

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

FIREBALL!

VOLUME 31, No. 1
Winter 2022



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 wanted to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and Happy 2021 Holiday Season.

Now that our 2021 Association Reunion is in the history books, I wanted to thank all who were able to attend. Due to the Covid Virus, I seriously thought of canceling; however, I decided to move forward with the plans. I had selected the Hotel Elegante because they were not laying off any employees due to Covid. The hotel is very

veteran friendly and went above and beyond our expectations.

I am very pleased with the turn out; You guys keep the Association together. Although there were a few last minute changes required, I hope that you all enjoyed the tours and activities that we put together,

The 2023 Reunion Committee has been formed and will start soon in locating a venue somewhere in the East that I am confident will have interesting activities for all to enjoy. Please start planning to attend the 2023 Reunion.

I wish to thank all of the Officers and the entire membership for the great support of our Association.

Guy Posey, President
USS Ozbourn Association



Photo courtesy of John Montoya, RD3, (64-67)

2023 Biennial Reunion

Jeff Parker, Editor

Now that the 2021 Reunion held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is now in the history books, the entire membership wishes to thank the 2021 Reunion Committee, **Harold McKeehan, Mike Ward** and **Guy Posey** for all of their very hard work. This of course includes their lovely wives, **Sallae Posey, Linda McKeehan** and **Bonni Ward**, for all of their assistance and patience in the great deal of work required to plan and see any reunion to a successful conclusion. We would also like to thank all of the members in attendance that jump in and help during each of our reunions. The 2021 Reunion was truly one of the great ones and we as an Association are very grateful.

As we enter the Holiday Season, the last thing on your mind is the 2023 Reunion to be held in the Eastern part of our great nation. However, its never to early to discuss our next reunion. During the 2021 Business Meeting, a request went out for volunteers to accept the responsibility of planning and organizing the 2023 Reunion. After doing a great job on the 2015, 2017, 2019 & 2021 Reunions, **Guy Posey, President, Harold "Mac" McKeehan, V.P., Mike Ward, Treasurer**, along with **Ed Woodbury**, have once again stepped up to the plate and will be commencing the planning stages for our 2023 Reunion in the near future.

Please watch for additional reunion news in future editions of the "Fireball".

Association Officers

President

Guy Posey (69-71)
419 S. Appleway Lane
Glencoe, OK 74032
Tel: 405-714-3168
Email: gtp68483@gmail.com

Vice President

Harold "Mac" McKeehan (70-72)
7360 Township Line Road
Waynesville, OH 45068
Tel: 513-897-2208
Email: cowboy1220@centurylink.net

Recording Secretary

Kenneth E. Keene (71-74)
504 Swaim Court
Salisbury, NC 28147-1352
Tel: 704-380-5756
Email: kkeene51@twc.com

Treasurer and Historian

Mike Ward (72-75)
3836 County Road W40
Decorah, Iowa 52101
Tel: 563-735-5585
Email: ward6770@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary and Fireball Editor

Jeff Parker (70-74)
1036 Calle Venezia
San Clemente, CA 92672
Tel: 909-910-9644 (NEW #)
Email: Ljparker1@cox.net

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

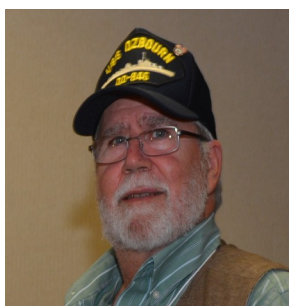
Rudy Boff (52-55) (03-07)
Pittsburgh, PA

Election of Association Officers

During the 2021 Business Meeting of the USS Ozbourn DD-846 Association taking place on 1 October 2021, the following shipmates were elected to serve as the Officers of the Association.



Guy Posey, President



Harold "Mac" McKeehan V.P.



Ken Keene, Secretary



Mike Ward, Treasurer



Jeff Parker, "Fireball" Editor

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 **Spring 2022** issue is **February 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 emails were received by your Association Officers during the last quarter.

COLD WAR RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES



Guy Posey reported that a recent article by the Tin Can Sailors Association advised on how each of us qualify to obtain a Cold War Recognition Certificate. Clearly, based on the official dates of the "Cold War", 2 September 1945 to 26 December 1991, makes every member of the USS Ozbourn DD846 crew eligible to obtain a certificate. You may request an application for a certificate online at [www. HRC.Army.Mil](http://www.HRC.Army.Mil)

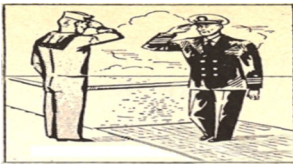


OZBOURN WIVES & FAMILY

Submitted by Jeff Parker, Editor

Where would we as veterans of service aboard the USS Ozbourn DD846 be if was not for the support of our wonderful wives and family members willing to sacrifice their time to ensure that our great Association and Reunions continue to be successful. I believe I speak for all of us that served that we are very grateful to you all.

Photo courtesy of John Montoya, RD3, (64-67)



WELCOME ABOARD

MARVIN EDMONDSON, (70-71)

DESRON-9, SHIPS SERVICED BY USS BRYCE CANYON AD36

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



Holister DD788, Ozbourn DD846, Mansfield DD728, Chandler DD717



TAPS FOR SHIPMATES

"SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER"

NORMAN SEIDEL, Ltjg, (63-65)

JOHN W NYQUIST, Ltjg, (55-58)

PHILIP SMITH, Ltjg, (65-67)

Minutes of the 15th Biennial Reunion Business Meeting
2021 REUNION IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
OCTOBER 1, 2021

Meeting called to order at 0800 by President Guy Posey.

Pledge of Allegiance rendered by Guy Posey

The Fireball Newsletter report given by Guy Posey in absence of Fireball editor Jeff Parker.

The expense for producing the Fireball for the years 2020-2021 totaled \$1,346.60.

After a brief discussion, motion made and seconded. Report approved without any nays.

Treasurers report given by Treasurer Mike Ward.

Beginning balance \$24,585.40

Less reunion expenses 14,273.50

Balance 10,311.90

Purchase of memorial wreath 97.52

Ending balance 10,214.38

After a brief discussion, motion made and seconded. Report approved without any nays.

Ship's Store report given by Proprietor Rudy Boff

Rudy reported that sales of all items in the Ship's Store had dropped dramatically during the last three years. He stated that the sale of many items is taken from the existing stock with little need to refill the existing inventory.

Between the years 2004 and 2018, there was an average of 18 sales a year with an annual revenue averaging \$652. However, between 2019 and 2021, the average annual number of sales dropped precipitously to just 5 sales a year with an annual revenue totaling more than \$247 per year.

A discussion ensued as to the reasons for the drop in sales. Some of the reasons included: The loss of membership due to those who have passed away; to the current members who have purchased everything they want with no need to purchase any more items from the Ship's Store.

Rudy Boff explained further that the replacement purchase price of all items listed in the Ship's Store is going up. Additionally, it's getting harder to find sources from which to purchase the items listed in the Ship's Store. Many of the manufacturing sources are requiring a much higher "minimum purchase" due to materiel costs.

Rudy polled those members present and inquired if he should continue ordering all Ship's Store items or order only the more popularly selling items; leaving the less popular items to be sold from the existing inventory until such items are sold out. Another suggestion was to order items tailored to the children and grand children of the Association members.

A discussion followed with a recommendation to promote the sale of items in the Ship's Store as presented in Rudy Boff's report. Report approved without any nays.

(Editors Note: Please support our Ships Store. Sales truly help with the fiscal health of our Association. Items for sale make great Holiday Gifts)

Minutes of the 15th Biennial Reunion Business Meeting (Cont.)

Old Business:

President Posey asked the members if there was any old business to discuss.

Hearing none, President Posey moved on to the next item on the agenda.

New Business:

Election of 2021-2023 Officers of the USS Ozbourn Association

For Corresponding Secretary and Fireball Editor - currently held by

Jeff Parker. Motion made and seconded. Approved without any nays.

For Treasurer and Historian - currently held by Mike Ward. Motion made and seconded.

Approved without any nays.

For Vice President – currently held by Harold “Mac” McKeehan. Motion made and seconded.

Approved without any nays.

For Recording Secretary – currently held by Kenneth E. Keene. Motion made and seconded.

Approved without any nays.

For President – currently held by Guy Posey. Motion made and seconded.

Approved without any nays.

Review of By-Laws

President Guy Posey presented a brief review of the Association’s bylaws by stating that the bylaws were reviewed, discussed, amended and approved at the September 26, 2015 business meeting held in Baton Rouge, LA.

Disbursement of donations of the USS Ozbourn Association campaign for 2021-2023

President Guy Posey asked for input as to which organizations should receive this year’s campaign funds. The amount recommended for this year’s donation campaign is \$1,000.

The organizations recommended include:

\$500 for the Tin Can Sailors, or

\$500 for the USS Orlick Museum Association

\$250 for the Wounded Warriors campaign

\$250 for the D.A.V.

By motion action, the final 2021-2023 organization approved for receipt of the USS Ozbourn Association include:

\$500 for the Tin Can Sailors

\$250 for the Wounded Warriors campaign

\$250 for the D.A.V.

Total of \$1,000

Motion made and seconded. Approved without any nays.

Review and approval of expenses for the 2021 Association Reunion

President Guy Posey made a brief review of expenses incurred while at the Hotel Elegante which included: Snacks, drinks, stationery supplies, and a memorial wreath.

The cost for the incidental expenses totaled \$449. Motion made and seconded.

Approved without any nays.

Minutes of the 15th Biennial Reunion Business Meeting (Cont.)

2023 Reunion Location

President Guy Posey opened up a discussion as to the location of the 2023 reunion. President Posey continued by saying the location of the next reunion will be on the East Coast in accordance with the Association by laws.

President Posey requested an amount, not to exceed \$1,000, be used by the Reunion Search Committee in an effort to locate and establish the site for the 2023 Association reunion.

Suggested reunion sites include: Rhode Island, Savannah, GA, and Jacksonville, FL.

President Posey then requested volunteers to serve on the 2023 Association Reunion Committee.

Volunteers include: Guy Posey, Mike Ward, "Mac" McKeegan, and Ed Woodbury.

President Guy Posey requested approval of the expense of, not to exceed \$1,000, in the search for a 2023 reunion site.

President Guy Posey further requested approval of the 2023 Reunion Search Committee as stated earlier. Motion made and seconded. Approved without any nays

President Guy Posey then adjourned the 2021 Business Meeting of the USS Ozbourn Association at 8:57 a.m.

(Editors Note: One of the greatest parts of our Association is its members. One such member, Rick Johnson, RD2, (61-64), routinely steps up and is willing to lend a very valuable hand when needed. As a past Editor of the "Fireball" and long time contributor to the Association, Rick not only officiated at this Reunions Memorial Service, Swore in the Newly Elected Association Officers and also assisted greatly with the 2021 Business Meeting. On behalf of myself and the entire Association, I would like to thank Rick and all of the Shipmates that lent a hand at the 2021 Reunion.)

USS OZBOURN DD846 ARCHIVES

Submitted by Dr. Marty Zipser, MD



DesRon 92 with the USS Ozbourn DD846 leading the way.

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

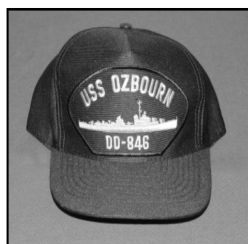
The following items are special order only. Contact Rudy Boff at Ship's Store address at left.

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

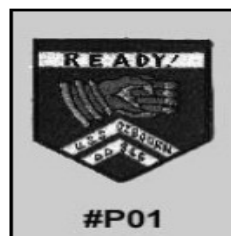
← Long sleeve. \$35 ea.



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 2021 Holiday Season.

SUPPORT YOUR SHIPS STORE TODAY!



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 21 or 22. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 21 means 2021, 22 means 2022, 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 **Mike Ward**, Association Treasurer, at 3836 County Road W40, Decorah, Iowa 52101.

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 M.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

