

# TORPEDO ALLEY



Vol. 13 No. 6

June 2017

**Newsletter of Charleston Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.**

**Base Meeting:**

BOD: June 1 1800  
 Membership: June 8 1900

**Location:**

FRA Branch 269  
 Low Country Home  
 99 Wisteria Rd.  
 Goose Creek, SC



Base Commander	Ralph Rohrssen	843.670.2135	Chief of the Boat	Joe Lunn	843.747.5368
Base Vice Commander	Mike Knaub	843.795.6665	Veterans Affairs	Ken Curtis	843.797.1268
Secretary	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011	Membership	Larry Knutson	843.860.1155
Treasurer	Gordon Williams	843.553.3015	Scholarship	George Scharf	843.873.3318
			Storekeeper	Ron Chambers	843.821.2268
			Historian	George Scharf	843.873.3318
			Public Affairs	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Chaplain	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Holland Club	Bill Freligh	843.553.1115
			Newsletter	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Webmaster	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Kaps for Kids	Bill Kennedy	843.875.3109



## Submarines Lose During the Month of June

<b>USS HERRING (SS-233)</b>	June 1, 1944 – 8 <sup>th</sup> war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS	- 83 SOULS
<b>USS R-12 (SS-89)</b>	June 12, 1943 – practice torpedo approach near Key West FL	LOST WITH 42 SOULS - 21 SURVIVORS	
<b>USS GOLET (SS-361)</b>	June 14, 1944 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS	- 82 SOULS
<b>USS BONEFISH (SS-223)</b>	June 18, 1945 – 8 <sup>th</sup> war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS	- 85 SOULS
<b>USS S-27 (SS-132)</b>	June 19, 1942 – grounded off Amchitka Island Alaska		- NO LOSS OF LIFE
<b>USS O-9 (SS-70)</b>	June 20, 1941 – foundered off Isle of Shoals NH		- LOST WITH ALL HANDS- 33 SOULS
<b>USS RUNNER (SS-275)</b>	June 30, 1943 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS	- 78 SOULS

**SEVEN Boats and 403 Men Lost**

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### Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Moncks Corner Parade	Saturday, July 1	1400	17A –Hwy 6, Moncks Corner, SC
Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting	Thursday, July 6	1800	FRA Branch 268, Goose Creek
Charleston Base Meeting (Social Hr starts 1800)	Thursday, July 13	1900	FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek
Victory House Visit	Tuesday, July 18	1000	VFW Ladson to carpool

### Other Events of Interest

## FROM THE BASE COMMANDER

Those of you who can please attend the Moncks Corner 4th of July Parade on Saturday, July 1. Muster is at 2 pm (1400) at the Berkeley Count Alternative School at the corner of Live Oak Drive (US-17A) and E. Main Street (SC-6) in Moncks Corner. It will probably be hot so dress accordingly. Vests are recommended but not required. We may have some active duty sailors with us.

### From the Editor

Here are a couple of ideas for inclusion in the Charleston Base Newsletter:

1. Letters to the Editor—You can write about anything but please no profanity or attacks on other members.

2. A page devoted to getting items you no longer have a use for to someone who can use it. If you wish to sell the item that's fine too!  
If you have any other ideas, please let me know.

This edition is shorter than I hoped due to some family problems.

## From USSVI National

Normal message traffic from USSVI will be published each month in the newsletter. If the message is of immediate interest to the membership it will be sent out by the Base Secretary. Messages are arranged in the order received

SubVets News 2017-029: PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER TOM CONLON

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 6/5/2017

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Shipmates,

PNC Tom Conlon has lost his valiant struggle of many years to save his right foot and leg from complications due to his diabetes.

On Thursday June 8th Tom is scheduled for surgery to remove his right leg. The surgery will take place at Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville NJ.

Please keep Tom , Gina and their family in your Thoughts and Prayers for a speedy recovery. I will keep you advised as too Tom's condition.

Fraternally,

Les Altschuler  
Director, NE Region  
NJ North Base Cmdr.

SubVets News 2017-032: PNC TOM CONLON STATUS

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 6/9/2017

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THE FOLLOWING WAS RECEIVED FROM LES ALTSCHULER, NE REGIONAL DIRECTOR THIS AFTERNOON:

I just got off the phone with Tom, he is in ICU waiting to be moved to a regular room his spirits are very good. He does not have his cell phone or yet and is using his wife Gina's cell phone. Tom will let me know when he has his phone and ta

He asked if you would send out a POC letting everyone know that his surgery went very well yesterday. His right leg was removed below the knee and he's looking forward to going to a rehab facility so that he can be fitted with a prosthetic leg and learn to walk again.

SubVets News 2017-009:: 2017 USSVI CONVENTION INFORMATION

Submitted by: Ray Wewers on 3/15/2017

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Below is information for registering at Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel and for the 2017 Convention

2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

1. 2017 USSVI National Convention in Orlando, Fl

Rosen Shingle Creek is a 4-star hotel with tons of amenities, including:

- Rooms for \$105.00 per night
- Free parking for hotel guests
- Free valet parking for handicapped guests with handicap license/sticker
- \$2.00 beer and reduce price mixed drinks in the hospitality room
- 25% discount at various hotel restaurants for guests

Note: Hotel and Convention Registration can be done on line

• Enter "<http://www.ussviconvention.org/2017/>"

• Click on the "Hotel Registration" or "Convention Registration"

2. Buying an ad in the convention magazine is a great way to promote their base and to support the convention

- Enter "<http://www.ussviconvention.org/2017/>"
  - Click on "Vendor Information" and "Magazine Ad Order Form"
3. Convention sponsorship is another way to support the convention
- Enter "<http://www.ussviconvention.org/2017/>"
  - Click on "Vendor Information" and "Sponsor Cover Letter" or "Sponsor Contribution Form"

Respectfully,  
 Russ Kraeger  
 2017 Convention Treasurer  
 (803) 439-3064

SubVets News 2017-030: 2020 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION HOST BASE SEARCH  
 Submitted by: Ray Wewers on 6/6/2017

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 2020 USSVI National Convention

The USSVI National Convention Committee is looking for a Host Base or Bases to hold our 2020 National Convention. Base Commanders, please discuss this subject at your next Base Meeting. Remember, the last two National Conventions were very profitable to the Host Bases. The 2015 National Convention netted the Requin Base about \$33,000.00 & the 2016 Convention netted the Covina Base about \$26,000.00  
 Please contact me if you are interested or if you have any questions. Here is my contact info:  
 Email [ussronquil@yahoo.com](mailto:ussronquil@yahoo.com)

Phone 734-671-3439

Richard M. "OZZIE" Osentoski  
 National Convention Chairman  
 USS RONQUIL SS-396 Reunion Coordinator

SubVets News 2017-33: USSVI & Groton Base Legal Issues  
 Submitted by: John Markiewicz on 6/15/2017

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 USSVI & GROTON BASE LEGAL ISSUES

A lot of rumors have been flying around that Groton Base is suing USSVI and that USSVI is refusing to communicate with Groton Base or let the USSVI membership know what is going on.

I can tell you at this time is that no lawsuits have been filed to date. Confidentiality of ongoing negotiations between Groton Base and USSVI have been observed by the USSVI Board on the advice of attorney, however, Groton Base leadership has insisted on going public with their issues and their version of what is going on, so the only story getting out is coming from Groton Base.

The issue is regarding Groton Base's refusal to continue to file the 1120 tax return with the IRS and with the State of Connecticut because, after nearly 50 years of filing, they have decided that it is illegal for them to continue to do so. They also argue that the EIN that they have been filing under is illegal because it is illegal for USSVI to have two EINs. However, the EIN they have been filing under is a Groton Base EIN and has not ever been a USSVI EIN. This resulted in my temporarily suspending the liquor license and the Groton Base Charter as an emergency matter until I could convene a meeting of the Board to decide on how we were going to handle the issue. After the Board met, within a few days, we immediately lifted the suspension on both the liquor license and the charter. The Board has been consulted and has approved every action taken by myself, the appointed committee to work on a settlement and the attorney.  
 Unfortunately, when USSVI first obtained their separate EIN and the 501(c)19 tax exempt status, back in the 80s, neither the newly tax exempt USSVI nor the Groton Base bothered to restructure the operation of the for-profit club & bar and continued to operate it under the Groton Base EIN as they had always done. That has continued for many years with both Groton Base claiming and USSVI believing that Groton Base owned the Clubhouse and

Bar. It was discovered in 2013 that this was not the case and that USSVI not only owned the Clubhouse (a title search has been done by our attorney) but that the liquor license was also owned/backed by USSVI.

In order to protect the interests of USSVI and its members a Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up to allow Groton Base to continue to operate the Clubhouse and Bar. Groton Base has since repudiated and the Memorandum of Understanding between USSVI and Groton Base for the operation of the Club and Bar null and void. This could leave USSVI totally responsible for the operation of the clubhouse and bar and totally liable for any problems/issues with running a Bar that we have virtually no control over.

A meeting with Groton Base earlier this year resulted in an agreement for USSVI to hire an attorney to get a legal opinion and that both sides would abide by the decision of the attorney. This was approved by the Board of Directors and we did obtain an attorney who specializes in Non-Profit Corporations, our attorney also has been consulting with an independent CPA and with a Corporate Tax Attorney to attempt to resolve the issues. This process is still ongoing.

Our attorney recommended that both USSVI and Groton Base request an extension on filing the 2016 taxes until this matter has been resolved. USSVI applied for and received an extension, Groton Base refused to request an extension and was advised that any penalties or interest accruing from their failure to file or request an extension would be on them. Their 1120 tax return is now delinquent and the resolution to that issue rests with the IRS.

Our attorney recommended that communications between Groton Base and USSVI should go through her so as to reduce or eliminate confrontations and also asked that both parties treat this with confidentiality until we reach an agreement. USSVI, until now, has complied with that request while Groton Base has insisted on sending out full notices by email and posting their letters on Facebook as well as other forums.

A settlement option offering to allow Groton Base to separately incorporate the Club House & Bar operation from USSVI and to transfer, if possible (they may need to get a totally new liquor license), the liquor license to that new corporation has been presented to Groton Base, which would give them what they have maintained for many years, full ownership of the Clubhouse and Bar Operation. It was also offered that we would sell the Building to the new corporation at a To Be Negotiated price, which would then remove USSVI from the ownership and all control of the Clubhouse and Bar operation. It was also stated that, if they accept the offer, we would arrange a meeting to work out the details at our attorney's office in Hartford, CT with them and their attorney. Groton Base has thus far not accepted the offer and has stated they have not decided whether they will meet with "The Lawyer" and that all meetings will be at the Clubhouse in Groton.

This is the current status of the Groton/USSVI legal issues. Anyone that has ever dealt with legal issues and attorneys know that it is a slow, expensive and time-consuming endeavor and that negotiations are preferably done in private between the parties and not by public forum. I will post the final results of any negotiations once they have been completed and ask you all to remain neutral and allow the legal process to take place without further inflaming the issues with rumors and innuendos that have little connection with the facts

JOHN MARKIEWICZ  
USSVI NATIONAL COMMANDER

# USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

8 June 2017

The attendance for the March 2017 meeting was 78 members.

**Opening Ceremonies:** The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1900. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost in June was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Vice Commander Mike Knaub. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

**Admiral James B. Osborn Scholarship Awards:** The Base Commander introduced Scholarship Committee Chairman George Scharf. He then presented the scholarships to the recipients. George Scharf presented a \$500 scholarship to Dylan J. Higgins grandson of James M Higgins. Larissa Trump Granddaughter of Terry L. Trump received \$800.00.

**Swearing in of Newly Elected Officers:** District Commander Ed Stank swore in newly elected officers Ralph Rohrssen as Base Commander and Gordon Williams as Base Treasurer.

**Introductions:** The following introduced themselves at the meeting: ETR2 (SS) Howard Dobson, Qual Boat: USS Sam Houston SSBN 609. EMNCS (SS) Mike Mercer Qual Boat: USS Louisiana SSBN 743

**Secretary:** Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the May meeting minutes had been published in the newsletter and on the base website. Mike asked the group for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Rick Wise made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Ken Curtis.

**Treasurer:** Base Treasurer Gordon Williams gave his report on the Charleston Base finances. The base financial report is now located as a password protected file on the base website under Documents and Resources. The password is the same as needed for the Sailing List

**Chaplain:**

**June Report**

**Highlighted boat of the month:**

USS GOLET SS-361 was lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 82 men while on her 2nd war patrol. Japanese antisubmarine records available after the war revealed that GOLET was the probable victim of a Japanese antisubmarine attack north of Honshu.

I am happy to report that Rick Sparger did such a great job filling in for me at the May meeting that I have just a few items to report this month.

- **Ralph Rohrssen** had surgery and is doing well.
- **Rick Alkire** has had some breathing issues but is doing better.
- **Don Petersen** has been diagnosed with throat cancer and is having both chemo and radiation treatments.
- **Don Meadows** reports that both sons made it through the kidney transplant. Been a rough up and down. Both boys had problems. Andrew is still at Walter Reed for 2 months. Donnie is home. He thanks everyone for the support.
- **MM1(SS) Greg Dunn** departed on Eternal Patrol on May 17<sup>th</sup> from a massive heart attack. Greg had been the Cincinnati Base Commander since 2010.
- **Mike Ciesielko's** granddaughter, **Madison Grace** who is 10 years old, had surgery at MUSC today to replace a heart valve and insert a stent.

**Art Hance** is recovering well from an emergency gall bladder surgery he had at the beginning of May.

If you have a change of mailing address, phone number, email address please let the base leadership know about it. We need to make sure all of our records are updated so we can make contact with you if we need to.

## WEBMASTER NOTES:

Make use of the EVENTS page on the Charleston Base website. All events that are put out to the membership via email will be listed and updated on the events page.

**District Commander:** Ed mentioned he will be visiting the Victory House Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June. The Base now has insurance for base functions. The National Convention is in Orlando Florida this year. Ed said that it is very expensive. The Convention is on 1-6 September. Ed gave a Bravo Zulu for all the help he has had for the Victory House.

**Membership:** Rick Wise reported that there are now 302 members.

**Kaps for Kids:** Bill Kennedy reported that the Visit to the Shriners Hospital will be Tuesday August 15th. There will be about 14 attending and around 50 Kids will be visited. Bill is asking for Coloring Books and Crayons to be donated at the June and July meeting. The Florence Hospital visit will be June 20<sup>th</sup>. Bill mentioned that Summerville Medical Center has a children's center. We will schedule a visit.

**Veterans Affairs:** Reported that there is a bill introduced S1024 to significantly improve veteran's claims. This will also improve the time to take appeals processed.

**Holland Club:** Rick Wise reported that he had 11 Holland Club Coins for members who wanted them on a first come basis after the meeting.

**NPS Awards:** Ray Sparks announced that the next graduation will be Friday 21st July. Meet at the exchange parking lot at 0800.

**FRA:** Rick Sparger reported that the Old Fashioned Navy Breakfast will be served from 0830 to 1100 on Sunday 11 June.

**Submarine Veterans of World War II:** George reported that the next Luncheon is at the FRA, 15 June. We are going to have videos at the luncheon. Willie Jones was presented his Holland club coin and hat by Ed Stank and Mike Emerson last week. Willie Jones was stationed on the USS Barb in WWII. The Barb was one of the most decorated boats in WWII.

**Scholarship:** Jack Harden gave us a 100.00 check in memory of Scottie Enos

**Newsletter/Public Affairs:** Rick Wise would like to start a letter to the editor section in our monthly Base newsletter.

**Special Events:** Rick reported that we will be attending the Monks Corner Parade July 1<sup>st</sup>. Muster at 1400.

**Storekeeper:** Ron Chambers had no report

**CRAMA:** No Report

**Chief of the Boat:** Make sure you bring coloring books and crayons to the next meeting.

**Base Commander:** Ralph Rohrssen thanked everyone for their vote of confidence. He is ready to lead us to the next few years.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Mike Mercer was our guest speaker to ask for us to use the NNPTC students for any volunteer work because they need events to volunteer to earn the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

**Good of the Order:** Mike Welch reported that Andy Anderson donated \$250.00 towards Holland Club Coins

**The After Battery:** Buddha had nothing to report.

**Nuclear Historian:** Ed Stank reported:

### **When God Created a Submariner**

15 May 2012

When the good Lord created a Submariner, it was almost 2300 on the sixth day. An angel appeared and said, "You're having a lot of trouble with this one. What's wrong with the standard model?"

And the Lord replied, "Have you seen the specs on this order? It has to be able to think independently, yet be able to take orders; have the qualities of both a scientific mind and a compassionate heart; be able to mentor juniors and learn from seniors; run on black coffee; handle emergencies without a Damage Control Manual, respond competently to critical incidents, decipher cryptographic codes, understand pneumatics, hydraulics and sonar, have the patience of a saint and six pairs of hands, not to mention the strength of three its size."

The angel shook its head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands - - No way!"

And the Lord answered, "Don't worry, we'll make other Submariners to help. Besides it's not the hands which are causing the problem. It's the heart. It must swell with pride when a Shipmate earns his Silver Dolphins - which above all else signifies the crew members trust it with their lives, sustain the incredible hardship of life at sea in a steel tube,

beat on soundly when it's too tired to do so, and be strong enough to continue to carry on when it's given all it had. "Lord," said the angel touching the Lord's sleeve gently, "Stop! It's almost midnight!"

"I can't," said the Lord. "I'm so close to creating something unique. Already I have one whose hands blend knowledge with skill to perform the most intricate procedures, yet are strong enough to patch a ruptured seawater pipe; whose ears can discern the sonar sounds of a myriad of ocean life, yet detect the slightest shift in ventilation; whose mind can practice the science of nuclear submarining, yet not lose sight of the art of teamwork; and whose eyes can peer through a periscope to identify a hull down ship, yet search within to embrace and personify honor, courage and commitment."

The angel circled the model of the Submariner very slowly. "It's too serious," the angel sighed. "But tough," said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this Submariner can do or endure." "Can it feel?" asked the angel. "Can it feel? It loves Ship, Shipmates and Country like no other!" Finally the angel bent over and ran a finger across the Submariner's cheek. "There's a leak," pronounced the angel. "I told you you're trying to put too much into this model." "That's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear." "What's it for?" asked the angel. "It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, frustration and pride!" "You're a genius!" exclaimed the angel. The Lord looked pleased and replied, "I didn't put it there." Filled with pride, the Lord continued, "Great things are planned for this Submariner. It will be one of many and together they will lead a legacy of excellence like none has known before." And with that the Lord rested. It was the seventh day.

CAPT Jane F. Vieira  
Chaplain Corps, United States Navy

**Charleston Base Gun Club:** Mike Ciesielko announced that the Charleston Base Gun club had a shoot scheduled two weeks ago. We will try to schedule one in July

The Red FRA ticket was won by Gerald Starr.

The depth charge was won by Paul Smith

**Benediction:** Chaplain Nick Nichols gave the benediction.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Following the benediction the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2015.

## New Base Officers Sworn In



Ed Stank

Gordon Williams Ralph Rohrssen

Gordon Williams

Ralph Rohrssen

District Commander Ed Stank swears in new Base Commander Ralph Rohrssen and Treasurer Gordon Williams.

## Admiral James B. Osborne Scholarships

A \$500 scholarship was awarded to Dylan J. Higgins, grandson of Charleston Base member James Higgins and a \$800 scholarship was awarded to Larissa Trump, granddaughter of Charleston Base member Terry Trump. Since both recipients are out of state the awards were made to their grandfathers.



## Summerville remembers fallen heroes (Article from Summerville Journal Scene)

By Roger Lee rlee@journalscene.com May 29, 2017

America's fallen heroes were honored May 29 during a Memorial Day Service at Summerville/Parks Cemetery.

A consortium of local veterans service and civic organizations teamed up to orchestrate the service, which drew a large crowd of people wanting to ensure those who died in service to our country will always be remembered.



*From left, United States Submarine Veterans Inc., Charleston Base, Incoming Chief of the Boat Joe Lunn and Outgoing Chief of the Boat Ken Hutchison salute the American Flag.*

The ceremony began with a procession by the Scottish-American Military Society, Post 1860.

Dorchester County Veterans Affairs Officer Col. Ed Burns, United States Air Force, retired, handled the opening remarks and welcomes. U.S. Submarine Veterans, Charleston Base, Chaplain MTCM (SS) John Nichols, U.S. Navy, retired, gave an invocation and Mary Mizell sang the National Anthem before Burns led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced guest speaker Capt. Gerald Corcoran, United States Navy, retired.

Corcoran shared details regarding the history of Memorial Day and talked about the importance of the holiday.

"For those of us who have worn our nation's uniform and especially for the families of our fallen heroes, Memorial Day is a time of profound remembrance," Corcoran said. "We must pause to embrace our brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, who have answered their nation's call. It should be a source of pride for everybody here that Summerville is one of the very few towns left in this country that holds a celebration like this."

Corcoran used quotes from a Ronald Reagan speech about The Three Fighting Boys of Vietnam statue to inspire the crowd, telling them Americans should strive to stand together like those who fought in Vietnam stood together both during combat and after they returned home.

"We owe them something," Corcoran quoted. "We owe them a promise that just as they did not forget their missing comrades, neither, ever, will we. And there are other promises. We must remember that peace is a fragile thing that needs constant vigils. We also owe them a promise to look at the world with a steady gaze and perhaps a resigned toughness, knowing that we have adversaries in the world and

challenges and the only way to meet them is to maintain peace by staying strong.”

Corcoran also asked the crowd to do two things.

“First, remember why we have this holiday and why it is so important to remember those who have given their lives in the defense of freedom and their families,” he said. “Secondly, take some time to explain the significance of this holiday to someone in the younger generations. Your children and grandchildren don’t know as much about our country’s history as they should.”

After his speech, the Women Marines Association, SC-2 True Grits Chapter, placed a memorial wreath in the middle of the cemetery. After the performance of Amazing Grace by Kevin Smith of the Scottish American Military Society, the VFW Post 3433 Honor Guard gave a rifle volley and John Morrisett of Bugles Across America played Taps.

The ceremony concluded with a benediction by John Nichols.

The United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. was the primary sponsor for the 2017 Memorial Day Ceremony. Other participating organizations include American Legion Post 21, Summerville; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3433, Ladson; Scottish American Military Society Post 1860; Disabled American Veterans Chapter 17; Knights of Columbus Assembly 1900; Summerville Elks Lodge 2719; Women Marines Association, True Grits Chapter; Dorchester County Veterans Affairs Office; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3433, Auxiliary; and Summerville High School Navy J.R.O.T.C.



## FEMA is seeking Safety Advisors

FEMA is seeking talented, experienced men and women for the role of **Safety Advisor** within the Safety Cadre of the Reservist Program. FEMA Reservists are disaster workforce employees who work on an on-call basis to support survivors of all-hazard incidents. In this role, you will serve as a senior advisor to the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) on all occupational safety and health concerns affecting and arising from the incident. You will be responsible for anticipating, recognizing, and controlling hazards in the work place.

## Primary Position Duties

- Develop, implement and review site specific occupational safety and health programs.
- Provide all training requirements in accordance with 29 CFR 1904, 1910, 1926 requirements, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Directives and FEMA Directives, Manuals and Standard Operation Procedures.
- Establish, chair, and coordinate the Interagency Safety Committee.
- Coordinate hazard communication with the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) Safety Coordinator to ensure all inter- and intra-agency partners review information on the identified hazards.
- Review the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and recommend adjustments as needed.

**TO APPLY:** submit your resume to [Hattie.Mukombe@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Hattie.Mukombe@fema.dhs.gov) and include “**Safety Advisor**” in the subject line **OR** apply online at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/471471600>. For additional information about FEMA’s Reservist Program visit <https://careers.fema.gov/reservists-program>.

## **For First Time in 153 Years, Public Will See Inside Civil War Submarine** **Staff, WYFF4, June 6**

**CHARLESTON, S.C.** — The inside of a Civil War submarine, shrouded in mystery since it vanished with its crew of eight 153 years ago, will be viewed by the public for the first time on Wednesday.

The H.L. Hunley was the world’s first successful combat submarine.

The innovative hand-cranked, single-propeller sub was built in Mobile, Alabama, for the Confederate government.

The Union fleet had blockaded Charleston Harbor, and the Confederacy was desperate to restore the shipment of vital military supplies. The Hunley was ordered to Charleston, along with other ships, to challenge the Union blockade.

On the evening of Feb. 17, 1864, the 40-foot Hunley sank the Union Army’s USS Housatonic.

After completing the mission, the Hunley mysteriously vanished, remaining lost at sea for more than a century.

Many searches over the decades were unable to locate the submarine.

In 1995, the National Underwater and Marine Agency, led by New York Times-bestselling author Clive Cussler, finally found the Hunley.

The Hunley was raised in 2000 and delivered to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center at the former Charleston Navy Base, where an international team of scientists is working to conserve the submarine for future generations and piece together clues to solve the mystery of her disappearance.

Initial theories were that the Hunley sank because of collateral damage caused by the spar torpedo used to sink the Housatonic, but others argued, based on historic anecdotes, that the sub might have survived for more than an hour after detonating the torpedo.

After the sub was raised, a team of historians examined it, and theorized that a crewman on the Housatonic fired a rifle round into the Hunley’s viewing ports, causing it to sink.

Archeologists in 2013 announced new evidence indicating that, as was initially theorized, the Hunley might have been closer to the detonation than realized, and the sub was damaged by the explosion and sank.

Other theories include the sub being trapped by tides and the crew suffocating or the Hunley being clipped by another vessel and taking on water through an open hatch.

Scientists are continuing to work in the cramped confines of the Hunley’s roughly 4-foot-tall hull. They are slowly breaking off a layer of sand, sediment, shells and corrosion products, called concretion, that built up on the Hunley while the sub was lost at sea.

“The work has offered stunning new views of the Hunley, unearthed human remains and offered operational and design discoveries,” a news release from the Warren Lasch Center said,

“Tomorrow, an exclusive photography and filming opportunity of the recently exposed Hunley crew compartment will be held. For the first time in over a century, you can actually see portions of the inside of the world’s first successful combat submarine.”

## **More Human Remains, Clues Found In Civil War Submarine's Conservation** **Andreas Preuss, CNN, June 8**

More clues of the H.L. Hunley mystery are being revealed during conservation of the American Civil War submarine.

On Wednesday, researchers in a North Charleston, South Carolina, laboratory unveiled the crew compartment -- which had been sealed by more than a century of ocean exposure and encrusted sediment.

"It's that 'wow' moment when you step back and realize what you're doing," Johanna Rivera, one of the conservators, told CNN affiliate WCIV-TV in Charleston.

The Confederate Navy's Hunley was the first submarine to sink a ship in battle, sending the USS Housatonic to the ocean floor in February 1864. Five members of the Union vessel died; 150 others were rescued. But the Hunley also went down, with all eight crew members perishing.

The conservation work, which started after the Hunley was raised in 2000, has finally exposed the sub's entire crankshaft -- used to propel the vessel by hand.

A tooth was found embedded in sediment on one of the crank handles. Officials said it wound up there "postmortem" after decomposition of one of the crew members.

Inside, they also found remnants of textiles and a thin metal wrap around the hand crank -- showing how the crew operated the sub.

"When you're turning an iron bar in front of you, or below you, you're going to need something to keep your hands from chafing or rubbing them raw," archaeologist Michael Scafuri told WCIV.

The new findings give insight into how the submarine was operated, but the biggest mystery is still unsolved -- why did it sink after its successful, bold attack? An archaeological report issued earlier this year laid out six possible scenarios; a combination of factors may have doomed the innovative submarine.

One scenario holds that the Hunley was swamped by or struck by a Union vessel. Or that it plunged to the seafloor to avoid detection and never made it back up. A latch on the forward conning tower was found to be ajar.

The Hunley's "torpedo" was attached to a spar. The crew embedded it in the Housatonic's hull, and the charge was detonated. It's possible the sub's hull was breached by the explosion or the men were rendered unconscious at some point.

Nearly all of the human remains were found where the men were at their stations, rather than jammed together at an escape hatch. The remains were buried in 2004.

Work on the Hunley will continue for at least another five to seven years.

Conservators have concentrated on painstakingly removing the sediment -- or concretion -- that was firmly attached to the Hunley's exterior and cramped interior.

After the process is finished, the submarine will be moved to a museum for display, though details have not been worked out.

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