

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, Families and Friends



I want to invite all to Baton Rouge, Louisiana for our next reunion. Please make plans to attend. Send in those reservations early so plans can be made for the planning of motor coaches and venues. We look forward to having a great time to share old sea stories and maybe a few true ones as well.

The Reunion Committee has planned special entertainment that will be a true unique surprise at our 2015 Reunion in Baton Rouge. You surely do not want to miss this one.

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.

I hope that all are well and look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge

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

Election of Association Officers

All Association Members are reminded that during the 2015 Reunion's Business Meeting scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2015, at 7:30 am, there will be an election of Association Officers. The current Association Officers, **President Guy Posey, Vice President Randy Humphries, Recording Secretary Ken Keene, Treasurer-Historian Philip Roberts and Corresponding Secretary-"Fireball" Editor Jeff Parker**, will all be up for re-election. During the election, all members will have the opportunity to make nominations of any member they wish to have run for the Association Offices.

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



USS Kidd Tour



Come Join the Fun



New Orleans Day Trip

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

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Glencoe, OK 74032
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Email: ppapaguy@aol.com

Vice President

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Treasurer and Historian

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Palestine, TX 75803
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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 Ozbourn shipmates, the deadline for submitting contributions for the **Winter 2016** issue is **November 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.

“AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE, SHIPMATE REQUESTING HELP”

Jeff Parker, Editor, “Fireball”

As we have done so in past issues of the “Fireball”, we once again find ourselves having to report on another one of our shipmates efforts in determining his exposure to Agent Orange while serving on board the “OZ”. Currently, our shipmate’s family is preparing a claim that he was possibly exposed to Agent Orange while serving aboard the Ozbourn during its final Wespac deployment in 1972. Although there have been a number of shipmates including Association Secretary Ken Keene that have conducted extensive research related to Agent Orange exposure by the crew of the USS Ozbourn DD-846 while serving in Vietnamese waters, there are only a few dates recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Currently, the Veterans Affairs Health website recognizes the following dates as presumed exposure, November 1965, August thru October 1966, February 21, April 1 & April 11, 1971, as dates that the USS Ozbourn was located in operational areas where exposure to Agent Orange was possible. Clearly, there may be other dates.

As an Association, we are dedicated in our efforts to keep all of our members informed on important developments related to important issues that we as an aging group that have either currently faced or may do so in the future. If any member has any information that may assist our shipmate from the 1972 Wespac deployment, please notify Association Secretary Ken Keene or “Fireball” Editor Jeff Parker.

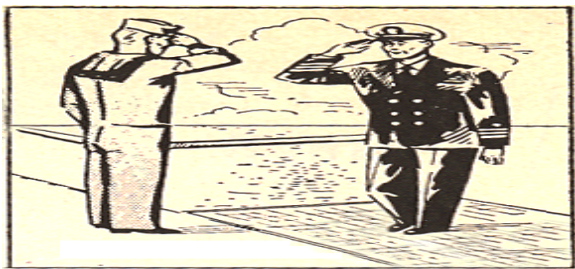
“CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST”

Jeff Parker, Editor, “Fireball”

In an effort to ensure the on-time delivery of your Quarterly “Fireball” Newsletter, when moving to a new town or changing your address, please be sure to notify Association Secretary Ken Keene or “Fireball” Editor Jeff Parker.

*******DONATIONS OF ASSOCIATION FUNDS*******

Requests for donations of the Association monies will only be considered if submitted in writing to an officer no less than (90) days prior to the Reunion Business Meeting and accompanied with a summary of the financial report of the proposed recipient organization. The officers will review all applications for donations and make recommendation to be voted on by the membership. The total amount of donations is not to exceed 10% of the Association Treasury balance (90) days prior to the reunion business meeting.



WELCOME ABOARD

As we all try to make plans on attending our upcoming 2015 Reunion in Baton Rouge, this is a great time to remind all Association Members to recruit new members from the many old shipmates we would truly enjoy visiting with and talking of the “Old Days” on the “OZ”.



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

“SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER”

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

PETER F. SCARDIGNO LT (69-72)

LOYD BURLESON QM3 ((53-57)

JOHN T. MORIARTY LTJG

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

Fireball, Summer 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.

8:45 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
\$40.00/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 OZBOURN DD 846, FLORIDA GET TOGETHER

Submitted by Reed Jones Lt. (65-67)



Recently, several “OZ” Shipmates got together to talk about the “Good Ol Days” while serving aboard the USS Ozboourn DD 846.

Pictured: **Gene Stagner, Wayne Olsen, Ken Carter, Mike Krause, Rick Vlazar, Cy Wells and John Wilson**

USS OZBOURN DD 846, DASH OPERATIONS TRAINING, MAY 1967

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



DASH Preparing for Launch



DASH in Flight

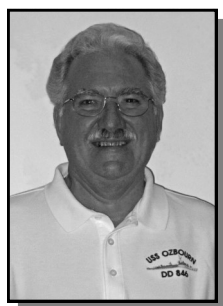


DASH Recovery

Fireball, Summer 2015

USS OZBOURN SHIP'S STORE

Open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week — Rudy Boff, Proprietor



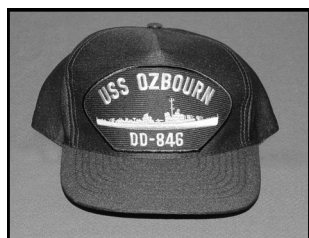
Photos and additional ordering information can be found on the Ozbourn Web site at www.ozbourn.org under the heading Ship's Store.

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 \$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 Ozbourn 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

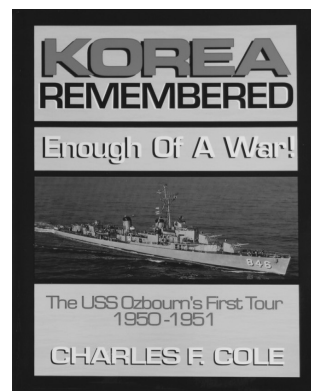
Long sleeve \$35 ea. Item# T02



Logo detail

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



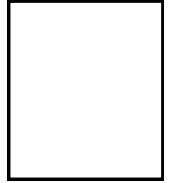
**"Korea Remembered: Enough of a War!,
The USS Ozbourn's First Tour, 1950-1951
By Charles F. Cole**

\$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>SHIPPING AND HANDLING</u>	
<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