

# BRYCE CANYON UPDATE

Volume 9, Issue 1

February 2004

## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS BRYCE CANYON AD 36



### Points of Special Interest

- *A humorous take on life in the Navy is in the cover article. Be sure to show it to your family members!*
- *An important message about the newsletter is on page two. Please read it carefully.*
- *Be sure to check the Financial Statement on page three.*
- *We welcome fifteen newly located shipmates in WELCOME MAT on page three.*
- *Keep up with the news from fellow shipmates in MAIL CALL on page 4.*

## HOW TO SIMULATE BEING A SAILOR

1. Buy a steel dumpster, paint it gray inside and out, and live in it for six months.
2. Run all the pipes and wires in your house exposed on the walls.
3. Repaint you entire house every month.
4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of he bathtub and move the shower head to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while you soap down.
5. Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it on high.
6. Once a week, blow compressed air up your chimney, making sure the

wind carries the soot onto your neighbor's house. Ignore his complaints.

7. Raise the thresholds and lower the headers of your front and back doors so that you either trip or bang your head every time you pass through them.

8. Once a month, take all major appliances apart and then reassemble them.

9. Disassemble and inspect your lawn mower every week.

10. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, turn your water heater temperature up to 200 degrees. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, turn the water heater off. On

Saturdays and Sundays tell your family they used too much water during the week, so no bathing will be allowed.

11. Raise your bed to within 6 inches of the ceiling, so you can't turn over without getting out and then getting back in.

12. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Have your spouse whip open the curtain about 3 hours after you go to sleep, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and say, "Sorry, wrong rack."

13. Make your family qualify to operate each appliance in your house-dishwasher operator,

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

blender technician, etc.

14. Have your neighbor come over each day at 5 am, blow a whistle so loud Helen Keller could hear it, and shout, "Reveille!"

15. Have your mother-in-law write down everything she's going to do the following day, then have her make you stand in your backyard at 6 am while she reads it to you.

16. Submit a request chit to your father-in-law requesting permission to leave your house before 3 pm.

17. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep the driveway three times a day, whether it needs it or not.

18. Have your neighbor collect all your mail for a month, read your magazines, and randomly lose every 5th item before delivering it to you.

19. Watch no TV except for movies played in the middle of the night. Have your family vote on which movie to watch, then show a different one.

20. When your children are in bed, run into their room with a megaphone shouting that your home is under attack and ordering them to their battle stations.

21. Make your family menu ahead of time without consulting the pantry or refrigerator.

22. Post a menu on the kitchen door informing your family that they are having steak for dinner. Then make them wait in line for an hour. When they finally get to the kitchen, tell them you are out of steak, but they can have dried ham or hot dogs. Repeat daily until they ignore the menu and just ask for hot dogs.

23. Bake a cake. Prop up one side of the pan so the cake bakes unevenly. Spread icing real thick to level it off.

24. Get up every night around midnight and have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on stale bread.

25. Set your alarm clock to go off at random during the night. At the alarm, jump up and dress as fast as you can, making sure to button your top shirt button and tuck your pants into your socks. Run out into

the backyard and uncoil the garden hose.

26. Every week or so, throw your cat or dog in the pool and shout, "Man overboard port side!" Rate your family members on how fast they respond.

27. Put the headphones from your stereo on your head, but don't plug them in. Hang an paper cup around your neck on a string. Stand in front of the stove, and speak into the paper cup, "Stove manned and ready." After an hour or so, speak into the cup again, "Stove secured." Roll up the headphones and paper cup and stow them in a shoebox.

28. Place a podium at the end of your driveway. Have your family stand watches at the podium, rotating at 4 hour intervals. This is best done when the weather is worst. January is a good time.

29. When there is a thunderstorm in your area, get a wobbly rocking chair, sit in it and rock as hard as you can until you become nauseous. Make sure to have a supply of stale crackers in your shirt pocket.

30. For former engineers: bring your lawn mower into the living room, and run it all day long.

31. Make coffee using eighteen scoops of budget priced coffee grounds per pot, and allow the pot to simmer for 5 hours before drinking.

32. Have someone under the age of ten give you a haircut with sheep shears.

33. Sew the back pockets of your jeans on the front.

34. Every couple of weeks, dress up in your best clothes and go to the scummiest part of town. Find the most run down, trashiest bar, and drink beer until you are hammered. Then walk all the way home.

35. Lock yourself and your family in the house for six weeks. Tell them that at the end of the 6th week you are going to take them to Disney World for "liberty." At the end of the 6th week, inform them the trip to Disney World has been canceled because they need to get ready for inspection, and it will be another week before they can leave the house.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance from 10/03 issue

**\$137.67**

Funds Received since 10/03

**\$257.00**

Funds Available for 01/04 issue

**\$394.67**

Funds Expended 02/04 issue

**\$395.45**

Balance Remaining for 04/04

**Minus \$. 78**

**Funds will be needed for 04/04. No newsletter will be published unless sufficient funds are received.** Send contributions to ML&RS at the address below. Be sure to state it is for the Bryce Canyon Update.

### **Published By:**

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(General e-mail)

**dinamlrs@charterinternet.com**

(Newsletter related e-mail only)

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Web site: **www.mlrsinc.com**

*"Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To"*

**USS BRYCE CANYON  
2004 REUNION**

**OCTOBER 14-17**

**TUCSON, AZ**

**TUCSON HILTON**



## WELCOME MAT

The USS BRYCE CANYON Association announces the following former crewmen have recently been located. Welcome aboard and we hope to see you at the next reunion.

*Donal Frigerio*  
7928 Tineja Lane  
San Diego, CA 92139  
619-884-0370  
frigerio@cox.net

*Ken Daniels (1963-71) MM1*  
1610 2nd Ave  
Olivehurst, CA 95961  
530-742-3141  
kennyd@otn.net

*Gene Echols (1975-77)*  
214 Madrid St  
St. Augustine, FL 32080  
904-669-8488  
bliner99@bellsouth.net

*Matthew Neill (1966-68) ET2 R-4*  
5860 SW 203rd Ave  
Aloha, OR 97007  
503-642-3564

*Guy Quinn (1975-77) RM3 OPS*  
5413 Whitman Dr  
Midland, TX 79705  
432-697-9835  
goquinn@cox.net

*Fred Casebolt (75-78) RM3 OPS*  
3436 Shorncliffe Ln  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
727-460-3829  
fcasebolt@yahoo.com

*William Litwin*  
208 Sawyer Hill  
New Milford, CT 06776  
860-350-2200  
wlitwin@mindspring.com

*Louis Panico (77-79) HT3 R Div*  
P O Box 2356  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
386-547-8858  
southernstainless@hotmail.com

*John Ouldhouse (1965-69) TS3*  
213 W Milwaukee Ave  
Deer Lodge, MT 59722  
Faye\_ouldhouse@hotmail.com

*Ron White*  
ronw@cox.net

*Thomas Berchem*  
5837 Wade Rd  
Milford, OH 45150

*Captain Smokey Stover*  
312 E Kansas St  
McPherson, KS 67460  
620-245-2505  
smokey@mfd.kscoxmail.com

*Jerry Sternberg*  
Box 8373  
Asheville, NC 28804  
jsternberg@aol.com

*John Merryman (1976-78)*  
261 McNeil Dr  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128  
615-867-8386  
jam525044@aol.com

*Thomas Price PN3 X Div*  
406 Lancassange Dr  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
812-284-5201  
halfprice69@cs.com



## TAPS

The Bryce Canyon Update learned of the following shipmates' deaths since the last newsletter. Every member of the Association sends his heartfelt sympathy to the widow, family and friends of the deceased.

*Charles Grech*  
(1951-52) MR3 5th Div  
Died December 2001

*Gene Cole*  
(1951-53) ME2 6th Div  
Died August 29, 2003

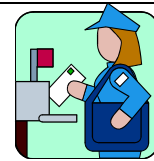
*Neil Carter*  
Died November 19, 2002

*Clifford Crosby*  
(1954-56) MM3 M Div  
Died November 18, 2003

*Dean Ferguson*  
(1951-54) YN1 X Div  
Died August 1, 2003

*Glenn Kirchner*  
(1951-55) BTFN  
Died July 30, 2001

Anyone knowing of, or learning of, the death of a shipmate, please inform ML&RS so his name can be added to the Honor Roll and included in TAPS.



## MAIL CALL

Dear Sirs:

I am Clifford Crosby's widow. He passed away November 18, 2003.

Since his passing, I have heard from several crew members, all with the same illness.

The VA said he had cancer due to asbestosis, but he could not get it service connected. He was MM3. He was told by the Veterans Affairs Officer that if he didn't have it within one year of being discharged, he didn't get it from the Navy. It takes decades to show up in the lungs. He also had pulmonary fibrosis which also comes from asbestos. Don't give up. Talk to anyone who will listen. I was told that there is an article in the November or De-

(Continued on page 4)

*(Continued from page 3)*

ember American Legion Magazine about how the VA is treating the sailors. See if you can get a copy.

I would like to thank all the crewmembers who contacted me.

Mary Crosby  
P O Box 83  
Cottage Village, SC 29435  
mesmoak@lowcountry.com

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*(In regard to Clifford Crosby's letter in the November issue of the Update)*

Dear Shipmates,

I would like to hear from anyone that has had this problem.

Thanks,  
Charles W. Jackson  
cbjackson@cei.net

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Bryce Canyon Update,

I am gravely amiss in sending this notification of my husband's death.

Glenn Kirchner BTFN 1951-55 developed asbestosis in 1998. In 2000 Deb Hackman in our local VA office assisted us in applying for compensation. She did an exceptional job.

Early in 2001 he was given a lump sum amount retroactive to the time of our application. Monthly checks began in July of 2001. Glenn died July 30, 2001. Deb Hackman again assisted me in applying for dependent's benefits which I have been receiving each month. In addition, I qualify for CHAMPS Insurance which mails all my prescription drugs free and pays for any medical expenses not covered by Medicare or my supplemental insurance.

In this issue (Nov 2003) which I just received, there was a letter from Clifford Crosby, asking any shipmates who had asbestosis to contact him in hopes that he could

get some compensation. I did contact Mary Crosby and am sad to hear I was too late. Clifford Crosby had died less than 2 weeks ago.

I guess I would like to submit my name as a contact for anyone else considering applying for compensation. I would be glad to provide any information that would be helpful.

Early in 2000, Glenn had contacted a shipmate, Harold Martin, to use as a reference. At that time we found out the reunion had just been held in Minneapolis/St Paul. It would have been good to attend that because by 2001 when the reunion was in Seattle, Glenn was unable to travel that far because he was on oxygen full time. In addition to asbestosis, Glenn had emphysema and heart disease, but it definitely was the asbestosis that caused the most damage to his lungs.

In closing, I must add that Glenn's years aboard the Bryce Canyon were good years. His memories were mostly good ones. When he retired as maintenance supervisor at a cheese plant, he bought a fishing boat and named it Bryce Canyon.

Sincerely,  
Dolly Kirchner  
304 Winnebago  
Decorah, IA 52101  
563-382-9243

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Hello Dina,

On 1 August 2003 Dean J. Ferguson died on his 73rd birthday. Dean served primarily on the USS Bryce Canyon (AD-36). Internment with full military honors was at the Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside, CA. The family suggest memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, PO Box 96570, Washington, DC 20077-7685.

With sadness, a shipmate,  
Bradley B. Nickey

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## OBITUARY

*Submitted by Danny Hardy*

**Gerald Gene Cole**, 71, of Chehalis, WA passed away in Centralia on Friday, August 29, 2003. He was born February 25, 1932 in Chehalis to Lawrence "Sam" and Pearl (Daniel) Cole. He attended school in Chehalis and has always lived there except for the 4 years he served in the Navy aboard the USS Bryce Canyon during the Korean War.

Following his military service he married Jane E. Lutz, also of Chehalis, buying a small farm on Coal Creek Road. Gene worked and retired as General Superintendent of American Crossarm and Conduit Co. in Chehalis where his father had also been employed.

Gene loved to go fishing and hunting for many years with his buddies on the Cowlitz and Toutle Rivers and in the Naselle area. His most recent hobby was feeding and watching his wild birds and continuing to work on his home. He was a member of the Chehalis Eagles, the Veteran's Museum and the American Legion.

He is survived by two sons, one daughter and seven grandchildren. Also one brother, one sister and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

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Hi,

I was not at the reunion this year because I was recalled to active duty June 26th and have been in Camp Spearhead Kuwait since Aug 8th and will probably be here until at least March of 04. My brother Armon and I were looking forward to this year's reunion since neither one of us had been to the Southern States yet, except I've been to Florida twice, once for our little brother's graduation from boot camp and last year's cruise of course. Hope everyone had a good time and look forward to next year in AZ.

RM1 Jay Collman  
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