



The Conquered Banner

Newsletter of the

Father A. J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302

Sons of Confederate Veterans



VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3

May 2019

Re-Confederation

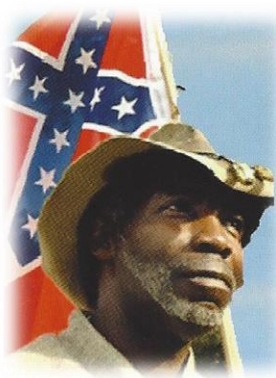
Oh! How we like to come up with new words and descriptions to highlight what it is that we're accomplishing when we meet to discuss, debate and establish the direction we are to follow that will guide us into the future and make us a viable and respected heritage organization with the principles set out by General Stephen Dill Lee over a hundred years ago. Thus, what a great term to coin—*Re-Confederation*—as we, members of the California Division, SCV, gathered and regrouped to set the course for a gainful journey ahead.

Yes, as the California Division has done for the past several years, compatriots from the southern and northern extremes of the state gathered in centrally located Bakersfield at the Four Points Hotel for the 25th annual Division Convention/Re-Confederation from March 8th to March 10th. Robert and Ryan Williams of the Captain James Iradell Waddell, Orange County Camp 1770 and those who helped them, performed flawlessly as hospitality hosts in decorating the Hospitality Suite and providing snacks, pizza and drinks for the compatriots and guests as they arrived throughout evening of the 8th. As always, everyone had a chance to reacquire with their fellow division members, as well as meet some new folks. The highpoint of the evening was the long-awaited meeting with H.K. Edgerton,



President of the Southern Heritage 411. H.K., whom we must consider a very brave and dedicated black pro-Southern/Confederate Heritage advocate who, almost single handily, has gone around the South and much of the country (at times experiencing physical harm) to show the American public that it is not only the white person who respects and honors their Confederate and Southern heritage. The Division worked for some time to arrange for H.K. and his brother Terry Lee to attend the 2019 California Division Re-Confederation/Convention as honored guest speaker. The division has much to appreciate in the efforts of Division Social Media & Flagger, Kevin Street, and the work he did in coordinating and arranging Mr. Edgerton's attendance, particularly when it came time to prove to H.K.'s manager that his visit to Bakersfield was for a legitimate group. Kevin, in his report to the Division Executive Council, stated that Mr. Edgerton will be retiring from public speaking at the end of April 2019 and for that, the California Division was fortunate to have him out as the division's guest. Kudos to the camps within the division who contributed funds to assist in H.K.'s travel

expenses, especially to our members of Camp 302 for approving their camp's very worthy donation for this cause.



(Continued on Page Three)

International Headquarters
 Sons of Confederate Veterans
 P.O. Box 59
 Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0059
1-800-MY-DIXIE

Salute to the Confederate Flag

I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and the ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee

Newsletter

The Conquered Banner is the official newsletter of Camp 302 and is published each odd-numbered month. Permission to reprint material contained in the newsletter is freely given to SCV, MOSB and UDC organizations. Commentary and articles are solicited and should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the preceding month. Consideration of space may require editing.

Meetings

The camp meets the 2nd Saturday of each odd-numbered month at various locations which are announced in the newsletter.

Correspondence

Membership applications, dues renewals, changes of address and other business should be directed to the adjutant.

Dues

Annual dues are billed each August and are \$50.00 for members. Dues include the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and a newsletter.

Camp officers

Commander	<u>Jim Millsap</u>
Lieutenant Commander	<u>George Faircloth</u>
2 nd Lieutenant Commander	<u>Jim Coulsby</u>
Adjutant	<u>Jim Stephens</u>
Treasurer	<u>Roy Adair</u>
Webmaster	<u>Roy Adair</u>
Chaplain	<u>Jim Coulsby</u>
Sergeant-at-Arms	<u>Steve Smith</u>
Historian	<u>Vacant</u>
Newsletter Editor/Publisher	<u>Jim Stephens</u>

Minutes from the March 02, 2019 Meeting

El Ranchero Restaurant in Vista was the site of the camp's March 2nd Pre-Convention meeting as Camp 302 prepares to join its fellow camps in the California Division as they once again prepare to converge in Bakersfield, California for the annual event. The meeting was called to order shortly after 10:00 AM. Commander Millsap conducted the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag followed. Those in attendance were as follows: Commander Jim Millsap, Lieutenant Commander George Faircloth, Adjutant Jim Stephens, Ira Lack, Wes Scarbrough, Chuck Meadows, John Flood, and guest, Deanne Smith. Deanne brought extra convention registration forms in case anyone decided at the last minute to attend. As always, Deanne was a welcome addition to the meeting's discussions. In the absence of Treasurer Adair, Adjutant Stephens presented the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: Commander Millsap told those present that Camp Challenge Coins and Ink Pens, as well as Gillis flags, are still available. Adjutant Stephens mentioned the Hunley Envoy Pins that will be distributed to Hunley presenters when available. Attendees were given the results of the January camp elections. All were advised that the revised Article IV of Camp 302's bylaws are in effect.

New Business: The attending camp members went over final details that would affect Camp 302 here in San Diego and that of the division. The attendees were advised of the guest who will speak at the banquet in Bakersfield and all were encouraged to make efforts to attend if they could. Adjutant Stephens told everyone present that the H.L. Hunley JROTC Awards to local high-school students were on track, and he also discussed the California Division meetings that are being held quarterly, particularly the last one at Domingo's Restaurant in Boron, Ca. A unanimous vote was conducted as a quorum of members voted to revise Standing Rules #4 regarding the camp purchase of a Past-Commander medal for the out-going commander. All attendees were reminded of the up-coming Division Convention/Re-Confederation on March 8th thru 10th. The next camp meeting for May 11, 2019 was announced with a proposal to conduct it at the Jolly Roger Restaurant at Oceanside Harbor, this in conjunction with Jefferson Davis' Birthday celebration. The UDC celebration of Confederate Memorial Day was announced to be held at Mt. Hope Cemetery on April 27th.

The next scheduled VMC Color Guard will be on May 25, 2019.

Commander Millsap read the Benediction to close out the second meeting of the year.

(Re-Confederation Continued from Page One)

At 8:00 AM Saturday morning, division members gathered in the conference room of the hotel to begin the Re-Confederation/ Convention. Division Commander Steve Smith welcomed the attendees and introduced Special Guests: Commander -in-Chief Paul Gramling; ATM Commander Darrell Maples; ATM Councilman J.C. Hanna, and MOS&B Commander Steve Roe. Division Chaplain David Pyle, *at right*, then delivered the Invocation.



He later gave a Scripture reading and report. Color Sergeant Greg Frazier very smartly posted the colors. All in the room stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag. A unique beginning to our business session occurred when special guest H.K. led us off with a rousing rendition of Dixie. With the opening ceremonies complete, the guests filed out of the conference room and the business of the convention began.

Division Lieutenant Commander Jon Fowler, *at left*, read the charge to begin the convention and introduced Division Adjutant Dr. Vern Padgett who

then conducted the Roll Call of the Camps and presented the delegation with the completed minutes of the 2018 Division Convention. **For 2019, the following camps of the California Division were present and accounted for: Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302, San Diego - General John Bell Hood Camp 1208, Los Angeles - General George Blake Cosby Camp 1627, Sacramento - Inland Empire Camp 1742, Inland Empire - Captain James Iradell Wadell Camp 1770, Orange County - General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804, Fresno - General Albert Sydney Johnston Camp 2048, Bakersfield/Tehachapi - The Stainless Banner Camp 1440, San Jose.** Four camps were not present this year: Long Beach, Camp 2007 - Modesto, Camp 2023 - Ventura, Camp 2062 and Santa Barbara, Camp 1631.



Commander Allen Davis received the UDC's Jefferson Davis Historical Award. Mike Climo, Inland Empire, Camp 1742 made everyone present aware of the 4850 square miles their camp covers (larger than some states), the Hunley awards they presented and the reenactment they attended in Corona. Orange County's Robert Williams reported on their current membership stats and that the Santa Ana Cemetery in their area has 87 Confederates identified and the 8-foot-high 7-ton monument with 10 Confederate founders listed thereon is in ever present danger of being taken down at anytime by the city. Tim Desmond, 1804 Fresno reported their support of Richard Kline and family after their home was destroyed during the Carr fire and thanked all who visited former Division Commander Chuck Norred at his home. Jon Fowler of Bakersfield/Tehachapi told of how active their camp is, which they are, their monthly meetings and the 49 members they have at present.

It was great to have Commander-in-Chief Paul Gramling Jr., *at right*, addressing the delegation. Paul has visited the California Division conventions in the past as ATM Commander. He expressed his pleasure, as he always has, in visiting us out here in California.

Division Hunley Award Coordinator Jon Fowler reported to the group that there are still 13 Orphan Schools in the state that need sponsors. Importantly, he reminded all present that after 2021, the military will no longer allow JROTC cadets to wear any lineage awards presented by heritage organizations such as The Sons of Confederate Veterans. They will require military related awards only. Still a few years down the road, it will be interesting to see how this will work.



At this point, the attending camps presented their reports indicating their past year's activities. Here are a few highlights: Commander Jim Millsap, *at left*, reported to the delegation of Camp 302's \$1000 donation to the Nathan Bedford Forrest boyhood home and our other activities during the past year. David Pyle of Camp 1440 talked of the camp's Kearny Park Reenactment. Robert Crook of Los Angeles Camp 1208 mentioned the several hundred dollars they raised for H.K.'s trip to California. Tad Smith, Sacramento Camp 1627, laid out their partnership with the UDC for Confederate Memorial Day, the Hunley Awards they presented - 13 since 2013, and the fact that

(Continued on Page Four)

(Re-Confederation Continued from Page Three)

Kevin Street, referring to social media, told all that Facebook is working better than Twitter when defending and espousing the SCV message. Webmaster Mike Climo indicated that clicking on and bookmarking the SCV California website www.SCVCalifornia.org is bound to raise our rankings. Mike told of over 400 attacks on the site but there were no outages with a 99% up-time. Lower South Brigade Commander Robert Williams reported on the four camps under his command: 302; 1208; 170, and 1742. Division Adjutant Dr. Vern Padgett delivered his Adjutant's Report. In it, he stated that the California Division has 12 camps with 275 active members. The largest camp is Sacramento, 1627. The oldest being the John Bell Hood, Los Angeles, 1208 founded in 1951. The newest camp in the division is General Albert Sydney Johnston Camp 2048, Bakersfield/Tehachapi, founded in 2003. Due to the size of California, the camps range in a distance of 504 miles from each other with Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302, the southern most in San Diego to the northern extreme, George Blake Cosby Camp 1627 in Sacramento. Vern reminded all present that the California Division has been meeting annually since 1994, the year the division was founded. In his Treasurer's Report, Dr. Padgett reported that in March 2018, the division had \$2445 in the Division Treasury. After the March meeting of that year, a total income of \$11,238 was received. There was an expenditure of \$9953 at or after that March meeting. Balance Forward, plus income, minus expenses, leaves \$3730 as the current balance. In summary, Dr. Padgett reported that the Division has 9 Gillis Flags and 31 Division Challenge Coins remaining.



Besides H.K. Edgerton and CIC Gramling, the division was pleased to have Army of Trans-Mississippi Commander Darrell Maples and ATM Councilman J.C. Hanna as guests. *At left*, Councilman Hanna addresses the delegates during the business session. Lieutenant Commander Jon Fowler reported on the support he has received from division officers and he acknowledged the help he has had in coordinating the Hunley awards. Commander Steve Smith then took to the floor and reported that it has been less stressful in recent Re-Confederations as delegation of certain duties assigned to different camps has taken some of the pressure off in the organization process. Commander Smith emphasized his creation to two new division awards taking affect this year: **"The Chuck Norred Leadership Award"** that replaces the Division Rebel of the Year Award, and **"The Dr. Vern Padgett Scholarship Award"** that will award a proposed \$280 to two chosen JROTC schools in California

annually.

A few other key business matters discussed during the morning session included the proposal to have a division SCV and SUVCW convention gathering in 2020 with the two groups primarily celebrating at a joint banquet in the evening. More on this to come. Chaplain David Pyle stated that each camp must have a dedicated chaplain, which your camp certainly does in that Jim Colsby and Ernie Powell are our representatives in the California Division Chaplain Corps. Input of camp awards for national consideration was discussed and, as of now, Commander Jim Millsap is pursuing that issue. Camp 302's Roy Adair requested time on the floor to report on his and Robyn's visit to the Nathan Bedford Forrest's Boyhood home while traveling in Tennessee, focusing on the excellent condition this off-the-beaten-path property, owned by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the contributions required to maintain this historic site. The division delegates were made more aware of this location after Roy's presentation.

A most important part of this year's Re-Confederation/Convention was the nomination and election of division officers before the end of business. Vern Padgett nominated Mike Climo for Lieutenant Commander and Ryan Williams nominated Robert Williams for the position of Commander. With the elections completed, **Robert Williams is now the California Division Commander and Mike Climo, our Lieutenant Commander.** Other offices filled: Jon Fowler was appointed as Chief-of-Staff; Steven Steinberg was elected as Brigade Commander Lower South ; and David Pyle was reelected as Brigade Commander Upper South.

As the business meeting came to a close, the attendees were reminded of the Memorial Service to be conducted at Union Cemetery the following morning and in particular the service for Past Division Commander Barron Smith. Mrs. Tad (Molly) Smith led in the singing of Dixie and Chaplain Pyle delivered the Benediction. The meeting was then adjourned. After a few hours break, it was time to prepare for the Evening Banquet and for Camp 302 to set up for our assigned duty of conducting the Silent Auction.

(Continued on Page Five)

(Re-Confederation Continued from Page Four)

The banquet commenced on time Saturday evening and, for the first time, a buffet line was set up that actually proved to be very efficient, allowing everyone to enjoy well-prepared and tasty food with the tables well supplied with iced tea and water. When the repast ended, the official events of the evening began.



banquet floor delivering Michael R. Bradley's Confederate Flag poem, *I am Their Flag*. His moving presentation of Bradley's work was the show-stopper of the evening.

Then came the time during the evening's festivities to choose the division's Camp-of-the-Year Award given to the camp going above and beyond the norm in a camp's annual performance in a variety of categories ranging from number of meetings of all types, money raised/donated, color guards, events attended, division & national conventions, blogs & letters, ROTC awards, membership and a host of other areas that can make a camp shine. Camp 302, the 2018 winner, entered the re-confederation with enough accumulated points that placed the camp, we thought, well within the realm of winning again this year.

However, Camp 2048 of Bakersfield/Tehachapi garnered the 2019 win with a massive number of points that virtually quadrupled our camp's score due to numerous blogs and letters they sent out. Congratulations goes out to their camp. *At right*, Camp 302's Commander, Jim Millsap, presents the Camp-of-the-Year sword to Kevin Street of Camp 2048, the division's social media officer mainly responsible for taking his camp well over the top this year. Camp 2048 Commander Jon Fowler looks on. Outgoing division commander Steve Smith is at podium.



was turned over to CIC Gramling to take back to Tennessee where it will be proudly displayed at the new Confederate Museum upon its opening. *As seen at right*, new brigade flags are also displayed for the first time. The new Lower South and Upper South Brigade flags of the California Division are identical except for the name of each brigade.

At left, newly elected division officers Lieutenant Commander Mike Climo and Commander Robert Williams show off the new California Division Flag unfurled for the first time during the banquet. Chaplain Pyle looks on in the background. The retired division flag



(Continued on Page Six)

(Re-Confederation Continued from Page Five)



As noted earlier, the Division Rebel-of-the-Year Award was renamed *The Chuck Norred Leadership Award*, honoring his longtime service to the California Division as its commander and also ATM Commander. Compatriot Norred, a member of the General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804 in Fresno was not able to be at this year's Re-Confederation to see this award bearing his name presented to Camp 302's Roy Adair. It is a pleasure to congratulate Roy for his receipt of this very appropriate award and representing the Father A.J. Ryan Camp. *Pictured here at left* is Roy next to H.K. Edgerton with his new certificate.

Following Roy's acceptance of his award, Camp 302 members went to work coordinating and collecting funds paid for the silent auction items that were placed on display tables in the banquet room. Several camps had varied items for sale ranging from period clothing, maps, books, stationary items and a few authentic artifacts. Camp 302 donated several Confederate Flag writing tablets, Confederate Battle flags, a beer mug and Camp 302 ink pens that sold fast. All-in-all, a good profit was made during the evening and Compatriot Adair was able to present to Division Treasurer Vern Padgett \$481 that will go into the division treasury.

We could not let the evening go by without your camp representatives getting together for a mug shot—Ira looking sharp in his uniform, Commander Millsap, Adjutant Stephens and Treasurer Adair completing the picture.

Throughout the weekend activities, H.K. gathered groups and initiated rousing renditions of "Dixie" and, all attendees insisted in posing with this gregarious man. Particularly, H.K. wanted the young folks, *as pictured below*, to get with him and they likewise enjoyed being with him.



The ladies, of course, could not be left out *as seen above* here.

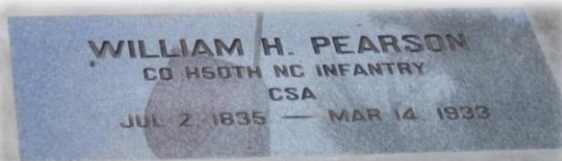
The adjacent photo of our California Division Officers along with CIC Gramling standing to H.K.'s left rounded out the evening's banquet presentations and awards.

(Continued on Page Seven)

(Re-Confederation Continued from Page Six)



The grand finale of the annual division re-confederation occurred when the delegates and guests gathered at Bakersfield's Union Cemetery for the memorial conducted by the good ladies of the Mary Boykin Chesnut Chapter 2634, California Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. *At left*, Division President, Pennie Lizalde, welcomes the men and women who have come to pay homage to all Confederate veterans, women of the Confederacy, Veterans of all wars and, especially, William H. Pearson, Company H, 50th N.C. Infantry, CSA whose headstone we were there to dedicate.



Color Sergeant Greg Frazier *at far left in the photo below*, General Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 2048, led the Color Guard to post Division and Camp colors and fire the gun salute. There followed the traditional Roll Call of the States and the reading of the names of division compatriots who had passed away the previous year. Commander Millsap of Camp 302 read out the names of John Armstrong and camp founder Gene Armistead.



To close out Sunday's memorial, it was time to celebrate the life of Past California Division and Santa Barbara Camp 1631 Commander Barron Smith. *Below left*, Steve Smith conducts the ceremony honoring Barron's dedication and service to his camp and the division. *Below right*, Jon Fowler presents the folded Confederate Flag to Kyle as a lasting symbol to her husband's memory. Farewell Compatriot Smith; Gone, but not forgotten.



Thanks is extended to Division Adjutant Vern Padgett for providing his notes to aid in the writing of this article.

Jim Stephens

UNITED VETERANS MEMORIAL SERVICE

**VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, BALBOA PARK**

There was no Color Guard this reporting period. Camp 302 will return to the VMC Saturday, May 25, 2019.

NEXT CAMP MEETING

DATE: May 11, 2019

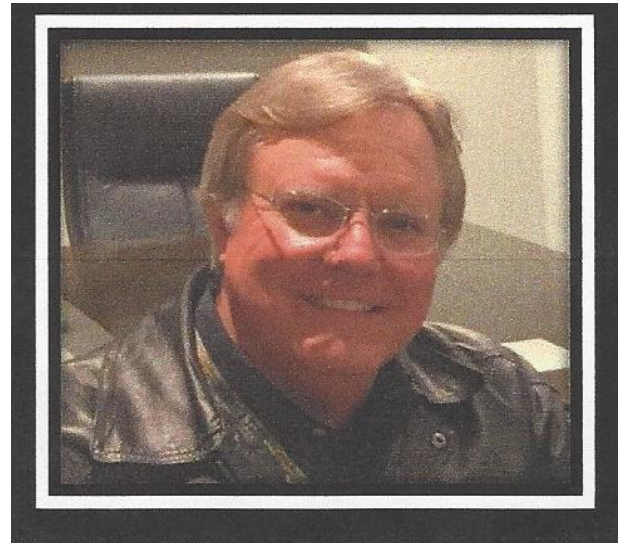
TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

LOCATION: Mimi's Café, Mira Mesa, 10788 Westview Pkwy, 858-566-6667

Greetings from the Commander

Friends and Compatriots: The Bakersfield Re-Confederation convention was very special this year with guest H.K. Edgerton and his brother Terry Lee. Following the convention, I sent a "Thank you" message to HK and was pleasantly surprised to receive a very nice email from Becky Muska, President of the Elizabeth Bate Williams UDC Chapter (#1911) in Millington, TN (near Memphis.) Becky recognized our camp name in honor of Father A.J. Ryan and stated that she had entered the Father A.J. Ryan poetry contest that was sponsored by the UDC in 2017. Her poem "Sacred Stone" took top honors with the best poem and was read into the minutes of the 124th UDC General Convention at St. Augustine, FL.

Becky wrote this poem during the time when our Confederate monuments were under attack and being desecrated. Below is Becky Muska's poem. I have since communicated back to Becky thanking her for sharing her poem and sent her a camp challenge coin. She was very delighted to receive this coin and mentioned that she was going to find a coin pin holder so that she can wear it.



Sacred Stone

By Becky Muska

Hate-filled hearts defile sacred stone
Your deeds they fail to erase
As monuments fell and tears were shed
Over a genteel time and place

An easy prey, our gallant dead
They cannot draw their sword
Granite, marble, slate, stand tall
Reach up to touch Our Lord.

General, chaplain, soldier, steed
Brave souls who soar above
For honor and glory forever lives
In the South, their one true love.

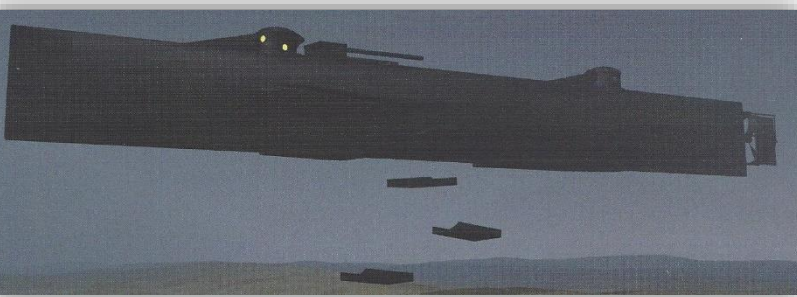


THE HUNLEY REPORT:

An Update

Camp 302 is now an annual contributor to “The Friends of the Hunley” project and, as such, we’ll publish this update that shows some interesting facts with related photos highlighting the current research, restoration and findings the Hunley Project and the Clemson University Restoration Institute team are finding during the long research and restoration of this irreplaceable artifact of our Confederate Navy that is coming closer to fruition. The facts you’ll read about here are gleaned from the official newsletter of the Friends of the Hunley, *The Blue Light* and, it is here that I wish to thank Kellen Correa of The Blue Light editorial staff for granting *The Conquered Banner* one-time permission to use the drawings and photos you see in this article. I informed Kellen of our appreciation. Copies of *The Blue Light* will be available to members to see at our scheduled meetings.

It has been almost nineteen years since the H.L. Hunley broke the surface of the Atlantic Ocean off Charleston, South Carolina when it was raised in August of 2000. (See: *The Conquered Banner*, Volume 26, Number 4, July 2018.) So much work has been done since then to bring this Confederate submarine back to

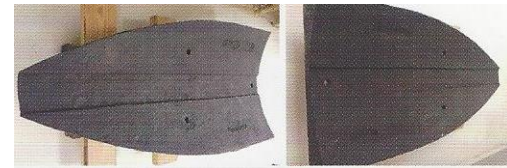


near pristine condition. The findings, as the photos will show, are slowly but surely giving the researchers tiny but tantalizing clues that may once and for all determine the fate of the Hunley and her crew as more and more concretion is being removed from this nearly intact vessel. The first clue we’ll show here is why the keel blocks, for center-line balance, were still attached to the sub’s hull.

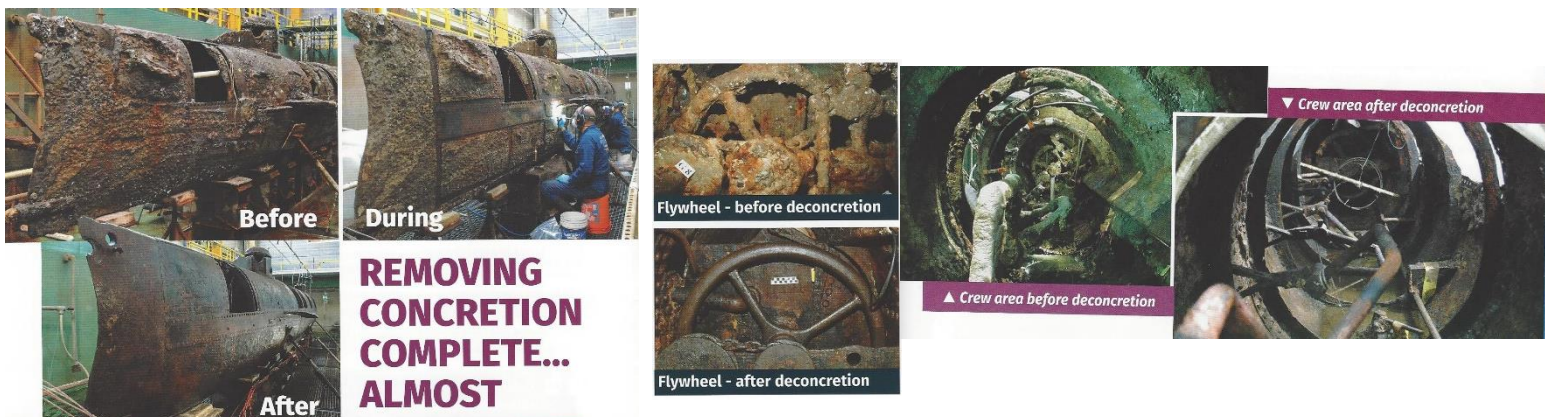
The illustration *at left* shows what it should look like if the keel blocks were released as designed.

However, over 1000 lbs. of these counter-weights, some weighing 500 lbs., each were still attached to the hull. The object was to release them so the sub could surface if the Hunley were to be stuck on the bottom.

Researchers do not know why they were not released, but one theory is that the crew may not have been aware they were in trouble. The photo *at right* shows two of the keel blocks after they were de-concreted.



The photos *below* show how the Hunley looked when work started on cleaning the hull and interior portions of the submarine and how they look after extensive de-concretion.



Several artifacts have been recovered as restoration continues. Pictured here *at right* is a brooch and ring belonging to the Hunley’s Captain, Lieutenant Dixon. They were found entwined in rotted cloth near his remains.

When restoration of the CSS Hunley is finally complete, future generations will have a chance to view this famous submarine that waited for so long to come to the surface after its crew completed their mission.



CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY



Saturday, April 27th, Commander Jim Millsap and Lieutenant Commander George Faircloth, representing Camp 302, attended the 2019 Confederate Memorial Day celebration at the Stonewall Jackson Monument located in Mt. Hope Cemetery, San Diego in remembrance of our Confederate ancestors as guests of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Stonewall Jackson Chapter 476.