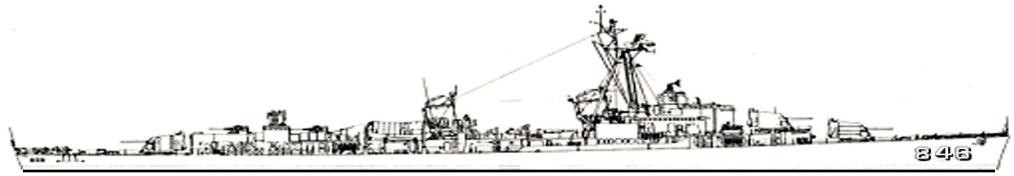


Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn
Tinian, Marianas Islands
28 July 1944

FIREBALL!

VOLUME 24, NO. 2
Spring 2015



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

Greetings to All Shipmates,



Good Day to all Shipmates, Spouses, Families and Friends, I hope that everyone had a great Holiday Season and have recovered from it all.

We are getting very close to our 2015 Reunion in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Reunion Committee continues to work very hard to ensure that this reunion will be one of the great ones. Those of you who have attended past reunions can clearly let those shipmates that have not attended, that they truly will have a great time.

IMPORTANT: If you are planning on flying into the Baton Rouge Airport, please remember to call the Holiday Inn South Baton Rouge, (225) 924-7021, no later than September 8, 2015, prior to your arrival for Complimentary transportation from the airport to the hotel. The hotel has hired a third party for our transportation needs from the airport and prior reservations are required.

Once again, our 2015 Reunion is another opportunity to come back together with old shipmates and is truly an affair that we have enjoyed over several years with wives, friends and family members always invited. This will be a great time of fun and relaxation.

Sallae and I are looking forward to seeing everyone in Baton Rouge.

God Bless all and God Bless the USA.

Be sure to hug your family and friends everyday.

Guy Posey MM3 (69-71)
President, USS Ozbourn DD846 Association



2015 REUNION USS OZBOURN DD846 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, September 23-27, 2015



USS Kidd Tour



New Orleans Day Trip



Plantation Tour/Lunch

2015 Biennial Reunion

Jeff Parker, Editor

“ALL HANDS, NOW HEAR THIS”, Baton Rouge, Louisiana has been selected as the Host City for the **2015 Reunion of the USS OZBOURN DD846 Association**. As all hands are already aware, the Association attempts to vary the sites throughout the U.S. as to not make it a burden on those residing around the entire country. As a result of the 2011 Reunion being held on the East Coast, Philadelphia, the 2013 Reunion being held on the West Coast, San Diego, it was time to meet in the central part of the country. After surveying several possible Host Cities, Baton Rouge was ultimately selected.

Clearly, our reunions are a family event and the Association Officers are very grateful for family members that attend and escort those shipmates that may require a little assistance.

We are also very pleased with the number of shipmates who are able to attend the reunions. Clearly, the motto, **“Sailors Once, Shipmates Forever,”** rings very true.

Our Host Hotel for the 2015 Reunion is the **Holiday Inn, Baton Rouge-South**. The Reunion Committee worked very hard and has negotiated an excellent daily rate of \$92.95 plus tax, double occupancy that also includes a daily breakfast. The hotel has also agreed to offer the rate of \$92.95 for three days prior and three days after the reunion for those wishing to arrive early or stay a bit longer, based on availability. The hotel can be contacted by dialing (225) 924-7021. Ask for In-House Reservations, utilizing the **Group Code OSB**. Members can also make reservations online at www.holidayinn/br-south.com. A block of 40 guest rooms have been set aside for our members. Don't delay, make your reservations today.

The reunion commences on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 with check-in and the Hospitality Room will be open at **4:00 pm**. On the final day of the reunion, Sunday, September 27, 2015, The Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**.

The **2015 Reunion Committee, Guy Posey, Mike Ward and Harold “Mac” McKeehan**, continue to work very hard to ensure that our 2015 Reunion will be one of the truly great ones.

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

PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE REUNION?

“Fireball” Editor, Jeff Parker

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

On behalf of the 2015 Reunion Committee, Guy Posey, Mike Ward and “Mac” McKeehan, we are attempting to ascertain the number of members and guests that plan on attending the 2015 Reunion. We of course realize that some members who indicate that they plan on attending, may be unable to in 2015, as well as those not committing may do so later.

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

If you have not already done so, please notify **Guy Posey**, Email: ppapaguy@aol.com or forward a quick note to Guy at **419 S. Appleway Lane, Glencoe, OK 74032**.

Officers of the Association

President

Guy Posey (69-71)
419 S. Appleway Lane
Glencoe, OK 74032
Tel: 405 747 0686
Email: ppapaguy@aol.com

Vice President

Randy Humphries (72-73)
3008 Rhode Island Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14305-2249
Tel: 716-807-6049
E-mail: rlhdriver@roadrunner.com

Corresponding Secretary and Fireball Editor

Jeff Parker (70-74)
1036 Calle Venezia
San Clemente, CA 92672
Tel: 949-388-3067
Email: ljparker1@cox.net

Recording Secretary

Kenneth E. Keene (71-74)
255 Farmwood Drive
Statesville, NC 28625-8570
Tel: 704-380-2052
Email: kkeene51@twc.com

Treasurer and Historian

Philip M. Roberts (68-72)
2608 Bentwood Drive
Palestine, TX 75803
Tel: 903-723-5719
Email: swabby54@hotmail.com

Past Presidents

Years served aboard ship/Assoc. Pres.
Robert Whitten, Jr. (50-52)/(93-99)
Cupertino, CA
W.D. Minter (52-55)/(99-03)
Texarkana, TX
Rudy Boff (52-55)/(03-07)
Pittsburgh, PA

PUBLICATION DEADLINE

If you have a letter, story or photo you would like to share with other Ozboourn shipmates, the deadline for submitting contributions for the **Summer 2015** issue is **April 15th**. 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.

“VETERAN IDENTIFICATION CARDS”

Jeff Parker, Editor, “Fireball”

As many members are already aware, there are several retailers and other organizations throughout our great Country that extend discounts and other perks to military veterans. Many of our members who have military service disabilities and utilize the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Centers, are issued an identification card. In addition, 44 States, offer veterans to be easily identified on their State Drivers License or Identification Cards. However, the States of California and Hawaii, home of a vast number of veterans do not currently offer this service.

Therefore, Association Secretary Ken Keene has produced a USS Ozborn Association Identification Card that will be issued to each dues paying member. Clearly, such an identification card is not issued by a governmental entity; however, these types of cards have been known to work very well at retailers such as Lowes Home Improvement Centers, etc.

“USS OZBOURN COLLISION DURING REFUELING”

Submitted by Shipmate Brian Buchholz Lt. (62-65)

Brian wished to remind all Shipmates of an incident that took place involving the “OZ” and an unidentified aircraft carrier involved in a collision during refueling exercises, sometime in 1964.

As the refueling was in progress, the Ozborn drifted closer and closer to the carrier. Brian was standing on the ASROC deck and became aware that a dangerous situation was developing. Looking up, Brian could see the overhang of the flight deck and envisioned a wave lifting us up and jamming the Ozborn into the underside of the flight deck. As we got in really close to the carrier, Brian believed there was a suction effect that drew the Ozborn in even closer. At about that time, the signalman on the Signal Bridge saw the danger and began to scramble down the ladder to the ASROC deck, jumping the last few feet of the way. Ozborn turned to starboard to get away from the carrier, but in doing so caused the port side of our fantail to hit the carrier. The Ozborn was lifted upward, but fortunately not into the underside of the flight deck. However, the two ships brushed against each other, enough so that one of our radio whip antennas broke off and fell onto the ASROC deck. The two ships parted and we got away without further incident, but it was a very close.



USS Ozborn (DD 846) brushes against the USS Midway CVA-41 during refueling.

Editors Note: Although the above photographs, obtained from the NAV Source website are consistent with Brian’s article, it could not be verified if this was the same incident.



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

“SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER”

The Association is saddened to report the passing of the following long time Friends, Members and Shipmates.

LOYD H. HAGEN RD1(54-57)

DR. BILL YOUNG (62-63)

“May fair winds and calm seas be with you always”

Fireball, Spring 2015

2015 REUNION SCHEDULE and TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Reunion Check-in: 4:00pm-11:00pm, the Hospitality Room will be open for Reunion Check-in as well as meeting friends and enjoying a beverage and snacks. (Dinner on your own).

Thursday, September 24, 2015

USS KIDD, VETERANS MUSEUM, MEMORIAL CEREMONY

We will board our climate controlled motor coach and travel to the USS Kidd for a self guided tour the this historical Naval vessel, the Veterans Museum and the gift shop. We will then gather at the Louisiana Memorial Plaza to remember those "Shipmates" that remain with us in spirit. This excursion includes a box lunch that we will enjoy together at the P-40 Warhawk Courtyard and enjoy the fellowship and ocean breezes.

9:00 am Bus departs Holiday Inn.....12:00 pm Lunch.....1:15 pm Bus departs USS Kidd

At 1:15 pm, our group will re-board our motor coach and drive the short distance to the Louisiana State Capitol and History Museum. At **2:30 pm**, we will then re-board our motor coach for our return trip to the Holiday Inn.

\$51.00/Person, Includes Transportation, Entrance Fees and Box Lunch

Thursday, September 24, 2015

RALPH & KACOO'S RESTAURANT DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT

Those of you who have selected this excursion will depart the Holiday Inn, board our motor coach and travel to Ralph & Kacoo's Restaurant for Dinner & Entertainment.

**5:00 pm Bus departs Holiday Inn.....8:00 pm Bus returns to Holiday Inn
\$55.00/Person, Includes Transportation, Dinner & Entertainment**

Friday, September 25, 2015

DAY TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS

We will board our climate controlled motor coach and depart the Holiday Inn to travel, to New Orleans. Upon arriving, you will be free to explore the many interesting sights, including the Jackson Square, the French Quarter, the French Market, take a carriage ride, try your luck at one of the many casinos, or visit the World War II Museum. Enjoy lunch at one of the many cafes and bistros in and around the French Quarter. (Lunch is on your own). Driving time is approx. 1.5 hours each way.

**9:00 am Bus departs Holiday Inn.....3:30 pm Bus departs New Orleans
\$35.00/Person, Includes Transportation**

Saturday, September 26, 2015

NOTTAWAY PLANTATION TOUR/ BUFFET LUNCH & OUTLET MALL

We will travel to the Nottaway Plantation where we will enjoy a guided tour and then enjoy a buffet lunch on site. After lunch, we will re-board our motor coach and travel to the Tanger Outlet Mall for shopping and relaxation.

**8:15 am Bus departs Holiday Inn.....3:15 pm Bus returns to Holiday Inn
\$65.00/Person, Includes Transportation, Guided Plantation Tour & Buffet Lunch**

Saturday, September 25, 2015

REUNION BANQUET

We will gather at the Holiday Inn's Sedona-1 Room for our banquet and entertainment. (Cash Bar).

**6:00 pm Group Photos.....6:30 pm Cash Bar Opens.....7:00 pm Dinner & Entertainment
\$35.00/Person, Includes Dinner and Entertainment**

Sunday, September 27, 2015

The Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**. Farewell until 2017.

USS OZBOURN REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour and banquet costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event, meal choice and the total amount. Send this form and your **check payable to USS OZBOURN ASSOCIATION** to: **Guy Posey, 419 S. Appleway Lane, Glencoe, OK 74032**. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail before **August 10, 2015**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form for your records before mailing.

<u>TOURS AND BANQUET CHOICES</u>	<u>Price Each</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Thursday, USS Kidd, Tour, Memorial Service, Lunch & Louisiana History Museum.....	\$51.00	_____	_____
Thursday, Dinner & Entertainment @ Ralph & Kacoo's Restaurant.....	\$55.00	_____	_____
Choices: #1 Grilled Shrimp with Cajun stuffed potato.....		_____	_____
#2 Certified Angus Ribeye with Cajun stuffed potato.....		_____	_____
#3 Chicken Gamberetti (charbroiled chicken breast).....		_____	_____
topped with mushrooms, shrimp with Cajun potato		_____	_____
#4 Trio Royale (Gulf shrimp & crawfish lightly fried with		_____	_____
Cajun stuffed potato		_____	_____
Friday, Day Trip to New Orleans (Lunch on your own).....	\$35.00	_____	_____
(Visitors to the WW II Museum must pay fee at the door)			
Saturday, Nottoway Plantation Tour and Lunch.....	\$65.00	_____	_____
Saturday, Banquet, (Please Select Entrée Below) Cash Bar			
Chipolte Glazed Chicken w/Rice Pilaf.....	\$40.00	_____	_____
10 ounce Ribeye, w/ Twice Baked Potato.....	\$40.00	_____	_____
Baked Salmon, w/Lemon butter & Rice Pilaf.....	\$40.00	_____	_____
Non Refundable Registration Fee Per Person	\$25.00	_____	_____

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

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

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Nick Name for Tag _____

Years on Board 19 _____ to 19 _____ Last Rate/Rank Held on Ozbourn _____ Is this you first reunion? _____

Spouse Name (if attending) _____ Date of Birth _____

Guest Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____ Telephone No. _____

City, State, Zip _____

Disability / Dietary Restrictions? _____

Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated in your wheelchair in order to participate in the bus trips?

Yes _____ No _____ (We cannot guarantee availability)

Emergency Contact _____ Phone No. _____

Are you staying at the Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South Hotel? Yes ___ No ___ Arrival Date _____

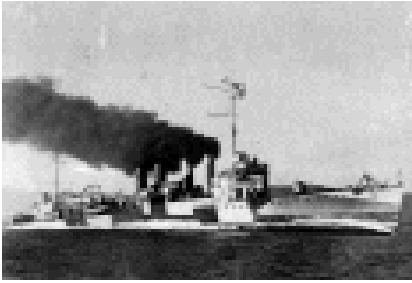
Departure Date _____

YOU MUST CONTACT THE HOLIDAY INN BATON ROUGE-SOUTH TO MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS. SEE THE HOTEL RESERVATION SHEET ON PAGE-2 FOR DETAILS.

TOURS AND BANQUET CANCELLATION REFUNDS WILL BE MADE BEFORE AUGUST 10, 2015.

USS WARD (DD 139)

Submitted by Tom Perkins FCI/c (50-53)



Date: 7 December 1941

Location: Entrance to Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii

Ship: USS Ward (DD 139, a “flushdeck” destroyer of WW I vintage assigned to the 14th Naval District local Defense Force.

Ward is on patrol in the defensive zone and has been given orders to attack any suspicious submarine targets, in effect it was “shoot to kill”. This was the first patrol for Ward’s new commanding officer, Lt. William W. Outerbridge, who had taken command just two days previously.

The time: 0408 hours. The ship went to GQ, searching for a suspected submarine target reported to be in the area of another ship. At 0506 hours, Ward lookouts sighted a small feather-like wake following directly behind the USS Antares that was entering the boom-net defenses. At 0645 hours, Ward charged the target bringing the 4-inch gun battery to bear and subsequently firing two rounds, one of which was seen to pass through the submarine’s conning tower. The midget submarine started to sink, was then showered with depth charges and became no longer visible. Ward thus had the distinction of firing the first American gun in anger during the Pacific War.

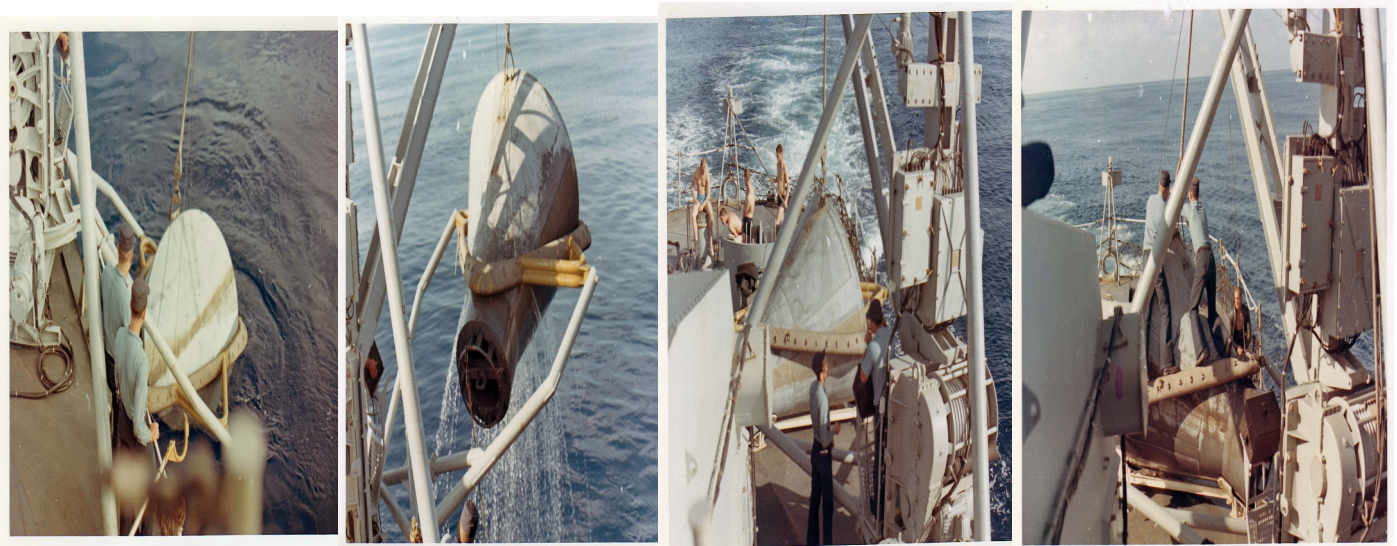
Fast forward to the date of 7 December 1944. We now join the weary Ward now carrying the designation APD 16 landing troops in Ormoc Bay, Leyte Island, Philippines as part of the invasion force. At 0825 hours, Ward is now engaged in supporting troops just landed when several Japanese bombers appear and attack the ships in the bay. At 0956 hours, Ward is crashed by a bomber which strikes the engineering spaces causing great damage and starting fires. Flooding and fires are soon out of control and it became clear that Ward is unsalvageable and the ship was abandoned at 1024 hours. The Task Force Commander now ordered the derelict sunk and the USS O’Brien (DD 725) stood in and delivered the coup de grace at 1130 hours, 7 December 1944, three years to the day after the historic action off Pearl Harbor in 1941.

The Commanding Officer of O’Brien, was none other than LCDR William W. Outerbridge, the former skipper of the Ward, who later recalled that it was “just something that had to be done.” Commanding Ward at this time was Lt. Richard E. Farwell. He served as the Assistant Engineering Officer onboard the Ward during the action at Pearl Harbor.

USS OZBOURN DD 846, GEMINI 12 RECOVERY TRAINING, NOVEMBER 1966

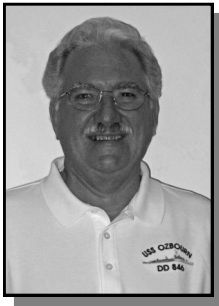
Submitted by Jerry McKee, YN2, (66-69)

Photos courtesy of Jack Kennedy, SN, (66-67)

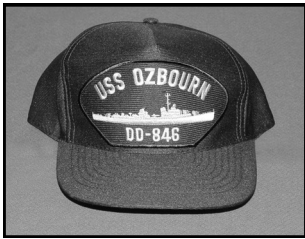


Fireball, Spring 2015

USS OZBOURN SHIP'S STORE
Open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week — Rudy Boff, Proprietor



Photos and additional ordering information can be found on the Ozboourn Web site at www.ozboourn.org under the heading Ship's Store. Orders may be placed with:
 Rudy Boff — 1036 Connor Road
 Pittsburgh, PA
 15234-1033
 Tel: (412) 833-0572
 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 \$16 ea.
 Vietnam, #C01V \$16 ea.



AUBURN COACH'S JACKET Navy Blue, 100% nylon shell with fleece lining, six matching metal snaps, profile of the ship in silver thread and lettering in gold. \$45 ea.
 Item# J01



Logo detail



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



Can holder made of foam. Navy blue body with white base. USS Ozboourn logo in white. \$3.00 ea. or two for \$5.00. Item# K01



FRAME, license plate
 Item# F01 \$5 ea.

SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

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

- Micro-fiber Jacket, fleece lined-water repellent \$95
- Jerzees Super Sweatshirt, White or Navy Blue \$40
- Golf shirts, White or Navy Blue \$35

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

“Add \$5.00 for size 2XL”

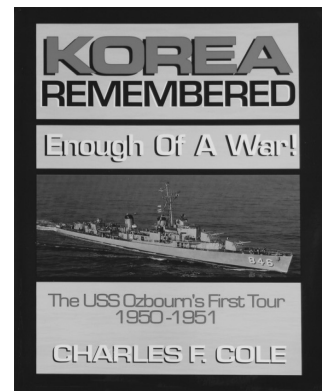


T-shirt short sleeve Navy & white with embroidered logo left side. \$25 ea. Item# T01
 Long sleeve \$35 ea. Item# T02



Logo detail

The book *Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!, the USS Ozboourn'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 near the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C.

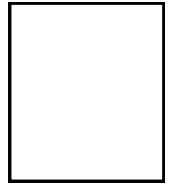


**“Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!,
 The USS Ozboourn's First Tour, 1950-1951
 By Charles F. Cole
 \$15.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping & handling**

DVD used in Memorial Service in San Diego listing names of shipmates that have passed away. \$15.00

<u>COST OF ITEM</u>	<u>COST OF POSTAGE</u>
\$0.01-15.00	\$3.00
15.01-25.00	4.00
25.01-35.00	5.00
35.01-45.00	7.00
45.01-55.00	8.00
55.01-65.00	10.00
65.01 or more	11.00

Jeffrey Parker
1036 Calle Venezia
San Clemente, CA 92672



Pvt. Joseph W. Ozbourn
USMC
Congressional Medal of Honor

FIREBALL! The official newsletter of the USS Ozbourn Association

DUES ALERT!

Are you overdue on your 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 15 or 16. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 15 means 2015, 16 means 2016, etc.

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

Your Association officers ask you to...

DO THE DUES TODAY!

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

The following information can be found on the Association's 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.

SHIP AWARDS RECEIVED BY THE USS OZBOURN

- Combat Action Ribbon
- Navy Unit Commendation
- Meritorious Service Medal
- China Service Medal
- World War II Victory Medal
- Navy Occupation Service Medal w/Asia Clasp
- National Defense Service Medal w/bronze Star
- Korean Service Medal w/5 Bronze Stars
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal w/2 Bronze Stars
- Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Silver Stars
- Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross Color with Palm)
- United Nations Service Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal