



Sons of Confederate Veterans

Junior ROTC *H. L. Hunley* Award Program

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What is the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)

The **Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC)** is a Federal program sponsored by the United States Armed Forces in high schools across the United States. The program was originally created as part of the National Defense Act of 1916 and later expanded under the 1964 ROTC Vitalization Act.

Role and purpose

According to Title 10, Section 2031 of the United States Code, the purpose of JROTC is “to instill in students in United States secondary educational institutions the values of citizenship, service to the United States, and personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.” Additional objectives are established by the service departments of the Department of Defense. Under 542.4 of Title 32 (National Defense) of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Department of the Army objectives are to develop the following in each cadet:

- Good citizenship and patriotism.
- Self-reliance, leadership, and responsiveness to constituted authority.
- The ability to communicate well both orally and in writing.
- An appreciation of the importance of physical fitness.
- A respect for the role of the U.S. Armed Forces in support of national objectives.
- A knowledge of basic military skills.

For more information about a particular service's program click on one of the following websites:



<https://www.usarmyjrotc.com/>



<http://www.mcjrotc.org/>



<https://www.njrotc.navy.mil/>



<http://www.au.af.mil/au/holmcenter/AFJROTC/index.asp>

What is the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV)?

<http://www.scv.org/whatis.php>

The SCV was established in 1896 and is one of the oldest Historic Hereditary Honor Societies in America. Made up of patriotic American men, the SCV is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to ensuring that the memory of their Confederate ancestors remains alive and untarnished. The SCV is also committed to educating the public about the history of the 1861 -1865 period and preserving confederate monuments, graves, and artifacts. The SCV is not affiliated with any other organization and specifically rejects anyone who advocates the overthrow of the U.S. Government, or is knowingly a member of any known hate group.

What is the link between the *H.L. Hunley*, Confederate heroes, and the current U.S. Military?

First, and most significant is the fact that by Public Law 85-425, May 23, 1958 (H.R. 358) 72 Statute 133 states –“(3) (e) for the purpose of this section, and section 433, the term ‘**veteran**’ includes a person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War, and the term ‘active, military or naval service’ includes active service in such forces.”

As a result of this law the last surviving Confederate Veteran received a U.S. Military pension until his death in 1959, and from that day until present, descendents of Confederate veterans have been able to receive military monuments to place on graves from the Veteran's

Administration for their ancestors. A Confederate Veteran should therefore be treated with the same honor and dignity of any other American veteran.

Master Chief Petty Officer, Alexander C. Wilson, III. U.S. Navy (retired), who developed and oversees the administration of the program, says that the first two submarines he learned about at Submarine School, New London, Connecticut in 1969 were the “Turtle” and the “Hunley”: the [H.L. Hunley](#) was the first submarine to sink another vessel in combat. The eight volunteer crewmen lost their lives that night and remained in the Hunley as their coffin from 1864 until they were recovered and buried in 2004. United States Navy submarine service veterans dressed in matching Blue blazers wearing their coveted “dolphin” insignias, served as pallbearers transporting their coffins from church to church in Charleston, SC for the memorial services and then when they were transported from hearses to eight waiting platforms and their final funeral service at “The Battery” in Charleston, SC before being laid to rest at Magnolia Cemetery. After two fatal accidents that took the lives of many of the first two crews during testing, including the boat’s designer Horace L. Hunley, these men paid the ultimate sacrifice after making the **Commitment** to step forward, with **Courage**, knowing their lives were literally on the line, to defend, with **Honor**, their homeland. At least four U.S. Navy Ships within the submarine force have been named in honor of Confederate heroes or individuals associated with the Hunley. They are:

USS Dixon (AS-37) (<http://www.navysite.de/ships/as37.htm>) named after the submarine’s commanding officer, Lieutenant George Dixon, who died that February night in 1864.

USS Hunley (AS-31) (<http://www.navysite.de/ships/as31.htm>) named after the submarine’s designer, Horace L. Hunley, who died on the second Hunley training accident.

USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN 601) (<http://www.navysite.de/ssbn/ssbn601.htm>) Commanding General of the Confederate States Army, graduate of West Point, and arguably one of the most gifted military strategists in American history.

USS Stonewall Jackson (SSBN 634) (<http://www.navysite.de/ssbn/ssbn634.htm>) named after General Thomas Jackson, considered General Lee’s “right hand man”, who died at Chancellorsville, which many say led to the Confederate defeat at Gettysburg and ultimately the loss of the War.

There is not a single Army Veteran who can say he has not served aboard one of the U.S. Military installations named for a Confederate hero.

[Fort Benning Georgia](#) – Major General Henry L. Benning, CSA

[Fort Bragg, North Carolina](#) – General Braxton Bragg, CSA

[Fort Campbell, Kentucky](#) – Brig. General William Bowen Campbell, CSA

[Fort Gordon, Georgia](#) – General John Brown Gordon, CSA

[Fort Hood, Texas](#) – General John Bell Hood, CSA

[Camp Lee, Virginia](#) – General Robert E. Lee, CSA

[Fort Polk, Louisiana](#) – Lt. General Leonidas K. Polk, CSA

[Fort Rucker, Alabama](#) – Colonel Edmond W. Rucker, CSA

Criteria for receiving the award:

Because of the naval theme of the award, the program was initially developed for Navy and Marine Corps JROTC Units in the state of South Carolina only. After many inquiries from the Army and Air Force the Program was expanded to not just Army and Air Force Units in South Carolina, but throughout the country. The award should go to a rising second year cadet who has demonstrated the qualities of Honor, Courage and in particular Commitment to his/her unit throughout the school year.

Administration of the Program:

The Program will be administered by Master Chief Petty Officer A. C. “Trip” Wilson III, U.S. Navy (retired) who lives in Florence, SC. At least one month prior to your awards program you should have submitted an application with the deserving cadet’s name and rate/rank and a \$30.00 check to cover the medal, certificate, ribbon and shipping charges.

Send applications to the following address:

NCCM(SS/AW) A. C. Wilson, III, U.S. Navy (retired)

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