



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



merica is in trouble! Money is tight, people are loosing their jobs, homes are in foreclosure and companies are closing their doors. And this is happening all over the country. I can't remember when things have been this bad.

I guess all that we can do is pray and contact our U.S. senators and congressmen and maybe they can come up with viable solutions to our nation's problems. I hope that none of our shipmates or their families have been hit with these problems. If they have, our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Even with all of these bad times, I'm still excited about our upcoming reunion in St. Louis, Mo. We have contacted many new shipmates that have expressed interest in this year's reunion and joining the USS Ozbourn Association. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the USS Ozbourn's ninth biennial reunion in St. Louis, Mo. September 23-27. Pass the word on to an Oz shipmate who may not be aware of our association.

The Ozbourn was a great ship which was named after a great American hero. I'm glad that we can keep the legend of the Ozbourn alive and going for many years to come.

God bless our country its veterans, our military, and all Americans.

Hope to see you in September in St. Louis.

Guy Posey, President, USS Ozbourn Association

SHIPMATES AHOY!

If you are interested in learning more about the history of the Ozbourn, meeting other shipmates who served aboard the Oz, or if you want to share your "sea stories" with others, then plan on attending the **next reunion scheduled for Sep. 23-27.**

The reunion will be held in historic **St. Louis, Missouri, Gateway to the West**. Call Ken Keene at 814-337 -3197 for more information.

If you do plan on attending, bring some of your old photos and share some of your stories with your old shipmates. Who knows, maybe your story and photos will be used in a future issue of the *Fireball*.

ATTENTION SHIPMATES!

Ozbourn shipmates, make your plans to attend the ninth biennial reunion in **St. Louis, Missouri, September 23-27**. This year's reunion includes:

Bull sessions, a time to meet with shipmates
Several tours, beautiful and historic
A solemn memorial service
Shopping St. Louis style
Annual meeting
Photo opportunities galore
Great meals
Open ship's store

PURCHASE OZBOURN MEMORABILIA BEFORE THE NEXT REUNION!





Show your Ozbourn pride by purchasing Ozbourn logo-emblazoned windbreakers, caps, patches, license plate frames, t-shirts, golf shirts and more from the **Ship's Store**. Please see page 7 for prices and ordering instructions.





HILTON ST. LOUIS AIRPORT

10330 Natural Bridge Road — St. Louis MO 63134 Phone: (314) 426-5500 — (800) 314-2117 — Fax: (314) 426-2924 www.hiltonstlouisairport.com

The Hilton Hotel is located near the Lambert Airport (STL) just off I-70, with a total of 397 guest rooms and 25 meeting rooms. There is complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle service running about every 10 minutes. Parking is complimentary for registered guests and RV parking is available. There is a business center, health club, indoor heated pool and Jacuzzi, gift shop, the Veranda's Restaurant and Posh's Lounge. Veranda's Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Check-in time is 3 p.m. and check-out is noon. All reservations must be received by the hotel before August 26, 2009.

If driving to the reunion, the hotel is just south of I-70 at exit 236. If coming from the west, use exit 236 to Pear Tree Lane, turn left (east) onto Pear Tree Lane. Pear Tree Lane will become Natural Bridge Road at Airport Access Road. Proceed straight on Natural Bridge Road to the hotel. If coming from the east, exit I-70 at exit 236 Natural Bridge Road. At the end of the off ramp, turn left (south) on Airport Access Road and again to the left (east) on Natural Bridge Road. Proceed on Natural Bridge Road about one-half mile to the hotel.

If you need to rent a wheelchair while at the reunion: AAA Home Medical — 4473 Forest Park Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108, phone (314) 371-7800. Also check with Camela Medical Equipment — 3546 S. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63118, phone (314) 664-5522.

RV Parks in the area include: Historic Route 66 KOA, 18475 Old Rt. 66 — P.O. Box 128, Eureka, MO 63025-0128, phone (636) 257-3018. St. Louis RV Park, 900 N. Jefferson Ave. St. Louis, MO 63016, phone (800) 878-3330 or (314) 241-3330. Sundermeier RV Park, 111 Transit Street, St. Charles, MO 63301, phone (800) 929-0832 or (636) 940-0111.

_ CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HILTON HOTEL __

USS OZBOURN DD-846 — HOTEL RESERVATION FORM REUNION DATES — SEPTEMBER 23-27, 2009

Name	Snaring room with?		
Address	City	Zip	
Phone no Arrival date	Approx. time	_ Departure date	
No. of rooms No. of people in Double queen	room Handicap access	s King Queen	
If room type requested is not available number of handicap accessible room service. Specify if a roll-in shower is	ns available, please reserve		
RATE: \$79 + tax (currently at 15.07) ored three days before and three days			
CUT-OFF DATE: AUGUST 26, 20 space and rate availability.	09 . After this date, reserva	tions will be processed on	
CANCELLATION POLICY: Depose on the day prior to your arrival day.	All reservations must be gu	naranteed by credit card or	
AMEX DINERS VISA	_ MCCARTE BLANC	CHEDISCOVER	
CREDIT CARD NUMBER		_EXP. DATE	
SIGNATURE (Regardless of paymen Mail to: Hilton St. Louis Airport, 10			

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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 summer 2009 issue is Monday. June 15. Articles may be rewritten for purposes of editorial style. Due to space 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.

Richard:

Enjoyed the latest *Fireball* very much. I can add a couple of names to the photo on page three. Standing to the right of EM1 Potts is our CO, CDR A. J. Toulon in the bow tie. To his right is LT JG Ron Zuilkowki, the DCA under Chief Engineer George Fraser. I was the MPA and about to start CRU-DESPAC engineering school in San Diego followed by Damage Control school at Treasure Island, San Francisco. Can't name anyone else, but I'm sure I knew them at the time.

All the best, **John Nyquist** (55-58)



Front Row: Richard (Satch) Satchell, Bill LaFever Center Row: Jim Wade, Potts, Unknown Officer, Unknow Officer, Unknow lady, Unknown Officer Back Row: Unkown, Unknown Photo taken in Yokosuka, Japan, Winter of 1955

Good Morning Richard:

I just received my winter copy of the *Fireball* (on 1-19-09) and always enjoy the news, particularly the details on the upcoming reunion.

The issue contained a picture citing three unknown officers. The officer in the plaid jacket and bow tie is Commander A. J. Toulon, captain of the Ozbourn at the time (of the photo). Standing next to him is LT JG R. R. Zuilkowki the ship's engineering officer. I don't remember the other officer (Kanenbley?).

You may have already received this info from others but I believe you will find the above information to be correct.

Keep up the good work.

Henry Burge QM2 (54-57)

Greetings Rick:

I served aboard the USS Ozbourn between fall 1953 and summer 1957. I went aboard as SOSN (sonar) and I "retired" as SO3. I was designated as a shipboard instructor (basic orientation) for my last two cruises to the Far East (West Pac).

We had good relationships between the sonarmen and radarmen.

I steamed on three cruises, winding down the Korean Conflict by late 1953. We were on standby duty for the Suez Canal incident at one time. We hit just about every island in the Pacific. We made the Far East, the Philippines and all over the South Pacific, New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong, etc.

I've stayed in touch with Warren Zschach, who was a radarman, and Henry Burge, who was a signalman. Zschach was a special buddy and we spent many a liberty together in the San Diego/La Jolla, CA area as well as the Far East, etc.

When I served aboard the Oz, the sonar shack was located below the mess deck, clear down in the bottom of the ship.

When "GQ" was called and they battened down the hatches, we were pretty well isolated. Definitely not a place for claustrophobic concerns. We were known then as ping jockeys. Our sonar system was somewhat outdated and as best that I can recall, I believe it was then known as the QHB-Able. We could listen and or ping-off underwater objects such as subs, whales, thermal layers, etc.

I recall playing with an unidentified sub north of Formosa Patrol for several days. I couldn't get her to respond to underwater UQC challenges. The sub played hide-n-seek with the Ozbourn for three to four days and never really established any kind of closure.

I had a lot of unique experiences during the task force group operations including refueling, plane launches and retrieval, typhoons and visiting many ports of call.

I have lots of memories and many experiences from the three cruises. It's been more than 50 years since I left the Ozbourn. I'll give some thought to putting together a story about life aboard the Ozbourn during the mid 1950s. To date, I have not been able to attend the Oz reunions.

Gedunk Question for Spring 2009

The gedunk question for spring 2009 is: What does it mean when a shipmate says, "I'll buy if you fly?

Send your responses and comments to Rick Johnson at johnsonsimivalley@yahoo.com or mail your responses to Rick at 5899 N. Bronco Lane, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314. The deadline for submitting responses is Monday, June 15.

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.

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS



ARCH & CITY TOUR Thursday, September 24

We will travel by bus directly to the Gateway Arch, arriving near the Old Cathedral, the first church in St. Louis. If you wish to go up to the top of the Arch, you can purchase a ticket for \$10. Allow one hour for the ride up, the view from the top and the return ride. We recommend you do this soon after arrival as tickets will be reserved for us at that time. Two movie theaters show 45 minute movies, one about the construction of the Arch and one about the Lewis and Clark Expedition. There is also the Museum of Westward Expansion located near the Arch. It is recommended that you have lunch before leaving the Arch area. There are several restaurants within a few blocks west of the Arch and one about one-half mile north of the Arch. More restaurants are located at Lecledes Landing. We will board the bus about 1:45 p.m. for the city tour and other points of interest, returning to the hotel about 4 p.m.

9 a.m. bus departs Hilton, 1:45 p.m. bus departs the Arch, 4 p.m. arrive Hilton \$25/person — tram rides to the top of the Arch and lunch are on your own



MEMORIAL SERVICE & LECLEDES LANDING Friday, September 25

The bus will take us to the **Soldiers Memorial Military Museum** for our Memorial Service. Weather permitting, we will conduct the service on the landing on the north side of the museum near the handicap ramp. In the event of inclement weather, we will go to the second floor of the museum. Elevators are available. You will have time to view the museum and there are memorials to the veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam in the park across Chestnut Street. We will board the bus for **Lecledes Landing** and lunch at 11:45 a.m. Lecledes Landing is the location of the original settlement of St. Louis. The Lecledes Landing area consists of many historic buildings housing restaurants and small shops. The bus will leave at 2:15 p.m. returning to the Hilton Hotel.

9 a.m. bus departs Hilton, 11:45 a.m. bus departs Memorial, 2:15 p.m. bus departs Lecledes Landing, 3 p.m. arrive Hilton

\$28/person — lunch and shopping are on your own



RIVERBOAT DINNER CRUISE Friday, September 25

On Friday afternoon, the bus will take us to the riverfront across from the Arch where we will board the **Riverboat** for our **dinner cruise**. You will have the choice of four entrees for dinner and there will be a live Dixieland Duo for our entertainment.

5:45 p.m. bus departs Hilton, 7 p.m. board the Riverboat, 10:15 arrive at Hilton \$62/person — includes transportation and dinner



GRANT'S FARM TOUR Saturday, September 26

Grants Farm, once the home of President Ulysses S. Grant and now owned by Anheuser-Busch Inc., is the home of the Brewer's well known Clydesdale stable and Dalmatian kennels. There is the restored cabin that President Grant built when we was first married as well as a miniature zoo, animal feeding area and wildlife park. The Tier Garten and the Bauernhof offer snacks, lunches and shopping. Tran rides are also available.

9 a.m. bus departs Hilton, 11:45 a.m. bus departs Grant's Farm, 12:30 p.m. arrive at Hilton \$20/person — includes bus and general admission, snacks and shopping on your own

GRATUITIES AND BOARDING PROCEDURES

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. <u>Please plan to board the bus at least five minutes prior to the scheduled departure times.</u> Fees are subject to change.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION REUNION IN ST. LOUIS 2009

For attendees canceling reunion tours prior to the registration cut-off date of August 12, 2009, a full refund will be provided with the exception of the non-refundable registration fee. Attendees cancelling tours after the cut-off date will receive a refund to the fullest extent that the vendor commitments and guarantees will allow. For cancellations, contact: Ken Keene — 9995 Perry Highway, Meadville, PA 16335-6445. Phone 814-337-3197.

USS OZBOURN REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all the registration, tour and meal costs for the USS Ozbourn Association's Ninth Biennial Reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and the total amount for each event in the far right column and the total amount due the USS Ozbourn Association at the bottom of the column. Send this form and the total amount due and payable to the USS Ozbourn Association in the form of a check or money order to: Kenneth Keene, 9995 Perry Highway, Meadville, PA 16335 -6445. Your cancelled check will serve as your reunion participation confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail no later than August 12, 2009. After this date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. Your Association Officers suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

TOURS AND MEALS	PRICE EACH	NO. OF PEOPLE	TOTAL COST
Thursday City Tour and Gateway Arch	\$25.00		\$
Friday bus to Memorial and Lecledes Landing	\$28.00		\$
Friday eve. Riverboat Dinner Cruise (Please select entrée)			
Chicken champagne	\$62.00		\$
Roast prime rib of beef	\$62.00		\$
Alaska Pollack	\$62.00		\$
Manicotti with ricotta cheese	\$62.00		\$
Saturday tour to Grant's Farm	\$20.00		\$
Saturday evening banquet (Please select entrée)			
Chicken wellington	\$43.00		\$
Grilled salmon	\$41.00		\$
Beef tenderloin	\$43.00		\$
Sunday farewell breakfast buffet	\$21.00		\$
Non refundable registration fee per person	\$25.00		\$
TOTAL ANOUNT PAYABLE TO: <u>USS OZBOU</u>	IRN ASSOCATI	<u>ION</u>	\$
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Are you flying? Dr	iving?RV	E-mail addre	ess
First NameLast	N	ick name for tag	
Years aboard Ozbourn 19 to 19 Last rate/rank held	d on Ozbourn	Is this your f	irst reunion?
Spouse name (if attending)	Guest	name	
Street address	Phone	e no	
City, state, zip			
Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated YesNo (We cannot guarantee availability.) Di			
T	Phone no		



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

RICHARD J. DAVIS

January 1, 2009 Plank Owner

HELP A SHIPMATE'S WIFE

Dear Mr. Bill Jones:

I am writing to you in the hope of getting some answers I can't seem to find (on my own). I was given the enclosed e-mail, through my local Santa Cruz, County, CA VA representative, Lorena Vasquez. I seem to have upset her for some reason, so I am going it alone now. Thanks for the e-mail.

My husband served aboard the USS Ozbourn in the Navy from January 19, 1955 to November 1956. Don (Donald R. Henson), my husband, died June 23, 2005 of non, small-cell lung cancer. This particular cancer appears to be caused only from two sources: Asbestos and smoking or a combination of the two.

Don joined to get his life together. Having quit school after being suspended for smoking on campus at 16 years old. He was a light smoker.

Don and I married in 1995, about nine months after meeting. Don was the love of my life. Don was 57 years old and I was 36. Don's first wife died of breast cancer a few years before (we met).

In spite of all his illnesses and finally his death (God does have His plans, even if we don't understand them at the time = all the hurt and love), I had the time of my life — the good times — and for that, I'd do it all again.

Don was proud and embarrassed by his service. Don would not tell me much only bits and pieces here and there. It was very stressful for him. I did piece together a few things. I wrote the military and didn't get much. They (the military) seemed to not keep day-to-day records (regarding Don's health condition). (There was) one page called "marks" and a similar page entitled "Enlisted performance record". (There was) a beginning medical record (examination) and a sloppy ending (exam) records. And the most interesting medical records in between.

Some leave records that don't place him on board ship when other paper work (records) do, and other paper work (that) places him at the hospital when the leave records place him on board ship. I had to actually chart (Don's records) out to try to understand these things. I don't pretend to think my intelligence is above average (in trying to figure out Don's health history). Any way, I was hoping for a little more information please.

- 1. Don got hurt twice: Once on the foot from hot grease and once on the hand (fingers resulting in) first and second degree burns. Would there be hot grease any where (on ship) other than the boilers? Would anyone besides me refer to crude or bunker fuel (hot) as hot grease?
 - 2. What would the penalty of hard labor duty consist of on board ship?
- 3. Would you know how to get day-to-day ship logs or its information or Don's assignments?
 - 4. Did the USS Ozbourn ever carry radioactive arms? (missiles, etc.)

Don's mother lived to 91 years old and his dad to 69. Don died at 67 years old. I always figured he would at the very least split the difference (and live to 80 + years. His brother is 80 now.

I only know about what happened to Don (his assignment, etc) by his mistakes and illnesses. His symptoms were asbestos symptoms and his future cancer warning signs match his illnesses on board (ship). Thank you for your time.

Mrs. Donald R. Henson, P.O. Box 601 Watsonville, CA 95077-0601

WELCOME ABOARD



Welcome aboard to the below listed shipmates. The USS Ozbourn Association officers hope that you will become involved in the planned activities such as this year's Ninth Biennial Reunion scheduled for September 23-27 in St. Louis, MO.

Melvin Heymann

YN3 - 1946

William G. Parsons

QM3—1969-71 (See story below)

Philip Roberts MMCM—1968-72

Michael Krause

As told by William G. Parsons

I have many fond memories of my time aboard the Ozbourn. I made E-4 during my stay aboard the ship. I remember that the quartermaster shack was near CIC. The quartermasters and radarmen were both responsible for their own navigation charts.

From the Ozbourn, I was transferred to the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA in the summer of 1972. The school was located on the grounds of the Army Presidio, an annex of Fort Ord.

I spent 48 weeks learning the Vietnamese language with the sole purpose of becoming an interpreter/translator stationed in Saigon, Vietnam. After graduating from the DLI, I was sent to San Diego, CA to learn the art of survival.

There was a two-week waiting period prior to entering the four-week long defense survival school. During the two-week waiting period, everybody who had orders cut to go to Vietnam were cancelled because the war was winding down.

From San Diego, I was sent back to Monterey, CA to the Post Graduate School — site of the old Del Monte Hotel.

The Navy stationed me at the Oceanography School as a staff quartermaster. Most of the time remaining on my tour of duty was spent collecting thousands of sea samples from Monterey Bay. The samples were used in research or just warehoused. I stood my duty watch aboard the research ship. We rarely went to sea and we did, it was only during the day. It was great duty.

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



READY!



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



<u>FRAME</u>, 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

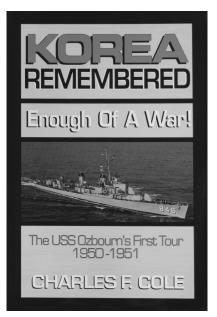
The following items are special order only. Contact Rudy Boff at Ship's Store address at left.

Micro-fiber Jacket, fleece lined-water repellent
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.

The book Korea R e m e m b e r e d: 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



Underway, shift colors! Old Glory waves above the waves while patrolling the Pacific.

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 most recent newsletter and find a number such as 09, 10 or 11. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 09 means 2009, 10 means 2010, etc. Your Association officers ask you to...

DO THE DUES TODAY!

THE USS OZBOURN'S NINTH BIENNIAL REUNION

SEPTEMBER 23-27, 2009 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

SEE DETAILS ON PAGES 1, 2, 4, 5

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.