to that of Rudy. While serving aboard the Oz (1969-1971), I met Bill (Tu Tu) Thomas.

### **SWEARING-IN 2007-2009 USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

Bob Whitten (far right), the Association's very first president, officiates at the oath of office swearing-in ceremony of the incoming 2007-2009 USS Ozbourn Association officers.

The Association's new officers from left to right are: Ken Keene, Vice President; Rick Johnson, Corresponding Secretary and Fireball Editor; Bill Jones, Recording Secretary; Warren Zschach, Treasurer and Historian; and Guy Posey, President.



**MINUTES OF THE USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION MEETING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2007**

**1600 Meeting was called to order** by Association President Rudy Boff  
President Rudy Boff led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation.

**MINUTES** of the 2005 Association meeting read — W.L. Jones, Recording Secretary  
Minutes approved as read

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT** — Rick Johnson, Corresponding Secretary & Fireball Editor  
Called for continuing input for Fireball newsletter  
Asked everyone to submit their "onboard" nicknames to be published in a future Fireball newsletter

**TREASURER'S REPORT** — Warren Zschach, Treasurer and Historian  
On September 22, 2005, the Association had a starting balance of \$9,239.79  
Income since the 2005 reunion until 2007 reunion was \$9,468.76  
Expenses since the 2005 reunion until the 2007 reunion was \$11,700.95  
New ending balance at the 2007 reunion was \$7,007.60

**RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT** — W. L. Jones, Recording Secretary  
677 living shipmates on the Association roster — an increase of 52 since 2005  
161 current with their dues — a decrease of 87 since 2005  
237 delinquent with their dues — an increase of 49 since 2005  
122 incorrect addresses — an increase of 60 since 2005  
149 never joined  
8 honorary members

Vice-President Ken Keene reported on strategies for recruiting new members. He suggested that instead of a recruiting committee, each Association member to act as a recruiter and try to find new shipmates that have never joined nor inquired about the association.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fredericksburg Plaque Committee** — Paul Logan  
Paul reported the Ozbourn plaque was installed at the Fredericksburg, Texas Navy Memorial on Veterans' Day, 2006. The plaque contains a photo of the USS Ozbourn as it appeared in April, 1946. Shipmate Joe and Billie Davis attended the dedication ceremony and took pictures of the plaque on the memorial wall. (Please see photo story on page 3.)

**Reunion Committee Report** — Warren Zschach, Treasurer and Historian  
Overall, the reunion planning and operation went smoothly with only a few minor concerns as follows:  
Be wary of working with an "Event Planner" instead of working with Armed Forces Reunion personnel directly. It is believed that better service will be provided working directly with AFR.  
The \$500 allotted at the 2005 reunion for the reunion committee to use in investigating potential sites was not used. Paul Logan suggested that this money is well spent and should be used by the 2009 reunion committee. He made a motion to use the unspent \$500 earmarked for the 2007 reunion committee should be used by the 2009 reunion committee. The motion was passed. Paul also recommended the new reunion committee obtain a copy of a book he shared, which is a reunion-planning publication.  
Mobile, Alabama was suggested as a possible 2009 reunion site.  
There was some discussion whether or not our Association has adequate liability insurance during these reunions. The reunion committee will investigate this issue.

**Meeting minutes continued on page 3**

**Officers of the Association**

**President**

**Guy Posey (69-71)**  
1017 North Ramsey St.  
Stillwater, OK 74075  
Tel: 405 377 6122  
Email: ppapaguy@aol.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 85395  
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  
**Rudy Boff (52-55)**  
Pittsburgh, PA

**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 spring 2008 issue is **Friday, March 14**. Articles may be rewritten for purposes of editorial style. Due to space limitations, some materials may be used in a future *Fireball* edition.



## WELCOME ABOARD

**Tom Guzman**  
Littleton, CO  
Lt. Jg. (72-75)

**Richard Holman**  
Pasco, WA  
ET2 (58-60)

**Mathew Milas**  
Lincoln, RI  
Rate/Rank not given (68-72)

**Ronald Muir**  
Carbondale, PA  
Rate/Rank and years not given

**Robert Reiker**  
Portland, OR  
BT2 (71-74)

**Phillip Swanson**  
Port Orchard, WA  
Rate/Rank and years not given

**Robert Villafranca**  
Fort Collins, CO  
E3 (72-74)

**Michael Ward**  
Mabel, MN  
STG2 (72-75)

Welcome aboard to all of our new members. We hope you will become active members and get involved in Association activities.

## Meeting minutes continued from page 2

### NEW BUSINESS

The 2009 reunion committee is :  
Ray Loney — chairman  
Jim Mc Daniels  
Tom Perkins  
Ken Keene

### PHOTOGRAPHER'S REPORT — Warren Zschach

Warren explained our contract with the reunion photographer and there will be both CDs and a DVD available to anyone who wants to order one. The Association has guaranteed that it will purchase a minimum of 35 units at \$35 each. The balance of those not ordered by individuals at the reunion will be offered through the Ship's Store.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT — Bob Whitten

The following nominees were presented:

Guy Posey — President (new)  
Ken Keene — Vice President (continuing)  
Rick Johnson — Corresponding Secretary/Fireball Editor (continuing)  
Bill Jones — Recording Secretary (continuing)

The Association president called for nominations for treasurer. Since no one volunteered to be the treasurer, Warren Zschach consented to continue for another two years. The slate of officers for the 2007-2009 period was approved by acclamation.

### DONATIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS

A motion was passed allowing the Association to continue donating \$300 to the Tin Can Sailors organization since the Association has been doing so for the past several years. No other suggested donations or contributions were passed.

### CLOSING REMARKS — Rudy Boff

President Rudy Boff offered "thanks" to Paul Logan for organizing and conducting the Memorial Service on the USS Turner Joy (DD 951); to Tom Perkins for purchasing the memorial wreath used in the ceremony, and to Fred Conwell for his role as Association Historian for the past several years, the position which has been taken over by Warren Zschach.

**1730 Meeting adjourned** by Association President Rudy Boff

**Signed W. L. Jones, Recording Secretary**

## INSTALLATION OF THE USS OZBOURN PLAQUE NOVEMBER 11, 2006 ADM NIMITZ NATIONAL MUSEUM FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS

Billie and Joe Davis surround recently installed USS Ozbourn plaque at the Admiral Nimitz National Museum located at Fredericksburg, Texas. The 20" x 20" commemorative plaque of the USS Ozbourn was dedicated during special 2006 Veteran's Day ceremonies in the Memorial Courtyard.

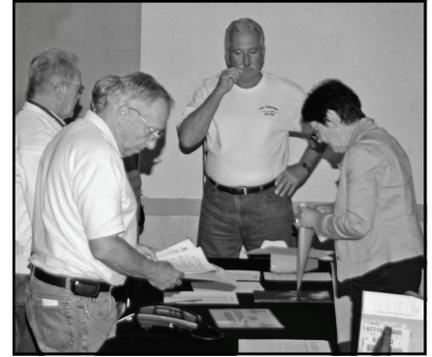
The plaque was installed at a cost of \$2,500. The donation was made from an Association fund. The photo on the plaque is as close to the commissioning condition of the Ozbourn as was possible.



# SEATTLE REUNION IN PICTURES



The Marriot Hotel in Seattle where the Ozbourn Association held its 2007 reunion.



Rudy Boff watches as shipmates check in for the start of the reunion



Cheers! From left to right, Mary and Paul Logan, Joe and Billie Davis, and Emma Jean and Charles Cole enjoy some time together during one of the open bull sessions.

Presentation of Colors by Naval Base Everett during reunion banquet.

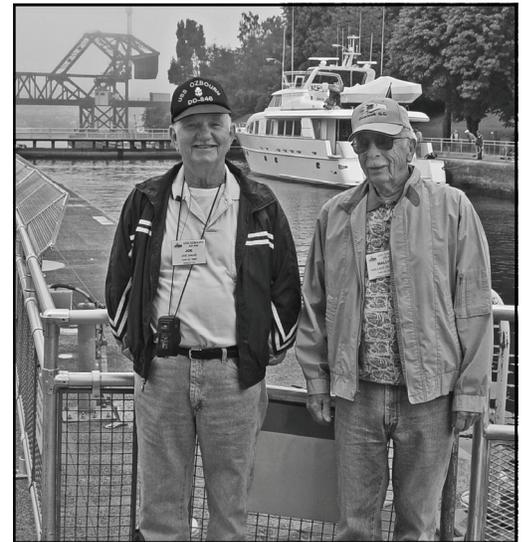


Joe Davis, left, and Wally Deeter stand above the Government Locks in Ballard, WA. The two shipmates passed on the story of the time when the Ozbourn went through the locks during the summer of 1948. The story was told by Deeter.

“When the Ozbourn completed her Bremerton, WA overhaul at the end of June, 1948, she was selected to visit the small town of Renton, Washington for the city’s 4th of July celebration. The only way to get there was through the Government Locks. As you can see from behind us, this was a tight fit for the Oz. The crew manned the rails from Bremerton until the ship moored in downtown Renton.

“Renton rolled out the red carpet for the crew which included a parade, dances, food and more. The crew enjoyed themselves so much that city officials were glad to see us leave.”

By the way, neither Joe nor Wally own the yacht behind them.



Pam and Rick Johnson stand in front of photo mural of the Seattle skyline during city tour.

Bus buddies enjoy ride between city tour sites. Front row, Cathy and Don Rueth, and second row right, Jim McDaniel, head for Museum of Flight.





Ray Loney first leaves the bus then Earth (in photo mural simulating space suit).



Richard Satchell, right, exits one of the plane exhibits at Boeing's Museum of Flight. The museum includes more than 20 full-size airplanes.



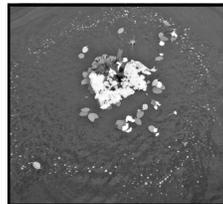
The USS Turner Joy, located at the Bremerton Naval Memorial, was the site of this year's Memorial Service.



Paul Logan, at the podium, acts as Memorial Program MC as Warren Zschach looks on. The ceremony took place on the fantail of the USS Turner Joy (DD 951).



Warren Zschach, left and Bob Whitten prepare to drop Memorial Wreath in the water. Wreath floats in the water below.



Shipmates and wives enjoy meal at Ivar's Restaurant. From left, Ralph "Baby" and Marie Phelps, Art and Dolores Rainville, and Arleen and Rudy Boff, discuss day's events.



Bill Jones, far left, walks through Pike Place Market.



Ozbourn wives pose for group photo during reunion banquet.



Plank owner George Fink and his wife Elizabeth are all smiles during banquet.



Guy Posey, left, makes first speech as incoming 07-09 Association president.



Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, USN, (Ret.), upper right, was this year's featured speaker during the annual banquet. The admiral is the son of CDR W.B. Fargo who was the captain of the Ozbourn between April 1951 and April 1954.



Rudy Boff, left, accepts award from Rick Johnson during reunion banquet ceremonies.



Ozbourn shipmates pose for group photo during reunion banquet.



### TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

#### Taps

Day is done, gone the sun  
From the hills, from the lake  
From the sky.  
All is well, safely rest,  
God is high.

### CURT ANDERSON

November 3, 2007  
LT (53-55)

Captain Curtis Anderson, USN (ret.), passed away November 3, 2007. After enlisting in the Navy in 1948, Anderson received a fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy in 1949.

"Andy", as he was often called, was commissioned as an Ensign when he graduated from the Naval Academy in 1953. Anderson proudly served as a Naval Officer for 30 years, retiring in 1983 as a captain. Captain Anderson served aboard the USS Ozbourn as a lieutenant between 1953-55.



### HENRI LINDHURST

September 12, 2007  
EM (50-52)

### MICHAEL OWEN

November 17, 2007  
FTG2 (63-69)

Michael Owen was born on June 8, 1940 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After graduating from Ann Arbor High School, Owen enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He honorably served his country between 1963 and 1969 as a fire control technician second class aboard the Ozbourn. He was a Vietnam War veteran.

### HERMAN SCHWAB

June 14, 2007  
WW II Veteran, USMC

Herman Schwab served in the Marine Corps during WW II. He was the youngest of the group of Marines that served with Joseph Ozbourn on Tinian Island when young Ozbourn was killed in action. Schwab turned 18 during the battle on Tinian.

Schwab was in four major battles during WW II. He was wounded on Saipan and Iwo Jima. He also served during the Korean War. Schwab was a guest during the 2003 reunion along with Eddie Newman, Tex Freeman and Delbert Fliar, the three other Marines serving with Joseph Ozbourn on Tinian.



### DELDFORD TAYLOR

January 29, 1998

# 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](http://www.ozbourn.org) under the heading Ship's Store. Orders may be placed with:

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

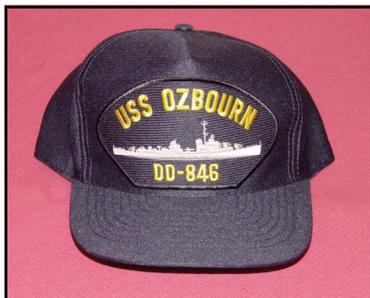
Tel: (412) 833-0572  
email: [boffrud@juno.com](mailto:boffrud@juno.com)

## 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.



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

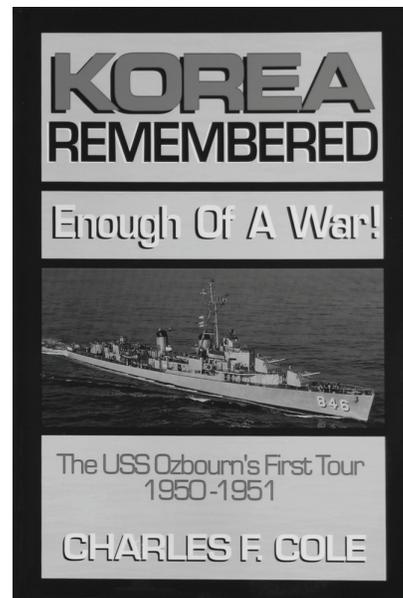
Limited edition photo CDs and DVDs of the USS Ozbourn's Eighth Biennial Reunion are available from the Ship's Store. What better way to relive those special moments with friends and shipmates from our stay in Seattle than to purchase one of these discs. For those shipmates who were unable to attend the 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**

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.

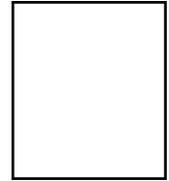
Charles Cole has graciously donated a box of his book *Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!, the USS Ozbourn's First Tour, 1950-1951* to the USS Ozbourn Association. The proceeds from the sale of his book will go into the Association's treasury.

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



**Paul Logan leads solemn memorial ceremony on the fantail of the USS Turner Joy, DD 951. The special event was held at the Bremerton Naval Memorial during the Seattle reunion.**

## **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 07 or 08 or 09. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 07 means 2007, 08 means 2008, etc. Your Association officers ask you to...

**DO THE DUES TODAY!**

**We're on the Web at  
[www.ozbourn.org](http://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.