



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

# FIREBALL!

VOLUME 28, No.3  
Summer 2019



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](http://www.ozbourn.org)



## FROM THE BRIDGE

### Greetings to All Shipmates, Families and Friends

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

The next reunion is approaching at a fast pace. Please forward your registration as soon as possible. This will allow the Reunion Committee to make final arrangements with the vendors and host hotel.

Portland was the last Homeport of the "OZ"! It would be great if we could all be there for a record attendance. We have terrific tours and activities planned along with having a great host hotel. Portland is a beautiful city with many great activities you will be able to do on your own.

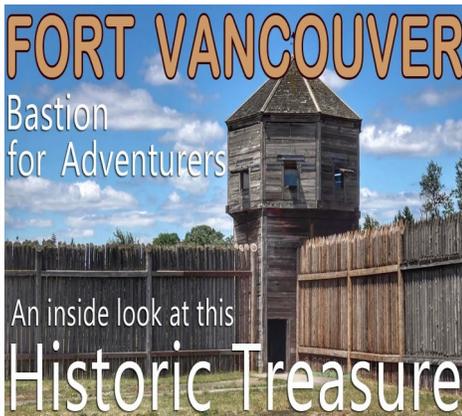
Please come and join your Old Shipmates and families for another great reunion. Hope to see everyone there.

Guy Posey, President  
USS Ozbourn Association

**(FINAL "FIREBALL" BEFORE THE REUNION, SEE YOU IN PORTLAND)**

## USS OZBOURN DD846 2019 REUNION, PORTLAND, OREGON

August 28, 2019-September 1, 2019



Fort Vancouver, Washington



Columbia River Gorge



Vietnam Veterans Memorial

## 2019 Biennial Reunion Update

"ALL HANDS, NOW HEAR THIS", Portland, Oregon has been selected as the Host City for the 2019 Reunion of the USS OZBOURN Association. As all hands are already aware, the Association attempts to vary the sites throughout the U.S. so as not to place a burden on those residing around the entire country. As a result of the 2017 Reunion being held in Norfolk, VA, and the 2015 Reunion being held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, it was once again time to meet in the Western part of the country. After surveying several possible Host Cities, **Portland, Oregon**, the last homeport of the "OZ", was ultimately selected.

Our Host Hotel for the 2019 Reunion is the **Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel**, 8235 Northeast Airport Way, Portland Oregon. 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. **For the best results when booking your rooms, please call the Hotel's Group Reservation Number (503) 335-2857.** The hotel can also be contacted by dialing (503) 281-2500. or Central Reservations at (800) 325-3535. When making reservations be sure to tell the operator that you are requesting the **USS Ozbourn Reunion Group Rate. The cut off date to make hotel reservations is August 14, 2019.** The reunion commences on Wednesday, August 28, 2019, with check-in and the Hospitality Room will open at **2:00 pm**. On the final day, Sunday, September 1, 2019, Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**.

The 2019 Reunion Committee, **Mark Beaulieu, Guy Posey, Mike Ward, and Harold "Mac" McKeegan**, continue to work very hard to ensure that our 2019 Reunion will be one of the truly great ones. Don't miss out, register early.

### **PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE REUNION?**

All of you that have been involved in the planning of one of the great biennial reunions are already aware of the hard work it takes to arrange a host hotel, motor coaches, excursions, banquet, guest speakers, entertainment, gifts and of course our hospitality room. On behalf of the 2019 Reunion Committee, **Mark Beaulieu, Guy Posey, Mike Ward, and "Mac" McKeegan**, we are attempting to ascertain the number of members and guests that plan on attending the 2019 Reunion. We of course realize that some members who indicate that they plan on attending, may be unable to attend by the time August 2019 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**

### **NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER**

Please note that **Association President Guy Posey** has a new telephone number, **(405)714-3168**.

## **Association Officers**

### **President**

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

### **Vice President**

**Mark Beaulieu (72-74)**  
8710 Hollow Banks Lane  
Houston, TX 77095  
Tel: 281-856-8964  
**Email: mark.a.beaulieu@outlook.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: 903-723-3818  
**Email: swabby54@hotmail.com**

### **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 2020** issue is **October 10th**. 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. The Association Officers wish to thank all Shipmates contributing photographs, historical stories and critical news so all members can stay informed.

### **BIG NEWS, AGENT ORANGE and the BLUE WATER NAVY**

*Submitted by Mark Beaulieu, MM2, (72-74) & Reed Jones, Ltjg, (65-67)*

On Tuesday, 29, 2019, a federal court ruled that Vietnam veterans who served on ships offshore during the war are eligible for benefits to treat illnesses linked to exposure to the chemical herbicide **Agent Orange**, a decision that has the potential to extend help to thousands of veterans. *(Editors Note: Although legislation has been introduced in Congress, I would highly recommend that every Shipmate and their families reach out to their representative in Congress to seek their support in passing this very important piece of legislation.)*

### **FOLLOW UP ARTICLE, HISTORY OF "OZ"**

*Submitted by Shipmate Don Sacco, DC2, (51-54)*

Just received the Spring copy of the Fireball and want to comment on the article covering the partial history of the OZ. The incident on the rescuing the crewman from the USS Boxer happened on 6 August 1952. We were awakened on that morning with an order for all swimmers to report topside. When we got there we could see heavy smoke from the Boxer as we neared the area. There were several nets in the water and men holding on to them. Our motor whaleboat was dispatched to them and they were taken aboard. Other DDs were picking up additional men. There was no need to send any swimmers from the OZ but our whaleboat crew did handle the men in the water.

Additionally, the OZ participated in escorting Red Chinese POW's from Korea down to Taiwan after the truce was called. There were thousands of them, (14000) as I recall that did not want to return to Red China and chose to become Nationalists. We escorted a group of LSTs that delivered them to their new island home. I'm a little unsure of the date of this mission, but I believe it was during July, 1953.

There was a terrible accident while loading the POWs. Each LST had a detachment of US Marines assigned as security for the movement. At some point, an LSVP with 30 fully equipped Marines being sent to board an LST was rammed by another vessel and was overturned resulting in all being lost. The current was so strong that there was no chance of a rescue.

Many Americans know that we had 22 turncoats at the end of the Korean War, but few know that many thousands of Red Chinese chose to escape from communism and joined Chiang Kai-Shek in Taiwan.

## **Donations of Association Funds**

All Members are reminded that any donation of Association Funds, are governed by the Association By-Laws, Section IV, Paragraph E.

"Requests for donations of the Association monies will only be considered if submitted in writing to an officer no less than ninety (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 then 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 ninety (90) days prior to the Reunion Business Meeting."



## **TAPS FOR SHIPMATES**

### **"SAILORS ONCE, SHIPMATES FOREVER"**

Let us take this opportunity to remember our Shipmates and family members that we have lost. Over these many years.

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

## **2019 REUNION SCHEDULE and TOUR DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Wednesday, August 28, 2019**

**Reunion Check-in: 2:00pm—10:00pm**, The Hospitality Room will open for Reunion-Check In as well as meeting friends and enjoying a beverage and snacks. (Dinner on your own). **NOTE: As a result of the State of Oregon Alcohol related Laws, all alcoholic beverages must be served by a licensed bar server. The beverages and snacks served in our Hospitality Room will continue to be complimentary; however, although the Hospitality Room may be open for the purposes of meeting old shipmates, there will be Beverage Service Hours that will vary throughout the reunion.**

### **Thursday, August 29, 2019**

#### **PORTLAND and VICINITY ON YOUR OWN**

After breakfast, you may choose to just “hang out” or join friends to tour **Portland and the Vicinity on your Own**. You may wish to visit the downtown shopping area of the Pearl District, walk the Waterfront Loop, tour the famous Portland Rose Garden or take a tour of the PT658, a restored World War II PT Boat on Swan Island. **(Complimentary Hotel Shuttle to the Mt. Hood Station of the Metropolitan Area Express, (MAX), the light rail system serving greater Portland. The MAX System offers those over 65, a \$2.50 All Day Pass).**

### **Thursday, August 29, 2019**

#### **DINNER CRUISE on the “WILLAMETTE STAR”**

Our motor coach will transport us from our hotel to the dock where we will board the “Willamette Star” for a buffet dinner and a 2.5 hour cruise of the Willamette River, the last Homeport of the “OZ”, that will provide spectacular views of Downtown Portland. (Cash Bar). **(Depart Hotel 5:00 pm, Depart Cruise at 9:00 pm. Arrive at Hotel at 9:30 pm).**

### **Friday, August 30, 2019**

**MEMORIAL SERVICE at WASHINGTON PARK VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, PICNIC BOX LUNCH then VISTA HOUSE, with VIEWS of the COLUMBIA RIVER, then a VISIT TO MULTNOMAH FALLS**  
Our motor coach will transport us to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial where we will attend our Memorial Service for our shipmates. We will then have a Box Lunch then onto to Vista House for views of the Columbia River. We will then travel to the spectacular Multnomah Falls before returning to our hotel. **(Depart Hotel 9:45 am, and Return to the Hotel at approximately 4:30 pm.)**

After returning to the hotel Friday evening will be designated for relaxation in the Hospitality Room. (Dinner on your own).

### **Saturday, August 31, 2019**

#### **ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING**

The Business Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel at **8:30 am**.

### **Saturday, August 31, 2019**

#### **REUNION BANQUET**

We will gather at the Sheraton Hotel 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).

**( 5:00pm , Social Hour, 6:00pm Dinner, followed by Entertainment, and Guest Speaker)**

### **Sunday, September 1, 2019**

The Hospitality Room will close at **8:00 am**. Farewell until 2021.

**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, 2019**. 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.

	<b><u>TOURS and BANQUET CHOICES</u></b>	<b><u>Price Each</u></b>	<b><u># of People</u></b>	<b><u>Total Cost</u></b>
<b>Thursday,</b>	The "Willamette Star" Buffet Dinner Cruise (Cash Bar).....	\$110.00	_____	_____
<b>Friday,</b>	Memorial Service, Vista House, Multnomah Falls, Box Lunch..	\$53.00	_____	_____
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>Banquet (Please select your Entrée Below) Cash Bar</b>			
	#1) Pan seared Salmon filet with Tomato-Caper Vinaigrette...	\$55.00	_____	_____
	#2) Chicken Francaise, breast of chicken, battered ..... with lemon butter sauce.	\$55.00	_____	_____
	#3) 9 oz Prime Rib of Beef with creamed Horseradish.....	\$55.00	_____	_____
	#4) Vegetarian Black Bean Cake w/Pico De Gallo and ..... Avocado Mash .	\$55.00	_____	_____

**All dinners include Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Mixed Vegetables, rolls, Caesar salad, tea, coffee, and Harvest Carrot 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 Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

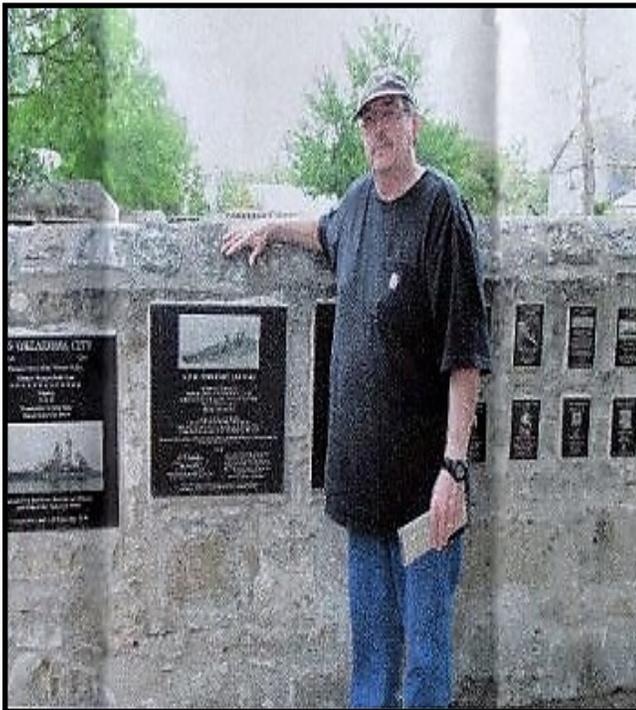
**YOU MUST CONTACT THE SHERATON PORTLAND AIRPORT HOTEL TO MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS  
SEE THE HOTEL RESERVATION SHEET ON PAGE-2 FOR DETAILS**

**REFUNDS FOR TOUR AND BANQUET CANCELLATIONS WILL BE MADE BEFORE AUGUST 10, 2019**

# USS OZBOURN DD846 PHOTO GALLERY

USS Ozbourn DD846 docked next to the the USS ST. Paul CA73, heavy cruiser, Subic Bay, Philippines, Admiral Bill Bringle, COMSEVENTHFLEET embarked, 67-68.

*Submitted by Mike Krause, Lt. (67-68)*



**Shipmate Dennis Fetters, SF3, (70-71), standing next to the "OZ" Plaque at the Museum of the Pacific, Fredericksburg, Texas**



**The old "OZ" in Dry Dock, 1967  
*Submitted by Jerry McKee, YN2, (66-69)***

# USS OZBOURN SHIP'S STORE

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

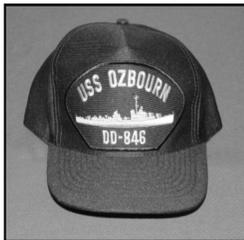


Photos and additional ordering information can be found on the Ozbourn website at [www.ozbourn.org](http://www.ozbourn.org) under the heading Ship's Store. Orders may be placed with:  
 Rudy Boff — 1036 Connor Road  
 Pittsburgh, PA  
 15234-1033  
 Tel: (412) 833-0572

### 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"



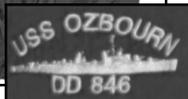
**CAP** cotton twill Navy blue, brilliant gold letters & Destroyer silhouette. 1 size fits all. Item #C01, \$14 ea. Embroidery on back: Korea, #C01K \$16 ea. Vietnam, #C01V \$16 ea.



**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, to be delivered in time for the 2019 Reunion. These items make great gifts.**

**“OZ” BANNER**

Measuring 3-ft X 5-ft with 2-metal grommets, dyed with beautiful bold colors, printed on one side visible through the fabric, double stitched around all edges with 4-rows of stitching on the flying edge.

\$40.00 plus S&H.

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 18 or 19. This number indicates the last year you were current with Association dues: 18 means 2018, 19 means 2019, 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](http://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

