

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

FIREBALL!

VOLUME 26, No. 3
Summer 2017



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

Good Day to All Shipmates, Families and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds all in good health.

As time draws near for our next reunion, I would like to remind all to send in your registration at the earliest possible time to ensure your spot on one of the fun tours that we have planned. As I have said so many times in the past, this is one of the most re-

warding times for Sallae and myself.

Our committee has worked hard in planning to make this 2017 Reunion a fun time. The staff at the Holiday Inn, Virginia Beach, is one of the best that I have had the privilege to work with.

Please come, relax and enjoy Virginia Beach and the surrounding area.

NOTE: Please be sure to bring a government issued I.D, such as a Drivers License, etc., from the State of your residence with you, as we will need it for the bus tour of Naval Station Norfolk.

Hope to see each one of you at the 2017 Reunion.

Hope all are well and may God Bless you all, our Great Country and all Americans.

Guy Posey, President

USS Ozbourn Association

USS OZBOURN DD846 2017 REUNION, VIRGINIA BEACH-NORFOLK VA.

September 27-October 1, 2017

*******FINAL NEWSLETTER BEFORE THE REUNION, RESGISTER TODAY*******



Tour the USS Wisconsin BB64



Don't Miss the 2017 Reunion



Tour of Naval Station Norfolk

2017 Biennial Reunion Update

"ALL HANDS, NOW HEAR THIS", Virginia Beach-Norfolk, Virginia has been selected as the Host City for the **2017 Reunion of the USS OZBOURN 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 2015 Reunion being held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the 2013 Reunion being held on the West Coast, in San Diego, it was once again time to meet in the Eastern part of the country. After surveying several possible Host Cities, **Virginia Beach-Norfolk** 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 who may require a little assistance. We are also very pleased with the number of shipmates who are able to attend the reunions.

Our Host Hotel for the 2017 Reunion is the **Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk**, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462. The Reunion Committee worked very hard and has negotiated an excellent daily rate of \$119.00 plus tax, double occupancy that also includes a daily breakfast for two. The hotel has also agreed to offer the same rate for three days prior and three days after the reunion for those wishing to arrive early or stay a little longer, based on availability. The hotel can be contacted by dialing **(757) 499-4400**. When making reservations be sure to tell the operator that you are attending the **USS Ozbourn Reunion**. **The cut off date to make hotel reservations is September 6, 2017.**

The reunion commences on Wednesday September 27, 2017 with check-in and the Hospitality Room will open at **4:00 pm**. On the final day, Sunday, October 1, 2017, the Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**.

The **2017 Reunion Committee**, **Guy Posey, Randy Humphries, Mike Ward, Harold "Mac" McKeehan and Mark "Blue" Beaulieu**, assisted by **Dan Edwards**, continue to work very hard to ensure that our 2017 Reunion will be one of the truly great ones. Don't miss out, register early. ***Please see the Reunion Schedule and Registration Forms located on***

PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE REUNION?

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

On behalf of the 2017 Reunion Committee, **Guy Posey, Randy Humphries, Mike Ward, "Mac" McKeehan and Mark Beulieu**, we are attempting to ascertain the number of members and guests that plan on attending the 2017 Reunion. We of course realize that some members who indicate that they plan on attending, may be unable to attend by the time September 2017 arrives.

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.

Please notify **GUY POSEY**, Email: **ppapaguy@aol.com** or forward a quick note to Guy at **419 S. Appleway Lane, Glencoe, OK 74032**

Association Officers

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Past Presidents

Years served aboard OZ/Assoc. President
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 2018** issue is **November 15th**. Articles may be re-written for purposes of editorial style. Due to 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.

PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION BELONGING TO SHIPMATE WALLACE "WALLY" DEETER, PN2, (48-49)

Submitted by Jeff Parker, Editor

As you all recall, I reported the passing of Shipmate and longtime friend Wallace "Wally" Deeter, PN2, (48-49), in the 2014 Fall Edition of the "Fireball".

The Association Officers have been contacted by Mandie Deeter, "Wally's" Widow, with a special request. Mandie has reported that several photographs taken by "Wally" that included the bow damage to the "OZ" after the collision with the USS Chandler in 1948, turned up missing after there attending the 1997 Reunion held in San Diego. "Wally" had brought the photographs to share with us during the reunion; however, that was the last place that they were observed by "Wally".

If any member has any information regarding the possible whereabouts of "Wally's" missing photographs, please contact one of your elected officers ASAP. Locating the photographs and having them returned would be of great importance to Mandie and the entire Deeter Family.



2017 Reunion Association Business Meeting

On Saturday, September 30, 2017, the Association Business Meeting will be held during the 2017 Reunion. Some members have shown an interest in being elected to fill any of the Association Officer positions. One member, **Mark Beaulieu**, is seeking a nomination for the position of Association Vice President. If there are any others wishing to be nominated for any of the Association Officer Positions, you may be nominated during the Business Meeting.

MARINERS MUSEUM, NEWPORT NEWS, VA

Shipmate Alan Swinger, Lt, (66-68), has recommended for those shipmates attending the 2017 Reunion, that are arriving early or staying longer, to visit The Mariners Museum, Newport News, VA. The museum is the current home of the USS Monitor from the Civil War. Alan is attempting to secure a discounted rate for those wishing to visit the museum. Although it has yet to be determined, if a discount will be available, those wishing to visit the museum should inquire if the USS Ozbourn Reunion attendees have a discount for entry into the museum. Website: **www.marinersmuseum.org**



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

"SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER"

WILLIAM B. BLOSSER, BT3, (51-55)

HERMAN "LEE" BROWN (49-52)

"May fair winds and calm seas be with you always"

2017 REUNION SCHEDULE and TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

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

Thursday, September 28, 2017

NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TOUR and VIRGINIA BEACH BOARDWALK

We will board our motor coach for a short ride to the U.S. Naval Station Norfolk where we will enjoy a 45-minute guided tour by a member of our Navy. (**NOTE: A GOVERNMENT PICTURE ID WILL BE REQUIRED FOR BASE ACCESS**). Upon concluding our tour of the base, we will travel to the Virginia Beach Boardwalk for free time to enjoy several museums and monuments. There are a number of places to eat or just relax on the boardwalk. (Lunch on your own). (**Depart Hotel 8:30 am, Depart Boardwalk 2:30 pm**)

Thursday, September 28, 2017

DINNER CRUISE on the "SPIRIT of NORFOLK"

Our motor coach will transport us from our hotel to the dock where we will board the "Spirit of Norfolk" for a buffet dinner and a 2-hour cruise of the Elizabeth River with spectacular views of our U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet. (Cash Bar). (**Depart Hotel 5:30 pm, Depart Dinner 9:15 pm, and Return to Hotel**)

Friday, September 29, 2017

USS WISCONSIN TOUR and MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our motor coach will transport us to the USS Wisconsin BB64 where we will attend our Memorial Service for our shipmates and tour this grand old battleship where you may also wish to tour the Nauticus and the Naval History Museum. After our tour, take a short walk, (2-Blocks), to the Douglas MacArthur Memorial where you can shop and have lunch nearby. (Lunch on your own). (**Depart Hotel 9:15 am, Depart Wisconsin 3:30 pm**)

Our motor coach will then return us to the hotel, where Friday evening will be designated for relaxation in the Hospitality Room and door prizes. (Dinner on your own).

Saturday, September 30, 2017

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn at **7:30 am**, prior to our departure for Jamestown.

Saturday, September 30, 2017

TOUR the OLD JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT

Enjoy a trip back in time to the Old Jamestown Settlement. You may wish to tour the three replicas of the English ships, the "Godspeed", "Susan Constant" and the "Discovery", that had sailed from England in 1607 bringing the settlers to the New World. There is a small café on site if you wish to rest and obtain a snack. We will then return to our hotel where we may rest in preparation of our Reunion Banquet.

(Depart Hotel 8:45 am, Depart Jamestown at 1:30 pm and Return to Hotel)

REUNION BANQUET

We will gather at the Holiday Inn's Banquet Room for our Reunion Banquet that will include entertainment and our guest speaker. (Cash Bar). (**Note:** The Hospitality Room will be closed during the Banquet).

(5:45 pm Group Photos, 6:30 pm Dinner, 7:00 pm Entertainment, 8:00 pm Guest Speaker)

Sunday, October 1, 2017

The Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**. Farewell until 2019.

USS OZBOURN REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour and banquet costs for the reunion. Please enter the number of persons who will be participating in each event, meal choice and the total cost. 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 payment must be received by mail before **August 10, 2017**. 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,	Naval Base Tour and Boardwalk.....	\$30.00	_____	_____
Thursday,	The "Spirit of Norfolk" Dinner Cruise.....	\$85.00	_____	_____
Friday,	USS Wisconsin Tour & Memorial Service.....	\$35.00	_____	_____
Saturday,	Old Jamestown Settlement.....	\$30.00	_____	_____
Saturday,	Banquet (Please select your Entrée Below) Cash Bar			
	#1) Fried Eggplant Parmesan, Pasta Dejour with.....	\$34.00	_____	_____
	Marinara sauce.			
	#2) Chicken Franchise, breast of chicken, battered pan ..	\$34.00	_____	_____
	sut'eed w/lemon butter sauce & herb flavored rice,			
	Red Bliss potatoes & asparagus.			
	#3) Citrus Grilled Salmon, filet of Salmon, with white	\$34.00	_____	_____
	wine butter sauce, herb flavored rice, green beans			
	with roasted peppers.			
	#4) Sliced Sirloin of Oven Roasted Beef, sliced sirloin	\$34.00	_____	_____
	topped with a peppercorn & mission Fig Demi,			
	oven roasted potatoes and broccoli			
	All dinners include tea, coffee, salad, warm rolls			
	and strawberry or chocolate cheese cake for desert.			

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 _____ Nick Name for Tag _____

Years on Board 19__ to 19__ Last Rate/Rank Held on Ozbourn _____ If Ret. Last Rate/Rank _____

Spouse Name (if attending) _____ Guest Name _____

Street Address _____ Tel No. _____

City, State ,Zip _____

Must you be lifted hydraulically onto the bus while seated in your wheelchair in order to participate in bus trips?
YES _____ No _____ (We cannot guarantee availability)

Emergency Contact _____ Tel No. _____

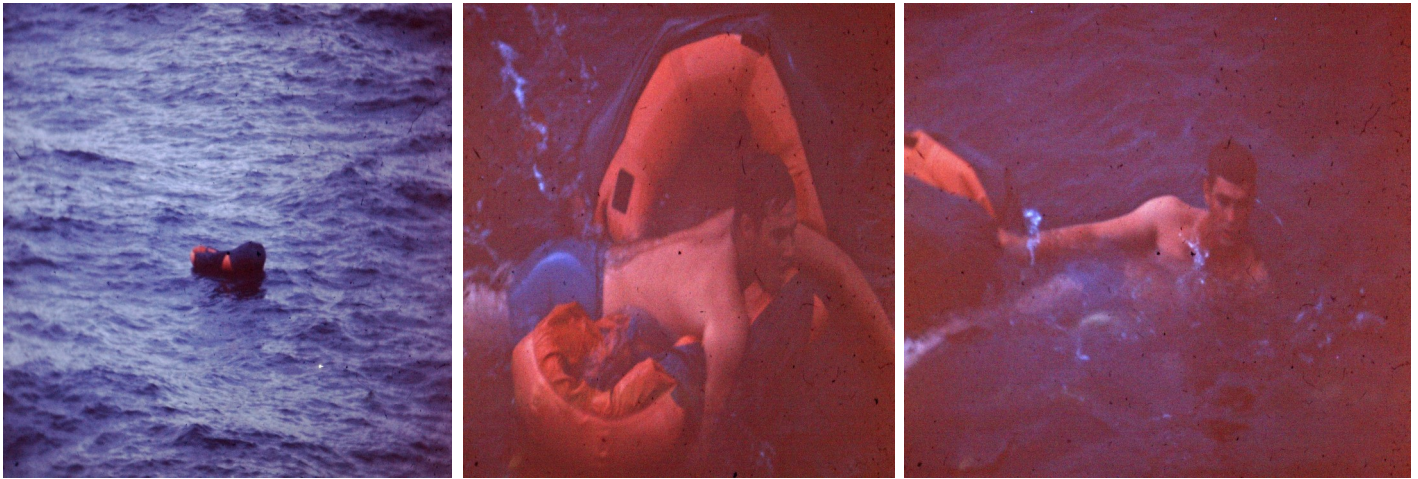
Are you staying at the Holiday-Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk? Yes ___ No ___ Arrival Date _____

**YOU MUST CONTACT THE HOLIDAY INN VIRGINIA BEACH-NORFOLK TO MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS
SEE THE HOTEL RESERVATION SHEET ON PAGE-2 FOR DETAILS**

REFUNDS FOR TOUR AND BANQUET CANCELLATIONS WILL BE MADE BEFORE AUGUST 10, 2017

USS OZBOURN DD846 PHOTO GALLERY

Submitted by Shipmate Jerry McKee YN2 (66-69)



Shipmate Jerry McKee, YN2 (66-69), a long time contributor to the "Fireball", provided the photos above. Jerry reported that in April or May 1968, as the "OZ" patrolled the coastline of Vietnam, an unidentified pilot's life raft was observed floating nearby. The Captain decided to have the raft recovered and an unidentified swimmer was put entered the water and recovered the raft. *Editor's Note: If anyone has additional information regarding this incident or the identity of the swimmer, please contact me or one of the Association's Officers.*

LIBERTY AT THE HONG KONG HILTON, DECEMBER 1966

Submitted by Reed Jones, Lt. (66-67)



Pictured Left to Right: Al Swinger, Bill Hogan, Marybeth Smith, Reed Jones, Sue Jones, Rosmarie Stark, Charley Stark, Phil Smith & Vince Nahr.

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 website 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

SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

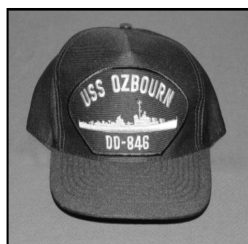
The following items are special order only. Contact Rudy Boff at Ship's Store address at left.

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"



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.



T-shirt short sleeve, White or Navy Blue with embroidered logo left side. \$25 ea. Item #T02

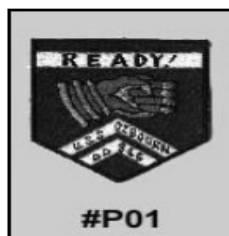
← Long sleeve. \$35 ea.



AUBURN COACH'S JACKET

Navy Blue 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. Item #P01

SHIPPING AND HANDLING

<u>COST OF ITEM</u>	<u>COST OF POSTAGE</u>
\$0.01 – 15.00	\$3.00
15.00 – 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

All shipmates, family and friends are encouraged to get their Ship's Store orders in early for delivery in time for the 2017 Reunion.

NOTICE

"FIREBALL" NEWSLETTERS

Jeff Parker, Editor

Just a quick reminder to all Association Members. On Odd Numbered Years, we publish three issues of the "Fireball" Newsletter, Winter, Spring & Summer. On Even Numbered Years, we publish four issues, Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall. This practice is due to our Bi-Annual Reunions being held on the odd numbered years.

The next issue will be the 2018 Winter "Fireball" that you will receive in your mail boxes in early December, 2017.

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 annual dues? Only dues paying members receive the **Fireball** newsletter. Look at your mailing label on your most recent newsletter and find a number such as 16 or 17. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 16 means 2016, 17 means 2017, etc. If you wish, you may pay for multiple years.

Membership dues are **\$15.00** annually and are due in January of each year. Please make checks payable 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 website: Mission Statement, a list of Ozbourn shipmates, historical photos, Ship's Store and how to Join the Association.

USS OZBOURN COMMANDING OFFICERS

The USS Ozbourn has had 18 different commanding officers during its 29 year history. Do you remember which skippers you served under? If you have an interesting story about any of the Ozbourn's commanding officers to share please forward your experience for possible inclusion in a future issue of the **Fireball**.

CDR B.A. Smith	March 1946-October 1947
CDR N.E. Blaisdell	October 1947-March 1949
CDR R.E. Freeman	March 1949-September 1950
CDR C.O. Akers	September 1950-April 1951
CDR W.B. Fargo	April 1951-April 1954
CDR H.T. Scott Jr.	April 1954-November 1955
CDR A.J. Toulon Jr.	November 1955-Sept. 1957
CDR C.A. Kuhl	September 1957-July 1959
CDR W.W. Turner	July 1959-March 1961
LCDR D.V. Gorman	March 1961-December 1961
CDR W.W. Lancaster	December 1961-October 1963
CDR D.W. Berger	October 1963-July 1964
CDR N.D. Nelson Jr.	July 1964-April 1966
CDR J.G. Denham	April 1966-September 1968
CDR R.L. Stewart	September 1968-June 1970
CDR E.W. Numbers	June 1970-December 1971
CDR K.L. Costilow	December 1971-March 1974
CDR F.J. Furtado	March 1974-May 1975

