

# TORPEDO ALLEY



Vol. 5, No. 2

February 2009

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



### USSVI Creed

*"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution"*



Base web page: [www.ussvich.org](http://www.ussvich.org)  
 National web page: [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org)

#### Base Meeting:

February 12, 2009  
 Social hour 1800, General Meeting 1900

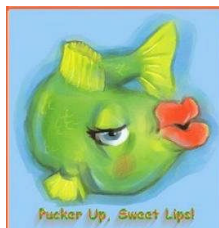
#### Location:

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 269, Low Country Home  
 99 Wisteria Rd.  
 Goose Creek, South Carolina. Phone 843-569-2962

Base Officers		Phone Number
Commander	Steve Nelms	843-563-7115
Vice Commander	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Secretary	Rick Collins	843-851-3490
Treasurer	George Lisle	843-559-4242

Special Officers		Phone Number
Chief of the Boat	Marty Sessler	843-871-1536
Public Affairs	Richard Cleeve	843-899-4563
Sub Vets WWII	Lee Allison	843-832-8787
Nuclear Historian	Rick Carlson	843-875-4030
Veterans Affairs	Jim Morrison	843-832-9716
Chaplain	John Nichols	843-873-5897
Membership	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Holland Club	Terry Trump	843-873-9563
Little David Project	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Roving Reporter	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Scholarship	Jim Yates	843-873-0246
Newsletter	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Storekeeper	Paul Viering	843-797-2623
Alcohol & Gaming	Dave Mueller	843-553-2775
Webmaster	John Nichols	843-863-8474

**KIPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**



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## Minutes of the January 2009 meeting

Attendance for the January meeting was 90

**Opening Ceremony:** Base Commander called the meeting to order. A Quorum was present and the meeting was commenced at 1900.

**Introductions:** New people were introduced; MMCS(SS) Tom Riley, Tom was onboard the USS San Francisco (SSN 711). Welcome aboard.

**Secretary:** Secretary Rick Collins asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from last month. A motion was made and seconded. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer:** George Lisle gave the treasurer's report and reported the year end financial report was sent to National.

**Storekeeper:** We now have Gold and Silver Dolphin ties for \$25. We also have hats.

**Chaplain:** On December 12<sup>th</sup>, we conducted a bell tolling memorial service for Bob Chinn. USSVI Charleston Base and SubVets WWII had a great crew mustered to give Bob a Sailor's farewell. A flag folding ceremony was also held at the end of the service and the flag presented to Bob's wife, Billie. The flag folding was done extremely well and with great dignity.

January Report: Cards were sent as follows to:

**Billie Chinn** and family of Bob Chinn who departed on Eternal Patrol on December 9th. Cards were also sent to brother, Carl Chinn and family, to mother, Virgie Chinn and family and to sister, Sharon Allen and family

**Judy Schnebel** as she recovers from her back surgery.

**Frenchy Fuqua** as he recovers from his quadruple bypass surgery in December. Frenchy is now undergoing rehab.

**Dave 'No-Neck' Mueller** as he recovers from his shoulder surgery in December.

**Ken Fuhr** as he recovered from surgery. Also sent another one to Ken as he recovers from his motorcycle accident that he had on Christmas Eve. He had three shattered ribs just below the shoulder blade and near where they connect to the spine, a partially collapsed lung and some bleeding in his chest. Ken is home now recovering.

**Family of Rod Neal** who departed on Eternal Patrol on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Rod was not a member of USSVI Charleston Base.

**Family of Lt Billy Douglas** who departed on Eternal Patrol in early December. Billy was not a member of USSVI Charleston Base.

**Sy Mabie** as he recovered in Health South from his hospital stay at Trident. Sy is back in Trident recovering from a staff infection and is doing well. He is in room 404

**Vice Commander Report:** No report

**Sub Vets WWII:** Next meeting in February at Ryan's. We want and need your help.

**Scholarship:** The committee will meet soon to select this year's winners.

**Public Affairs:** No report

**Webmaster:** No report

**Veteran's Affairs:** No report

**District Commander:** April 29 thru 2 May is the combined district meeting in St Augustine, FL.

**Fleet Reserve:** No report

**Holland Club:** No report

**Membership:** 1 Person overpaid his dues \$5. 29 members did not renew if you know any of them call them.

**Little David:** No report

**Newsletter:** If you have anything newsworthy let me know.

**Alcohol & Gaming:** There are new baby goats at the After Battery. Buddha is the "Mid-wife" of the year for his fast action and assistance in the delivery. There is no truth to the rumor about the "alleged" parentage of the goats.

**Chief of the Boat:** Thanked all involved in the Christmas party and all the parades.

April 29 thru 2 May is the combined district meeting in St Augustine, FL.

Capt. Horton will be at the next Fleet meeting to talk about the Navy Hospital move to Weapon Station.

The Hunley Memorial will be Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers.

Oyster Roast the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb. \$5 person.

**Base Commander:** Base Commander gave a report on Panama Jack. Panama Jack has been selected as this year's Charleston Base Distinguished Submariner. Buddha also gave a report on the opinion poll that was conducted of the Charleston Base members.

**Nuclear Historian:** Nice story about the hygiene and reproductive habits of the native North Charlestonian

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Good Of The Order:** Depth Charge drawing \$267 to winner. The winner was Benjamin McDonald who donated \$50 to the scholarship fund

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and visitors are welcome.

**Clyde Peters** while in the hospital for a mini-stroke at Trident.

**Frank (aka Doc) Carroll** who was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer. It is in the early stage and he has a good prognosis.

**Ralph 'Dutch' Wieland** who has been fighting brain cancer for the last 4 years. Prognosis is good at present.

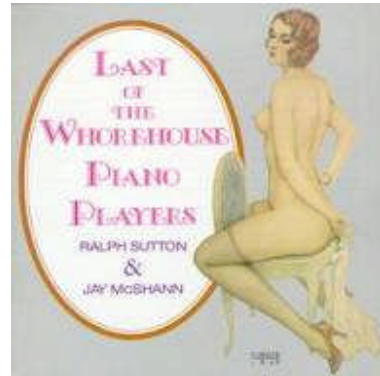
**George Wells** who is having radiation for brain cancer. The cancer is on both sides of his brain and he is having daily treatments and can't drive at this point.

**Ben Heber** is also back in Trident Hospital in room 410 and visitors are welcome. Ben was having trouble eating and trying to get his strength back.

Several follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

If you know of shipmates or spouses from other bases who are having a difficult time, had surgery, etc. and would like for USSVI Charleston Base to send them a card please send their name and address to the Chaplain via email or phone call.

The Base Commander adjourned meeting at 1945.



*"Don't tell mom I'm a submariner, she thinks I play piano in a whorehouse."*



Acton	Barwick	Burke	Cox
Curry	Gilmer	Hamilton	Hayden
Jennings	Koebel	Koehler	Lavergne
Massey	Minaudo	Neff	Novak
Rash	Rogers	Rook	Sickle
Stout	Waller	Wickenhoffe	

### February Submarines Lost:

USS Shark	SS 174	February 11, 1942
USS Amberjack	SS 219	February 16, 1943
USS Grayback	SS 208	February 26, 1944
USS Trout	SS 202	February 28, 1944
USS Barbel	SS 316	February 4, 1945
H.L. Hunley		February 17, 1864

Run silent, run deep  
 For freedom we fought to keep  
 How we spent so many days  
 Beneath the shimmering waves  
 A terrible foe we fought  
 And gave our lives; and freedom  
 bought  
 Now our souls forever lie  
 Restlessly beneath the waves  
 So silent now, so deep  
 For it is not enough for you to weep  
 For we shall not have died in vain  
 Lest you forget for what we gave  
 We gave our lives, freedom to save  
 For if you forget our deeds  
 Then we shall never sleep  
 Though we lie so silent, so deep

*Al Alessandra, 2005*



## February Happenings!

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February 12 – General Meeting; social hour 1800,  
meeting starts 1900

February 17 – H.L. Hunley Memorial Service, 1900  
Sunrise Presbyterian Church,  
Sullivans Island

February 28 – Sub Vets Oyster Roast, \$5 per person  
Starts 1300, bring a side dish or dessert



### Eternal Patrol

Sylvester Maxon "Sy" Mabie

MABIE, Sylvester Entered into eternal rest on the morning of Tuesday, January 13, 2009, Sylvester "Sy" Maxon Mabie husband of Constance Christophel Mabie. Residence, Summerville, SC. The relatives and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester "Sy" Mabie are invited to attend his funeral service Saturday, January 17, 2009, in The French Huguenot Church, 44 Queen Street, at one o'clock. Interment to follow in The French Huguenot Churchyard. The family will receive friends in J. HENRY STUHR, INC., NORTHWOODS CHAPEL, 2180 Greenridge Road, Friday, January 16, 2009 between six and eight o'clock. Sy was born on January 3, 1927 in Melvindale, MI, the son of Raymond Mabie and Martha Kwaschnick Mabie. He was a U.S. Navy Sub veteran of WWII, a member of Secession Camp #4 Sons of Confederate Veterans where he served as chaplain and received the chaplain of the year award in 2008. He also was a member of the Confederate Heritage Trust; Friends of the Hunley, The Holland Society; a Lifetime member of Lincoln Park Masonic Lodge; VFW and The Huguenot Society. He is survived by his wife, Constance Mabie of Summerville, SC; daughter, Suzanne Graham and her husband, Bruce, of Bowman, SC; son, Sylvester Dave Mabie of Summerville, SC; five granddaughters: Andrea Hobday, Kimberly Murray, Shannon Keller, Jeanine Lantz, April Voglesang; 15 great-grandchildren; and Buddy Boy. Flowers will be accepted or memorials may be made to Star Gospel

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### Membership and Dues Information:

2009 dues were payable by 1 October 2008.

Contact your shipmates to get them to pay their dues.

The following members **were dropped from the rolls on 1 January 2009:**

Barber, B	Barber, W	Corcoran	
	Crookston		
Daschle	Douglas	Edwards	Gleason
Grassman	Hines	Hodges	Horton
Hunter	Mathis	Medert	Miller, C
Morgart	Naert	Neufeld	Rice
Robinson	Shipman	Spotts	Vacher
Wright	Yates, G		

These members can be re-instated/re-join by paying 2009 dues.

Send dues (payable to USSVI) to:

Carl Chinn  
217 Brailsford Rd  
Summerville, SC 29485-5405

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### Jack Stevenson Has Moved

Panama Jack has recently moved to be near his son in Colorful Colorado.

His new address is:

Jack W. Stevenson, Sr.  
300 N. 3rd St., #N-2  
Gunnison, CO 81230

Drop him a card or a note and keep I touch!



### Oyster Roast

Charleston Base annual Oyster Roast will be held 28 February starting at 1300. Only \$5.00 per person and bring a side dish or dessert.

In addition to oysters, there will be chicken, fish stew and chili.

Lots of fun with live entertainment by The Salty Dogs!

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### First Navy SEAL passes, Roy Boehm

Boehm pioneered Navy's unconventional warfare Roy Boehm of Punta Gorda, a cantankerous retired U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander who fought three wars, started the Navy's first SEAL team and shared his harrowing adventures --and his battles against military bureaucracy --in an autobiography, has completed his last mission.

Roy Boehm, who had struggled with health problems for many years, died at home Tuesday

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Mission, 474 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29403; and/or Charleston Animal Society, 2455 Remount Road, North Charleston, SC 29406. A memorial message may be written to the family by visiting our website at [www.jhenrystuhr.com](http://www.jhenrystuhr.com). Visit our guestbook at [www.charleston.net/deaths](http://www.charleston.net/deaths)

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## Heads-up on TRICARE For Life Possible Changes

(This will also affect TRICARE Prime users)

The following has been added to the Congressional Budget Office Web Site <http://www.cbo.gov/>

a. Budget, Options, Volume 1: Health Care <http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=9925>

Click the link above to get to the .pdf file, then scroll down to pages 189-190 to see the information about TRICARE For Life and TRICARE Prime.

Comments from retired Brigadier General Bob Clements:

"Now here it is folks and I will guarantee if you sit around on your behind and do nothing about it as they bring these options forward this coming year, you will lose one of the best healthcare benefits that the Medicare eligible retired military have. It is short of the promises made that we fought so hard for back in the late 90s and early 2000s but it is still the best healthcare program that anyone in the United States has, bar none.

People who are professionals always look for the channel of least resistance when it comes to cutting money out of the Federal and DOD budget. I can tell you this straight on, military retirees are one of those channels of least resistance noted for sitting around, doing nothing, and waiting for ole Joe to do it for them. You had better wake up. Your medical benefits are prime target. If you lose them, you have nobody to blame but yourself. Let me repeat that ... you have nobody to blame but yourself.

The way to secure your benefits is to write to your members of Congress and to keep writing and writing and writing. ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH!! Keep repeating the above statement until you are blue in the face.

Now I'm going to make one more statement to all of you younger people out there who are not yet eligible for Tricare for Life. **HEALTH CARE WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME THE DOMINATING FACTOR IN YOUR LIFE.** Remember that . . . it will impact you big time with the utmost in cruelty

night. He was 84.

His widow, Susan Boehm, declined to be interviewed about her husband. In fact, she pleaded that no story be written.

Susan said she was trying to carry out her husband's last wish, that his death not be publicized.

He wanted no obituary, no funeral service and no fanfare over his death, Susan said.

"He just wanted to go in peace," she said.

Boehm, however, had become a legend nationally for the historic role he played in pioneering unconventional warfare tactics.

Locally, Boehm also was respected for the way he stood up for the military veterans within his community, several local veterans said Friday.

"John Kennedy was right," wrote U.S. Navy Admiral Whitey Taylor, in a 1997 letter to Boehm.

"The U.S. Navy SEALs will bear your mark as long as they and the freedom they fight for exists."

"He was quite a great guy," said Lionel Schuman, a board member with Charlotte County's Military Heritage & Aviation Museum.

Schuman said he got to know Boehm, who became an avid pilot during his retirement, through both men's participation in events with Experimental Aircraft Association 565.

Boehm and his wife, Susan, started a tradition of providing hot dogs, beverages and other snacks to military personnel who stopped by the group's hangar during the annual air shows, Schuman recalled.

"He definitely stood behind you, and he was always there when you needed him," Schuman said.

"His last 30 years were as full as the 31 he spent in the Navy," said Susan Boehm.

She declined to elaborate.

But the Boehms had opened their home to a Sun reporter several times for interviews in the past.

The home was decorated from stem to stern in a style that spoke of the heart of the old sailor.

The lanai was decorated with fake waterfall and jungle foliage. A sign on the wall identified the abode as "Hog Hollow."

"Beware of Pick Pockets and Loose Women," read another sign.

Even Boehm's cremation urn, which sat near a chest labeled "Davy Jones' Locker," spoke of his attitude toward death. Open the lid, and one would find a miniature ship's cabin, replete with a bunk and a sea bag.

"My ashes are going into the sea bag," Boehm had said in a 1997 interview. "How many people can

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unless you are fortunate enough to die from a heart attack . . . or get run over by a truck.

Now, I am going to attach AGAIN exactly what OMB has in store for military retirees using TFL.

This source is directly from OMB and is not something that I have dreamed up. They are telling you exactly what they are going to do with your benefits. If you do nothing, this is what you will get. The service organizations will put up a fight and are aware of this and will put up a fight but, they will need your help and can't do it by themselves.

I hope this makes it clear as to what you can expect if you do nothing.

To show you how stupid these professionals can be at times if you will read the attached document closely you will see that in spite of the MTFs (Military Treatment Facility) need to get patients back to keep their doctors busy and the hospitals from going to clinic status, these people from OMB would employ a means to keep retirees from using MTF facilities by charging them a fee for services. How dumb can you get.

Even if you are an Obama lover, and believe that changeth cometh, TFL option from OMB will not go away. They need the money they spend on you for other programs for people who produce nothing but votes to keep their boss in office.

***A footnote:***

BG Bob Clement is known with affection as "P38bob". He flew P38s in WWII. He was one of the stalwart warriors that led effectively from the front when the hard battles were being fought to bring Tricare for Life to reality. I was honored and pleased to a player in that effort by following P38 Bob's lead. (in those days I was known as MilVet99) MilVets: it looks like we will again be confronted by the 'attack of the beancounters' who, by and large, wouldn't know (and probably never will know) genuine unselfish service to our country and are solely motivated by crunching numbers so that those numbers will reflect favorably on their bosses and their boss's causes. They have no thought to the havoc they would cause . . . in many cases the loss of any amount of TFL benefits would be an insurmountable hardship ..... and to some it would truly be a death sentence.

It is well that we gear up for the fight now. As P38Bob says, we must write, write, write and write. Once is not enough! In time I will be preparing letters for your use in writing to your elected officials and submitting them to the TREA Membership, and to

hardly wait to get where they're going?"

Boehm was most proud, however, of a plaque mounted on his wall: "Roy Boehm, Man-O-Warsman." That honor was bestowed on him by the men who served under his command.

"It's the highest compliment you can get," Boehm had said.

In his book, "First SEAL," Boehm recalls how he got initiated as a deep-sea diver. A shipmate tricked him into trying on a dive suit -- and then tossed him overboard.

He describes how he manned the guns and tended to his badly injured shipmates during some of the greatest battles of World War II. They included the Battle of Cape Esperance, during which his ship, the Duncan, sank under a hail of shells.

Boehm survived 13 hours in shark-infested waters, bleeding from shrapnel wounds, before getting rescued.

Later, Boehm became convinced the Navy needed a special forces team that could accomplish any mission, anywhere at anytime.

In his book, he tells how he was disciplined several times for insubordination as he bent rules to properly equip his men.

President Kennedy commissioned him and one other commander to start the first two Sea Air and Land teams in 1960.

Boehm subsequently wrote manuals for the training program, which became the foundation for the toughest training in the U.S. military.

Recruits learned the skills of covert operations.

They learned to crack safes, break out of jails and steal cars.

They learned how to jump out of airplanes at 33,000 feet and free-fall to within 700 feet before opening their chutes. They learned to swim to submarines and board them.

Boehm was subsequently transferred to Vietnam.

As an "adviser," he trained insurgents and commanded river boat patrols in guerrilla actions in 1963-64 and 1968.

In retirement, Boehm learned to fly airplanes and competed in motorized parachute competitions.

"He was youngest old guy I ever met, just for his energy and his enthusiasm for life," said Kim Lovejoy, director of the military museum.

Retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Rufus Lazzell said he greatly admired Boehm.

"He had a good sense of humor and he certainly served his country well," Lazzell said. "In addition, he was just an all-around kind of guy that you

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others who may want to join the fight. Them Beancounters haven't seen anything until they've see a united and angered group of MilVets. Lets do it and git 'er done!!!! Your comments and inquiries are welcome. Fred Langston, President (2008), Legislative Affairs Chair, Greater San Diego Chapter 128, The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), [fglangston@yahoo.com](mailto:fglangston@yahoo.com) mailto: [fglangston@yahoo.com](mailto:fglangston@yahoo.com)

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### **H.L. Hunley Memorial Service**

Date: February 17, 2009 (Tuesday)  
Time: 1900 hours -- (Arrive 20 to 30 minutes early)  
Place: Sunrise Presbyterian Church  
3222 Middle Street  
Sullivans Island, S.C, 29482

Church located near intersection of Jasper Blvd. and Middle Street by Breech Inlet Bridge (Sullivan's Island side)

Uniform: Charleston Tuxedo  
Blue Blazer w/Dolphins  
White or Light Shirt  
Dolphin Tie (or dark tie)  
Kaki Pants  
Black Shoes  
Top Coat/Overcoat recommended (its cold on the beach)

The Charleston Base Submarine Veterans and WWII Submarine Veterans are invited to attend a Memorial Service honoring the 8-man crew lost on the Confederate Submarine H. L. Hunley along with the 5 crewmen lost on the USS Housatonic during the night of February 17, 1864.

The Confederate Heritage Trust Committee has asked the Charleston Base and Swamp Fox Chapter to supply a minimum of 15 men to participate in the service. The more men (SubVets) involved, the better

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liked. He always displayed his patriotism." Randy Spence, past commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10476, said he appreciated Boehm for shedding light on the nature of SEAL operations. "He was a great inspiration, devoted not only to his country, but also to his community and family and friends," Spence said. "He's an amazing man," said Terry Lynn, director of the Charlotte County Veterans Council. "Even to this day, you can tell there's a commanding presence about him." Lynn said he first met Boehm at a dinner for veterans at a Punta Gorda restaurant in November. A long line to get seated had formed, and Lynn overheard Boehm say he could stand no longer. Lynn said he offered to escort Boehm to a seat, but Boehm refused. "He didn't feel he should be put ahead of anybody," Lynn said. Boehm agreed to the escort only after Lynn enlisted him to serve by greeting guests from a table of council officials.

*"Life is loaned to you, live it, love it, for the joy of what you love, and whom you love. Leave your ego, status, and possessions hanging on the worlds quarter deck because you are going out with what you came here with; hopefully it will be a positive memory to a few."*

Roy Boehm – 1st Navy Seal

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### **The First Voyage of the Nautilus**

Check out this link for the classic newsreel that explores this "new" step in naval technology. <http://navytv.org/media.cfm?c=133&m=478&s=52> &

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### **Admiral Osborne Scholarship Fund**

How about helping out the scholarship fund? We are offering a Charleston Base Challenge Coin for sale. ALL proceeds go into the scholarship fund. Coins only cost \$7 each. Available for an additional \$1 is a protective plastic capsule. To get your coin(s) see Jim Yates, Julian Villegas or Carl Chinn.

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our showing of support from the Charleston Base. Please make an effort to be there and bring your wives, girlfriends and children.

Our job (15 men) will be to sit in front of the church (in the choir loft just right of the pulpit as faced from the congregation) and at the appropriate time in the program, to step to the table at the front of the church, select a white rose from a basket, turn to the Lady Mourners seated in the front pew and present the rose to a Lady Mourner. At the conclusion of the church service the Sub Vet will escort a Lady Mourner out of the church. Upon retrieving our coats, we will form up in the street in front of the church as escorts to the Lady Mourners for the procession down to Breech Inlet for the completion of the service at the waters edge.

During the entire ocean-side service, please remain with your Lady Mourner, escorting her as necessary. On completion of the ocean-side ceremony, please assist your Lady Mourner and all other guests back to the front of the church.

The Confederate Heritage Trust Committee will provide period lanterns for us to carry to illuminate the way. I would also urge all Sub Vets to carry a mini-flashlight with them as well. The sandy path to the beach can be tricky to negotiate in the dark. The Lady Mourners will be dressed in 1860's period hoop dresses so your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Contact for volunteering:

Charlie Rook

843-763-2587 Home

843-670-8588 Cell

charlesrook@att.net

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### **CSI Hunley: Fate Of Historic Sub A Cold Case File**

The Associated Press, January 4, 2009

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. It could be one of the nation's oldest cold case files: What happened to eight Confederate sailors aboard the H.L. Hunley after it became the first submarine in history to sink an enemy warship?

Their hand-cranked sub rammed a spar with black powder into the Union blockade ship Housatonic off Charleston on a chilly winter night in 1864 but never returned.

Its fate has been the subject of almost 150 years of conjecture and almost a decade of scientific research since the Hunley was raised back in 2000. But the submarine has been agonizingly slow surrendering her secrets.

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Make sure you have one for "when you get challenged"!

Buy several for great gifts!



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### **U.S.S. Independence: A Triple Hulled, Weapon-Laden Monster**

The second hull-form of the Littoral Combat Ship class was launched a few days ago in the Austal Shipyard in Mobile, Alabama (Mobile is turning into quite the military manufacturing base when you think about these ships and these ships, existing shipbuilding capabilities and the new Air Force tanker).

Looking unlike anything that had graced the seven seas, at least with the US Navy, the three-hulled trimaran floated off its blocks in its drydock on 29 April. Further work and outfitting needs to be completed, but from the looks of it, its will be one wild looking ship as it bears down on a pirate dhow off the horn of Africa.

Why do we need these new littoral-capable ships?

From the Program Executive Office for Ships:

In developing capability to overcome access denial threats from surface and subsurface threats in the littoral, the Navy sought improved mine warfare capability, an effective counter to small, fast, highly-armed boats, and a ship better suited against quiet diesel submarines. These capabilities highlighted the need for a high-speed, shallow-draft vessel with endurance. The littoral combat ships are designed to meet that need.

Any way you cut it, having this improved and increased capability in the littoral regions close to shore will expand the toolkit available to the Joint Force Commander regarding available military options. I'm looking forward to seeing this new ship at work.

Last month, the US Navy and General Dynamics took the lid off the new U.S.S. Independence littoral combat ship (LCS). This beast will sail

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"She was a mystery when she was built. She was a mystery as to how she looked and how she was constructed for many years and she is still a mystery as to why she didn't come home," said state Sen. Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston and chairman of the South Carolina Hunley Commission, which raised the sub and is charged with conserving and displaying it. Scientists hope the next phase of the conservation, removing the hardened sediment coating the outside of the hull, will provide clues to the mystery. McConnell, who watched the sub being raised more than eight years ago, thought at the time the mystery would be easily solved.

"We thought it would be very simple ... something must have happened at the time of the attack," he said. "We would just put those pieces together and know everything about it."

But what seemed so clear then seems as murky now as the sandy bottom where the Hunley rested for 136 years. When the Hunley was raised, the design was different from what scientists expected and there were only eight, not nine, crewmen, as originally thought.

The first phase of work on the Hunley consisted of photographing and studying the outside of the hull. Then several iron hull plates were removed allowing scientists to enter the crew compartment to remove sediment, human remains and a cache of artifacts. Thousands of people, many re-enactors in period dress, turned out in April 2004 when the crew was buried in what has been called the last Confederate funeral.

With the inside excavated, the outside of the hull will now be cleaned before the sub is put in a chemical bath to remove salts left by years on the ocean floor. The Hunley will eventually be displayed in a new museum in North Charleston.

Archaeologist Maria Jacobsen said the Hunley is like a crime scene except that, unlike on television shows, there is no smoking gun.

"If we compare this crime site investigation with, say, a tragic plane crash in the mountains, that investigation would be a lot easier," she said. "You can go to the crash you can see the metal pieces and they have the fingerprints of the crash site."

In the case of the Hunley, some of those fingerprints may be covered with the encrusted sediment on the hull that scientists refer to as concretion.

When the sub was found there was no window in the front conning tower, suggesting it had been shot out, perhaps by Union sharpshooters.

But no glass was found inside the sub and the

close to the shore and throw everything imaginable at an enemy "from armored vehicles and helicopters to shells, torpedoes and missiles." Plus, it can hustle at a rumored 60 knots. Basically, that means the enemy will have a difficult time escaping the wrath of this mighty vessel no matter where they are.



Keel Laid: January 19, 2006

Christened: October 4, 2008

Commissioned: 2009

Builder: Austal USA, Mobile, AL.

Propulsion system: 2 Gas Turbines, 2 Diesel Engines,

4 Steerable Waterjets, 1 Steerable Thruster

Length, overall: 127.1 meters

Beam: 30.4 meters

Draft: 4.5 meters

Displacement: 2800 tons

Speed: 51 knots

Crew: 40 core crew members, 75 with detachments

Aviation: two MH-60R/S or one MH-60R/S and VTUAV's

Armament:

- 1 MK 31 Mod 0 RAM Launcher
- 1 MK 110 Mod 0 57mm Gun system
- 3 MK 26 Mod 17 .50 Cal Machine guns

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remains of the captain, Lt. George Dixon, showed no injuries to his skull or body consistent with being shot while looking through the window, McConnell said.

The crew's bodies were found at their duty stations, suggesting there was no emergency resulting in a scramble to get out of the sub. And the controls on the bilge pump were not set to pump water from the crew compartment, suggesting there was no water flooding in.

After the attack both Confederates on shore and Union ships reported seeing a blue light, believed to be the Hunley signaling it had completed its mission. A lantern with a thick lens that would have shifted the light spectrum and appeared blue from a distance was found in the wreck.

But after the attack, the USS Canandaigua rushed to the aide of the Housatonic and there is speculation that the light could have come from that ship instead. Could the Canandaigua have grazed the Hunley, disabling her so the sub couldn't surface? A good look at the hull in the coming months may provide the answer.

Historians also know the Hunley needed to wait for the incoming tide to return to shore.

"Were they waiting down there and miscalculated their oxygen and blacked out?" said McConnell. He said a grappling hook, believed to serve as an anchor of the Hunley, was found near the wreck. Cleaning the hull may produce evidence of a rope showing the sub was anchored, perhaps waiting for the tide to change.

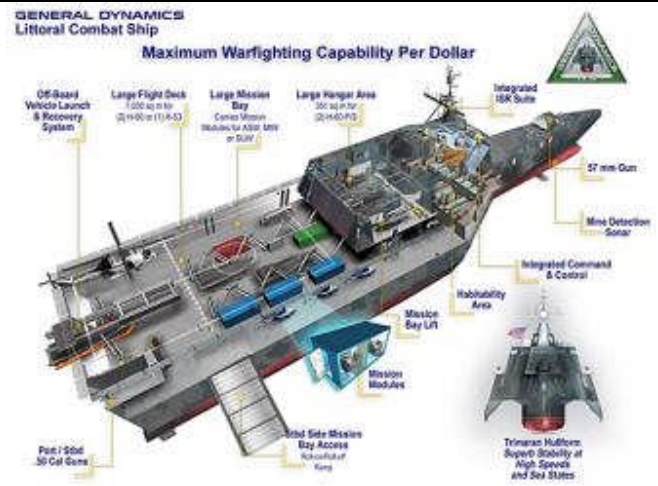
Then there is the mystery of Dixon's watch, which stopped at 8:23 p.m. Although times were far from uniform in the Civil War era, the Housatonic was attacked about 20 minutes later, according to federal time, McConnell said.

One theory is the concussion of the attack stopped the watch and knocked out the sailors on the sub. Or the watch simply might have run down and was not noticed in the excitement of the attack. That could have led to a miscalculation of the time they were under water.

Union troops reported seeing the Hunley approaching and the light through the tower window "like dinosaur eyes or a giant porpoise in the water," McConnell said.

If the Hunley crew miscalculated and surfaced too close to the Housatonic on their final approach they would not have had enough time to replenish their oxygen before the attack, he said.

The clues now seem to indicate the crew died of



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### Author Seeking Sea Stories for Next Book

Submitted by Jim Schenk, Jan. 13, 2009

I plan to write another book, this one of the long-promised submarine genre, after I finish the one I am now working on re-writing. If you have any stories, from your U. S. submarine force experience, I would love to hear them.

These stories can be amusing, scary, heroic, BOHICA moments (Bend Over Here It Comes Again),

They can be stories of ill-treatment, when you were lied to, funny and/or appropriate nicknames of shipmates, brushes with skimmers, airdales or jarheads, PCU anecdotes, belly-burglars, Adm. Rickover, watch-standing, Captain's Mast, mess cooking, supply SNAFUs, practical jokes (such as hiding the XO's door), quals, ORSE or Weps exams, visiting brass, in port or at sea, home on leave or in transit, NQP nub baiting, bridge lookout, yardbirds, sand crabs, sub tender personnel, near misses, visiting ship duty, unauthorized ship's newsletters, drydock, fishing off the pier, deployments, shakedown cruises, dependents cruises, fast cruises, or anything amusing or entertaining that the Dolphin-bejeweled crowd would find entertaining and would be interested in purchasing a book to read them.

With your permission, your name will be included in the bibliography of the book.

Items must not compromise National Security Laws that you have previously signed off on when you left the "Silent Service." Suggestions for a title are also graciously considered prior to publication, and all published donor stories used will get a signed copy at a special rate.

This is a special project for me, as I am a stage-4 cancer patient, currently in remission, trying to use

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anoxia, a lack of oxygen, and didn't drown. "Whatever happened, happened unexpectedly, with no warning," McConnell said. Running out of oxygen can quickly cause unconsciousness. "One you reach that critical stage, it's like you flick a switch," he said. "It's that fast, like on an airplane."

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## Our Naval Heritage

### The Smoking Lamp



"THE SMOKING LAMP IS LIT" Two Sailors on board the USS Olympia (Cruiser #6) about 1898, light up from a smoking lamp. The lamp originated in the days when a sailing ship was a floating fire hazard. Normally located on the forecabin or near the galley, the lamp was the only authorized open flame on board. It was a practical means of keeping the hazard contained and away from the magazines and other flammable areas or items.

Caption under picture:

'The Smoking Lamp is Lit' Two sailors on board the USS Olympia (Cruiser #6) about 1898, light up from a smoking lamp. The lamp originated in the days when a sailing ship was a floating fire hazard. Normally located on the forecabin or near the galley, the lamp was the only authorized open flame on board. It was a practical means of keeping the hazard contained and away from the magazines and other flammable areas or items.

Quote...

*"I never can understand how anyone can not smoke—it deprives a man of the best part of life... with a good cigar in his mouth a man is perfectly safe, nothing can touch him—literally."*

Thomas Mann (1875-1955)

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my bonus time constructively, and pay off exorbitant bills in order to remain alive a while longer. And maybe, at least once, I can buy something nice for my new and only granddaughter. To keep items from public eyes, please send them to my home email – [submareener@msn.com](mailto:submareener@msn.com) . Please don't forget to include the code word "Submarine Book" in the subject title so it won't get inadvertently deleted prior to reading and logging. I created this email address to insure correct pronunciation by British sailors, and the many uninformed. If I do not finish this book as intended, I have made arrangement with those that are pre-selected to follow my dream through publication. Thanks and God bless.

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## New Rules for Renewal of Retiree ID Cards

Homeland Security Directive 12 now requires retirees and family members seeking to renew or replace a military identification card to provide two types of ID, one of which must include a photo. A list of acceptable documents can be found in PDF format on page No. 4 of the Form I-9 at: <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/I-9.pdf> Before visiting a military ID card issuing facility, you may want to call first to determine what specific documents may be required, and to verify the process to renew or replace an ID card. For contact information and the location of the nearest ID card issuing facility, visit the RAPIDS Site Locator at: <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home> . On this website, you can search by city, state or ZIP code.

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## Burial In Arlington

Arlington National Cemetery does not make prearrangements. However, upon the passing of the veteran or veteran's spouse, the surviving spouse or personal representative should contact a local funeral home to arrange for any desired services in the hometown. While the surviving spouse or personal representative is at the funeral home, the funeral director should telephone the Interment Office at Arlington National Cemetery (703) 607-8585 to arrange for the interment service. Before scheduling the service, the cemetery staff will need to determine the eligibility of the deceased. Upon verification of eligibility, they will schedule the interment. You can assist in the process ahead of

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## **We'd Get More Recruits If Female Sailors Wore Bikinis, Claims Navy Commander**

The Daily Mail, January 14, 2009

A British-born navy submarine commander is in deep water among women's groups after suggesting that female sailors would help recruitment if they posed in bikinis.

Politicians and feminists have joined in condemning 37-year-old Commander Tom Phillips, who joined the Australian navy in 1990 as a Seaman Officer. Appointed to the 'hunter-killer' submarine HMAS Farncomb last year, Commander Phillips went even further by suggesting that the submariner's equivalent of the notorious 'mile high club' for people having sex on a plane was the 'going down club.'

Commander Phillips made his remarks in an interview in a raunchy men's magazine, *Ralph*, and navy officials are now scrambling to defend him by insisting his remarks were totally tongue in cheek and not meant to be taken seriously.

He was asked: 'If female sailors all had to be hot and had to wear bikinis, would that help, recruitment?'

He replied: 'It would certainly get the right demographic of young men in. I'm not sure how feasible it is.'

Asked what having sex on a submarine was known as, he said: 'I call it the going down club' - then added that he was 'not aware of any sex on board.'

'It's not the most romantic place. But I could be really naive here - maybe crew have brought their partners on.'

Commander Phillips made his comments as part of an interview on what it was like to work in a submarine.

Defence politicians have been horrified at the publicity, with Defence Minister Warren Snowden saying the comments were 'utterly unacceptable.'

He added: 'I will be calling for a review into the criteria for media approvals and how Defence ensures articles match the values of the ADF (Australian Defence Force).'

Even the Liberal (conservative) opposition party have added to the Commander's sinking feeling, with shadow Defence Minister Bob Baldwin describing the comments as 'totally inappropriate and absolutely offensive.'

Feminists have joined in delivering a broadside to the commander.

The chairwoman of the Women's Lobby Australia, Eva Cox, said his comments reflected the 'Navy's limited view of women as bodies rather than brains.'

But rescue is at hand for the commander.

time by making sure you have the proper documentation and your survivor(s) know where to locate that information. The key document required is your DD-214 (discharge/separation from the military). The DD-214 generally provides all required information for verifying eligibility. The Web site [www.arlingtoncemetery.org](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org) contains detailed information on the documentation required for verification of eligibility. Funeral honors available to eligible retirees, (regardless of interment at Arlington) consist of a minimum of two uniformed armed forces members (one from the service of the deceased), the folding and presentation of the American flag, and ceremonial bugle or a recording of "Taps" if a bugler is unavailable.

It is important to understand military funeral honors are not automatic. The next of kin must request the honors and the funeral director must contact DoD by calling (877) 645-4667. For information about Chaplain Services at the Cemetery, contact the following: Air Force Chaplain (703) 607-8954; Navy Chaplain (703) 607-8960; Army Chaplain (703) 607-8959. Funeral services are provided Mon thru Fri, except federal holidays, during the hours 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. Family and friends should arrive at the cemetery approximately one half hour prior to the scheduled service time and must provide their own transportation for funeral services at the Cemetery. They will be required to drive from the administration building or chapel to the gravesite. The cemetery is open year round (365 days) for visitation from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. 1 OCT thru 31 MAR and 8:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. 1 APR thru 30 SEP.

Starting early next year, the Army will allow full military funeral honors at Arlington for all soldiers killed in action. Full military honors include a caisson, band, colors team and an escort platoon in addition to the standard honors of a firing party, bugler and chaplain. In the past, the caisson was available only for officers killed in action because of limited availability. The persons specified below are eligible for ground burial in Arlington National Cemetery. The last period of active duty of former members of the Armed Forces must have ended honorably. Interment may be casketed or cremated remains.

- Any active duty member of the Armed Forces (except those members serving on active duty for training only).
  - Any veteran who is retired from active military
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The Deputy Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Davyd Thomas said the remarks were a response to a flippant question and 'not intended to be serious.' The navy is suffering a recruitment crisis and during Christmas had to virtually close down because of a lack of available sailors.

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### **Subs Ease Way Into Electronic Navigation**

NORFOLK, Va. — Chief Electronics Technician (SS) William Hoyt reaches under the chart table aboard the fast-attack submarine Scranton and pulls out a black nylon compact disc case the size of a phone book.

“That’s the whole world,” says the ship’s assistant navigator, holding it up. Rather than containing the latest in heavy metal or rap, it holds 29 discs of the globe’s nautical charts as part of the ship’s electronic Voyage Management System, or VMS.

Moving quietly through the dark depths, submariners have long relied on maintaining an accurate location and course provided by a navigation team stooped over large paper charts.

And until recently, Scranton might have had 5,000 such charts stashed in lockers around the ship.

Instead, the crew will rely on the discs and VMS on its upcoming deployment, as the Navy’s undersea fleet sheds its paper charts.

“We have started to electronically navigate and get rid of our paper,” said Cmdr. Steven Benke, submarine force navigator. “It’s a paradigm shift for us.”

And while submariners may groan at the thought of giving up their reliable, tangible paper charts, the undersea fleet is on a steady course to switch completely to electronic navigation.

Scranton’s navigation team was certified in August and on its upcoming deployment will only use paper charts for large-scale planning purposes.

Benke, who took his current job in July, said there were about 10 crews certified at the time. Today, all eight blue and gold crews for guided missile subs are certified, as are 25 crews in the attack submarine fleet. Oklahoma City was the first to certify, in October 2006.

“By this time next year, it will be ones and twos,” Benke said. “You eventually have to make that transition, and it’s going to happen.”

Likewise, the Navy’s 14 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines will begin certifying in 2009, with the process taking about four years to complete.

And as current crews make the shift and get certified,

service with the Armed Forces.

- Any veteran who is retired from the Reserves is eligible upon reaching age 60 and drawing retired pay; and who served a period of active duty (other than for training).
  - Any former member of the Armed Forces separated honorably prior to 1 OCT 49 for medical reasons and who was rated at 30% or greater disabled effective on the day of discharge.
  - Any former member of the Armed Forces who has been awarded one of the following decorations: Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Cross (Navy Cross or Air Force Cross); Distinguished Service Medal; Silver Star; Purple Heart.
  - The President of the United States or any former President of the United States.
  - Any former member of the Armed Forces who served on active duty (other than for training) and who held any of the following positions:
    - a. An elective office of the U.S. Government
    - b. Office of the Chief Justice of the United States or of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.
    - c. An office listed, at the time the person held the position, in 5 USC 5312 or 5313 (Levels I and II of the Executive Schedule).
    - d. The chief of a mission who was at any time during his/her tenure classified in Class I under the provisions of Section 411, Act of 13 AUG 46, 60 Stat. 1002, as amended (22 USC 866) or as listed in State Department memorandum dated 21 MAR 88.
  - Any former prisoner of war who, while a prisoner of war, served honorably in the active military, naval, or air service, whose last period of military, naval or air service terminated honorably and who died on or after 30 NOV 93
  - The spouse, widow or widower, minor child, or permanently dependent child, and certain unmarried adult children of any of the above eligible veterans.
  - The surviving spouse, minor child, or permanently dependent child of any person already buried in ANC.
  - The parents of a minor child, or permanently dependent child whose remains, based on the eligibility of a parent, are already buried in ANC.
  - The widow or widower of:
    - a. A member of the Armed Forces who was lost or buried at sea or officially determined to be missing in action.
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the Navy's newest submarines will be going to sea essentially paperless.

Benke said the New Hampshire, a Virginia-class submarine commissioned Oct. 25, went through its builder's trials equipped solely with digital navigation.

"That's a big transition," he said.

Some recent mishaps have highlighted the need for extremely precise navigation. Inaccurate charts were blamed after the attack submarine San Francisco plowed into an underground mountain 350 miles south of Guam on Jan. 8, 2005, partially crushing the bow and killing one sailor and injuring 31 others.

Likewise, an investigation into the grounding of the attack submarine Hartford on Oct. 25, 2003, on a reef off La Maddalena, Italy, during a surface cruise found faulty navigation as a cause.

For Scranton's navigation team, working electronically means being able to navigate the sub to where it's going instead of plotting where they think they've been.

"With VMS, you know where you are at that moment. It's an instant information source," said ETC (SS) Robert Mueller, assistant navigator for Submarine Squadron 6. "From that standpoint, it's wonderful."

The VMS contains multiple layers of charts — rather than a single paper chart — that can be updated continuously. When the sub is submerged, its course is constantly tracked on VMS from the Ring Laser Gyro Navigation system.

"It makes the process of trying to figure out where you need to be much faster," Hoyt said. "Instead of looking behind you, this is all real-time data."

To track surface contacts, information identifying commercial ships can be fed into VMS through the fire control system, further clarifying potential hazards. Likewise, fresh charts can be downloaded when the ship is in port or when new discs arrive. Hoyt said the system is also an incredible time saver because a recently returned crew can hand over the discs from its deployment to an outgoing crew.

While the Scranton navigation team said it looks forward to electronically navigating in its upcoming deployment, they're also looking toward the next development, such as the current touch-screen version improved with a tabbed format.

"There's always room to improve technology," Hoyt said.

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b. A member of the Armed Forces who is interred in a US military cemetery overseas that is maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

c. A member of the Armed Forces who is interred in Arlington National Cemetery as part of a group burial.

Note: A spouse divorced from the primary eligible, or widowed and remarried, is not eligible for interment.

Provided certain conditions are met, a former member of the Armed Forces may be buried in the same grave with a close relative who is already buried and is the primary eligible.

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### **VA Hearing Aids/Eyeglasses Update 01**

A new directive allows VA to provide glasses and hearing aids to those who are not service connected for those conditions (Priority Groups 6-8). In the past these were available only to those service connected for the condition. These services are now considered part of the preventative care package for all veterans enrolled in the VA who meet certain criteria. The link [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1789](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1789) outlines the requirements for obtaining eye glasses and hearing aids. Veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system are eligible for battery replacement and repair of hearing aids even though those aids were purchased from a private source. Even though glasses and hearing aids may be provided at no charge, there may be a co-pay required for those in group 6-8. Audiology is a specialty clinic with a \$50 dollar co-pay for some services. There is no co-pay for the devices or the batteries. Nor are there any charges for visits for the purpose of adjusting, repairing or modifying hearing aids.

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### **Disney's Armed Forces Salute**

On 4 JAN the Walt Disney Company started its "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" offer. All active and retired military personnel, including activated members of the National Guard and Reserve are included. There are two separate offers: At Disneyland in California through 12 JUN 09 all qualified members can receive one complimentary three-day pass valid for admission to both Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure parks. Additionally the qualified member can also make a one-time purchase of adult or child three-

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## Minimum Out-of-Pocket Requirements Under TRICARE For Life

TRICARE For Life (TFL) was introduced in 2002 as a supplement to Medicare for military retirees and their family members who are eligible for Medicare. The program pays nearly all medical costs not covered by Medicare and requires few out-of-pocket fees. Because the Department of Defense (DoD) is a passive payer in the program—it neither manages care nor provides incentives for the cost-conscious use of services—it has virtually no means of controlling the program's costs.

In 2008, DoD spent about \$8 billion on TFL-eligible beneficiaries in addition to amounts spent for those individuals by Medicare. This option would help reduce the costs of TFL, as well as costs for Medicare, by introducing minimum out-of-pocket requirements for beneficiaries. Under this option, TFL would not cover any of the first \$525 of an enrollee's cost-sharing liabilities for calendar year 2011 and would limit coverage to 50 percent of the next \$4,725 in Medicare cost sharing that the beneficiary incurred. (Because all further cost sharing would be covered by TFL, enrollees could not pay more than \$2,888 in cost sharing in that year. Those dollar limits would be indexed to growth in average Medicare costs for later years.) The true out-of-pocket provisions in Medicare's prescription drug program, or Part D, are an example of how this option could work in practice. Under that program, any amounts paid by Medicare or by any other insurer are not included when calculating whether a beneficiary has reached the level of eligibility for catastrophic coverage. Currently, military treatment facilities (MTFs) do not charge eligible individuals co-payments for medical services or pharmaceuticals. In order to reduce beneficiaries' incentive to switch to MTFs and avoid the minimum out-of-pocket requirements that are central to this option, DoD would need to establish procedures for collecting payments from TFL beneficiaries seeking care from MTFs.

If the savings that would accrue from reduced spending for Medicare were included, the introduction of cost sharing under this option would reduce the federal spending devoted to TFL beneficiaries by about \$14 billion through 2014 and by about \$40 billion through 2019. Approximately 22 percent of those savings would come from a reduced demand for medical services rather than from a transfer of spending from the government to military retirees and their families.

day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion tickets for up to five family members or friends for the price of a 1-day Park Hopper ticket. For more information for the Disneyland offer call (714) 956-6424.

At the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, through 23 DEC 09, active or retired members may obtain one complimentary five-day "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" ticket with Park Hopper and Water Park Fun & More Options. This ticket is valid for five days of admission to all four theme parks, plus a total of five visits to either the Walt Disney water parks or the DisneyQuest Indoor Interactive Theme Park. Additionally, the member can purchase up to five 5-day "Companion" tickets for \$99 per ticket, plus tax. Although the Park Hopper or water park options are not valid for the "Companion" tickets, these options can be added for an additional \$25 per ticket, plus tax. For more info on the Disney World offer or to make reservations call the ITT ticket office on your base or refer to

[http://bookwdw.reservations.disney.go.com/ibcw/w/en\\_US/specialOfferDetails?name=Promo&promotionCode=fy09military&market=fy09military&CMP=VAN-WDWFY09MilitaryOfferVanity](http://bookwdw.reservations.disney.go.com/ibcw/w/en_US/specialOfferDetails?name=Promo&promotionCode=fy09military&market=fy09military&CMP=VAN-WDWFY09MilitaryOfferVanity)

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## Cannibals



"It needs more old salt."

Five cannibals were employed by the Navy as translators during one of the island campaigns of World War II. When the Commanding Admiral of the task force welcomed the cannibals he said, "You're all part of our team now. We will compensate you well for your services, and you can eat any of the rations that the sailors are eating. So please don't indulge yourselves by eating a Sailor."

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An advantage of this option is that greater cost sharing would increase TFL beneficiaries' awareness of the cost of health care and promote a corresponding restraint in their use of medical services. Research has generally shown that introducing modest cost sharing can substantially reduce medical expenditures without causing measurable increases in adverse health outcomes. Among its disadvantages, this option could discourage some patients (particularly low-income patients) from seeking preventive medical care or from managing their chronic conditions under close medical supervision, which might negatively affect their health.

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### Holy Loch Reunion 6-9 May 2009



Dunoon, Scotland  
Contact: Doug Ebert 8453188  
[Lochsailor9@fairpoint.net](mailto:Lochsailor9@fairpoint.net)  
[www.Holyloch.org](http://www.Holyloch.org)

We are the Site One Holy Loch, Scotland Assoc. consisting of crew, Marines, dependents and Tech Reps that served on Tenders, the Dry dock, or on the Boats that patrolled from the Loch during the Navy's more than 40+ years presents in the Loch.

If any of the Sub Vets would like to join us for our "Home Coming Scotland 2009" reunion we would really appreciate it.

Many thanks for your help in getting out the word.  
Kind Regards,  
Doug Ebert  
Reunion Chairman

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The cannibals promised.  
Four weeks later the Admiral returned and said, "You're all working very hard, and I'm very satisfied with all of you. However, one of our Chiefs has disappeared. Do any of you know what happened to him?" The cannibals all shook their heads no.  
After the Admiral left, the leader of the cannibals turned to the others and said, "Which of you idiots ate the Chief?"  
A hand raised hesitantly, to which the leader of the cannibals replied, "You fool! For four weeks we've been eating Ensigns, Lieutenants, Lieutenant Commanders, Commanders, and even one Captain and no one noticed anything, then YOU had to go and eat a Chief!"

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### Torpedoman on Valentine's Day...

