



Photo by Matt Hildreth

## NNS Announces Return to Three Shifts

Newport News Shipbuilding will return to a three-shift schedule in mid-August. The shipyard had instituted a two-shift schedule in early May as part of its response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“At the beginning of the pandemic, we made a lot of changes in a relatively short period of time as we, like the rest of the world, learned more about the virus and ways to slow the spread,” NNS President **Jennifer Boykin** wrote in a letter to employees on July 22. “We’ve since learned that COVID-19 will likely be with us until a vaccine changes the spread. This is the hard reality we are all dealing with.”

The new shift schedule – which will take effect at 10 p.m. on Aug. 16 – will be:

- 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (first shift).
- 4:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. (second shift).
- 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. (third shift).

Supervisors will notify all employees of shift assignments by Aug. 3. Any employee who does not receive guidance by Aug. 4

should contact their supervisor. Parking in NNS lots will remain open.

Slightly more than half of the workforce will be assigned to first shift, which is more balanced than before when more than 70% of employees worked first shift. The schedule is designed to provide one-hour gaps on both sides of first shift for cleaning and to spread the workforce during shift change. NNS will continue to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines of social distancing, wearing a mask, and continual cleaning across all shifts.

“While there is no one solution that is best for everyone, our operations will appropriately evolve as we learn more about the virus. And, I will continue to share new facts as we learn more about the cases across our shipyard, giving you as much information as possible for your personal decision making,” Boykin wrote.

Visit [nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411](https://nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411) to review all information regarding NNS’ COVID-19 response, including a list of frequently asked questions regarding the shift change.



**Newport News  
Shipbuilding  
Gives**

## Annual School Tools Drive Kicks Off

Newport News Shipbuilding's annual School Tools Drive is virtual this year and runs through Aug. 7. With the impact of COVID-19, shipbuilders' help is needed now more than ever to provide essential school supplies for underserved children to get them back on track and help them succeed.

Needed school supplies include composition and spiral notebooks, No. 2 pencils, three-ring notebooks, notebook paper, five-subject notebooks, report covers, pens, rulers, markers/highlighters, erasers, colored pencils, glue/glue sticks, pencil boxes, kid-safe scissors, crayons and backpacks.

Visit [yougivegoods.com/nns-2020](http://yougivegoods.com/nns-2020) and select "shop now" to purchase and donate supplies. Donations will be distributed to departments of social services in Newport News, Hampton and York/Poquoson; Boys & Girls Clubs of the Virginia Peninsula; and ForKids, which serves families dealing with homelessness.

## Know Your Numbers Health Screening Appointments Available

Through the Know Your Numbers program, salaried employees enrolled in a Huntington Ingalls Industries medical plan can save \$600 on their medical premiums if they complete a health screening and wellness profile by March 31, 2021. The program is operated by QuadMed and all personal medical information is confidential.

QuadMed will host onsite one-on-one health screening appointments at Newport News Shipbuilding starting Aug. 3. Visit [www.hiibenefits.com](http://www.hiibenefits.com) for a full schedule and registration instructions. Appointments must be scheduled in advance and all participants must wear a face mask.



## Hyman Rickover (SSN 795) Bow Unit Ships North

The bow unit of *Virginia*-class submarine *Hyman Rickover* (SSN 795) was moved from Newport News Shipbuilding's Supplemental Modular Outfitting Facility to a waiting barge in May.

The submarine will be completed in Groton, Connecticut, as part of a teaming agreement with General Dynamics Electric Boat. The submarine is named in honor of Adm. Hyman Rickover, who helped usher the Navy's nuclear age. He retired from the Navy in 1982, after 63 years of service.

## Virtual Engagement Expo Continues Through Friday

With just a click of a mouse, Newport News Shipbuilding employees can participate in the first-ever virtual engagement expo. The event, which is titled "Back to the Future," allows shipbuilders to learn about different innovation and technology opportunities at the shipyard through an electronic exhibitor map. Virtual displays include visual work instructions, digital shipbuilding, robotics and automation, health and wellness opportunities and many more.

"The virtual engagement expo embodies new technology and services that will help each shipbuilder in different aspects to ensure NNS is moving forward," said **Quinn Williams** (O18), one of the event organizers.

Participants will be asked to take polls and surveys during the expo and will have a chance to win prizes. The expo continues through July 31, and is available to anyone with computer access. All shipbuilders are invited to attend.

For more information, as well as the expo link, visit the Engagement website on MyNNS.

## COVID-19 Updates

Dr. **Steve Apostoles**, Newport News Shipbuilding's medical director, and **Dru Branche**, director of Environmental Health, Safety and Security, recently addressed questions from shipbuilders about the company's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch the video on MyNNS. Shipbuilders are encouraged to continue sending questions and ideas to [ideas@hii-nns.com](mailto:ideas@hii-nns.com) and NNS President Jennifer Boykin's Facebook page.

## Radiography Doesn't Get Publicity, but it Gets the Picture

When a bottle breaks across the bow of an aircraft carrier, a photographer has one chance to get the shot.

That challenge might sound familiar to the third-shift team from O38 Radiography, which recently captured its own panoramic shot. Like a christening, they didn't have multiple chances to get it right.

But the comparison stops there. The O38 team needed 90 minutes to complete its shot, and they worked in relative isolation, minus the bands and confetti that can accompany a milestone event.

The radiography team specializes in non-destructive testing, using X-rays, ultrasound and other methods to take a deep, penetrating look at welds on aircraft carriers and submarines to find any potential internal defects that would be hidden from view.

The work is ongoing and a routine part of the construction process, but panoramic shots happen only a few times a year.

Recently, the O38 team performed radiography on a cylinder weld for the *Arkansas* (SSN 800), bringing it one step closer to joining the Navy's fleet of *Virginia*-class submarines. The results created images on nearly 70 pieces of film of the hull's exterior, which were

then analyzed for volumetric defects.

The job requires weeks of preparation and takes an entire shift to complete, said Radiography Manager **Jeremy Shaarda**.

The work takes place on third shift – an exception to the current two-shift schedule – and the area is cleared of all but essential personnel. Access to the area is restricted and a lead shield protects team members.

With all that advance planning, a do-over is often not an option. “Because it takes an entire shift to complete, we only have one shot to get it right, and aside from the obvious safety risks involved, first time quality is a must,” Shaarda said.

O38 Manager **Ralph Motley** said his team's work is critically important, even though it takes place out of the spotlight.

“The third shift O38 radiography team has to be keenly aware of their surroundings to ensure everyone remains safe,” he said, “especially when so much is at risk.”

## Reporting Time Charging Falsification or Mischarging

A large number of allegations made to Huntington Ingalls Industries' OpenLine involve allegations of time-charging irregularities. Serious infractions that are substantiated could and have resulted in discipline up to and including termination of employment. Time-charging irregularities generally are of two kinds – time charging falsification and mischarging.

**Time charging falsification** is usually an action taken by an individual employee who knowingly misrepresents time worked for some personal gain.

**Mischarging** can be the act of one or more employees. In this case, the proper number of hours may be worked, but they are knowingly not charged to the correct contract.

Time charging falsification or mischarging is a crime and can have a serious impact on a shipbuilder's job and career and a significant impact on the company. If an employee is asked or directed to mischarge, or if they are aware of other mischarging practices or time charging falsifications, they must report it to management, a Human Resources Business Partner, a Labor Relations Representative, a Business Conduct Officer, or call the Company OpenLine at 877-631-0020.

## August Blood Drives

Newport News Shipbuilding is hosting the following blood drives in support of the American Red Cross. A time charge will be provided for employees who donate.

### Wednesday, Aug. 5

Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room)  
7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

### Thursday, Aug. 6

Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room)  
7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, email [corporatetcitizenship@hii-nns.com](mailto:corporatetcitizenship@hii-nns.com). The American Red Cross has implemented safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

## Virtual Health Programs for Shipbuilders

Shipbuilders have access to a series of no-cost wellness programs designed to help them get active and lose weight this summer.

Scale Back with QuadMed is a free 10-week virtual program that can build healthy lifestyle habits through weekly 30-minute group support classes that focus on mindset, movement, meals and motivation.

Scale Back sessions begin Aug. 4, and shipbuilders can choose the virtual session that works best for them: Tuesdays at 4 p.m., Wednesdays at noon or Thursdays at noon. To register, visit [myquadmed.com/hii](http://myquadmed.com/hii). Anyone who completes at least eight classes will be entered to win a prize.

Employees and dependents enrolled in an Anthem medical plan also have access to free weight management and diabetes prevention apps through Solera, available at [www.solera4me.com/hii](http://www.solera4me.com/hii).

## DATEBOOK

### JULY 7-28

Attend weekly mindfulness webinars to learn relaxation techniques to reduce stress when life gets tough. Webinars take place on Tuesdays in July from noon to 12:30 p.m. Visit [www.myquadmedical.com/hii](http://www.myquadmedical.com/hii) to register.

### JULY 22-31

Newport News Shipbuilding's Engagement Office is hosting a "Back to the Future" Expo July 22-31. The virtual event will allow shipbuilders to explore different innovation and technology initiatives at NNS. For more information, listen to the Engage Forward podcast or visit the Engagement website on MyNNS.

### JULY 29

Learn how to combine fruit and protein to make delicious summer salads. BeWell for Life's team will host live virtual demonstrations at noon and 4 p.m. via Zoom. Log into [www.myquadmedical.com/hii](http://www.myquadmedical.com/hii) for details. Employees should access Zoom from a personal device.

### AUGUST 13

Shipbuilders looking to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills are invited to join an online "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club Zoom meeting from 5 until 6 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 12 to receive further meeting details. Contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) and **Michael Miller** (E37) at [spearandgearthoastmastersclub@gmail.com](mailto:spearandgearthoastmastersclub@gmail.com) from a personal email address.

### AUGUST 27

Shipbuilders looking to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills are invited to join an online "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club Zoom meeting from 5 until 6 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 26 to receive further meeting details. Contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) and **Michael Miller** (E37) at [spearandgearthoastmastersclub@gmail.com](mailto:spearandgearthoastmastersclub@gmail.com) from a personal email address.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Face Masks Available

Shipbuilders can purchase reusable face masks in support of the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer effort through Aug. 7.

Proceeds from sales will support investment in groundbreaking breast cancer research, services – such as access to mammograms – for women diagnosed with the disease, and the availability of free information to help educate others about the warning signs. Masks are available in charcoal or pink and cost \$9 each or \$17 for a pack with one pink and one charcoal mask. The two-ply masks have an over-the-ear design and feature a shipyard design.

To purchase masks or for more information, contact **Paula Young** (O68) at 688-7634 or via email, **Aimee Hicks** (O68) at 380-7775 or via email, or **Brenda Meekins** (O26) at 380-3239 or via email.

### CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

Visit [nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411-updates.html](http://nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411-updates.html) for daily updates about confirmed COVID-19 cases at Newport News Shipbuilding. The website provides information about each case, including the date the individual was last at NNS. On July 27, the company changed its reporting structure for certain employees. Those who have worked remotely or have been on a leave of absence for 14 consecutive days prior to their COVID-19 diagnosis are now categorized as working "Off-Yard."

### SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

Visit [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) to search for the latest NNS job openings.

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Construction Supervisor 2	525	X01	Newport News
Contract Administrator 3	474	O19	Newport News
Cost Estimating Analyst 3	527	O19	Newport News
Engineer Electrical 3	789	E11	Newport News
Engineer Systems 2	2172	E82	Newport News
Entry-level Blaster	1630	X33	Newport News
Entry-level Pipefitter	1649	X42	Newport News
Experienced Mechanical Inspector	654	X67	Newport News
Experienced Pipefitter	1642	X42	Newport News
Systems Architect 5	1479	T43	Newport News

Employees are encouraged to use **MyHR** or the "Current HII Employees Job Search" button at [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) to apply. The company continues to offer cash bonus awards for referrals to select positions, visit [www.huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend](http://www.huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend) for more information.

