

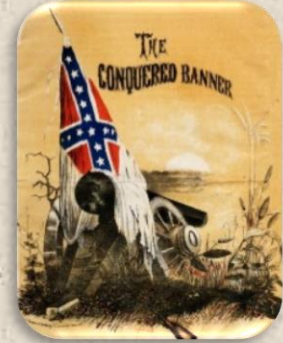


The Conquered Banner

Newsletter of the

Father A. J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302

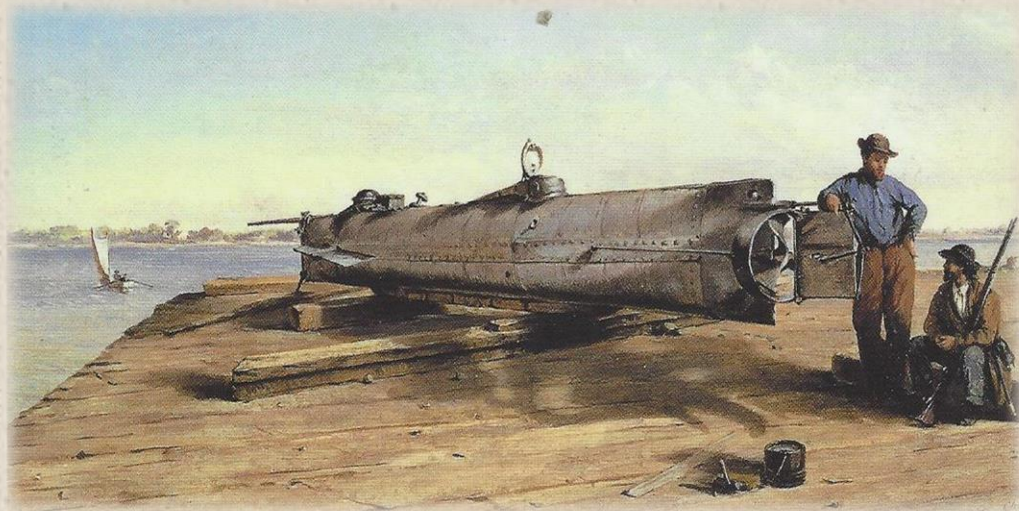
Sons of Confederate Veterans



VOLUME 29 NUMBER 2

March/April 2021

Twentieth Anniversary



Two decades ago, in August of 2000, Horace Hunley's contribution to the Confederate cause was brought to the surface of the Atlantic Ocean. The Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley was raised just off the coast of Charleston, South Carolina and placed in the Warren Lasch Conservation Center where it was to undergo a slow and continuing restoration process that would reveal so much about this historic submarine and the brave crew who manned her during that fateful mission in 1864. The Hunley, of course, is credited with the first successful sinking of an enemy warship.

Eight dedicated men, commanded by Lieutenant George Dixon, CSA, were known to have backed away from the USS Housatonic (the U.S. Navy's new and powerful sloop-of-war) after torpedoing it, managing to signal the shore crew with their *Blue Light* to indicate that the mission was successful.

(Continued on Page Four)

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

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

Camp 302 Meeting Minutes

For the first time in Camp 302 history, an internet ZOOM meeting was conducted on Saturday, January 9, 2021 for members to participate in, partially due to the COVID restrictions prevalent here in San Diego County, and also to encourage those far and wide who otherwise could not be in person to sit down in front of their computers and join.

Adjutant Jim Stephens hosted this virtual gathering which was conducted by Commander Jim Millsap. Also in attendance: Camp Treasurer Roy Adair, Lieutenant Commander George Faircloth, Mike Climo, Charles Hill, Chuck Meadows, Steve Perdue, Steve Smith, Steve Musgrave – *The Three Steves*. We were pleased to have David Ham join us from New Mexico. A few glitches were experienced but we hope to overcome those in the future.

Treasurer Adair read the financial report, stating that the camp's account balance starting 11/6/2020, was \$39,176.78. With the Wreaths Across America donation of \$50.00 and a gain of \$60.00 from the Annual Musket Shoot proceeds and \$2.00 for camp ink pen sales, the camp's balance is \$39,188.78 as of 01/07/2021.

Jim Stephens went over the 2021 Camp Calendar, emphasizing that the VMC Color Guard was not on the calendar this year due to the uncertainty of the museum's activities once it opens. He reminded everyone that the dates for scheduling the Blue/Grey Picnic in August, the Annual Musket Shoot in October and Wreaths Across America in December are yet to be determined.

Commander Millsap told those present that California Division Commander Williams and son Ryan were both under the weather and the Division Executive Council Meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 10, 2021 was cancelled.

The Division ReConfederation scheduled for March was discussed at length and that the registration documents and pricing information had been sent out. Since the COVID situation is on everyone's mind, the idea of a possible cancellation or rescheduling was discussed. Also, it was brought up that the division may request a \$500.00 donation from the camps in case there is a need for additional funding that might occur during the reunion. Steve Smith presented a motion for Camp 302 to donate the \$500 if called upon. Subsequent to a discussion and motions to bring it to a camp vote—there being a quorum—a unanimous vote of approval occurred. This is to take effect only if the division sees a need for and requests the funds.

It was decided that the next scheduled camp meeting be conducted via ZOOM and will take place on March 6, 2021 at 11:00 AM local time. Ample notification to all members will be made to ensure we have a good attendance.

With no further business to conduct, Commander Millsap adjourned the meeting.

(Twentieth Anniversary Continued from Page One)

Then, for no explicit reason, the Hunley vanished below the surface of the ocean to remain only a dim memory in the annals of Confederate history until their vessel was finally discovered in 1995. (See: "Horace Hunley and his Fish-Boat" July 2018 issue and "The Man Who Found the Hunley," Sept/Oct 2020 issue of *The Conquered Banner*.)

For years to come, many would scour and search the area off the coast of South Carolina in hopes of finding this elusive treasure. The first man to search for the Hunley was Union Navy officer, William Churchill, a marine diver who was assigned to search for it shortly after the sinking of the USS Housatonic. Keep in mind, as it was later discovered, the Hunley sank well East of the Housatonic and not West of it as was long assumed. This would baffle searchers for decades to come. It would take modern technology to eventually play a part in locating the Hunley where it lay, undisturbed, for so long, four miles off the coast near Charleston.

Three men would receive a great deal of credit in getting the submarine to where it is today. Clive Cussler, *seen at left*, and his NUMA team found it after years of searching. South Carolina Senator Glenn McConnell, *below left*, who negotiated and overcame numerous governmental hurdles and Warren Lasch, *below right*, a successful Charleston businessman and namesake of his conservation center, spearheaded the mission with his goal of, "Let's bring the Boys Home."

But several legal questions had to be answered first. Some considered the Confederate submarine a *privateer vessel*. Who owned it? How should any human remains, if found on board, be treated? Should the submarine be left at sea as

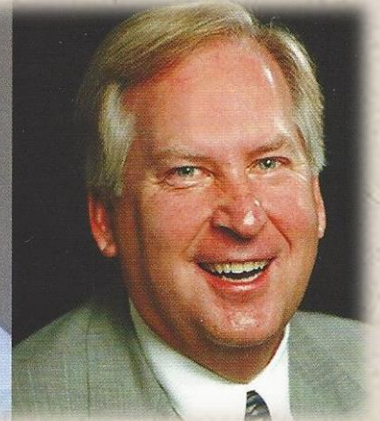
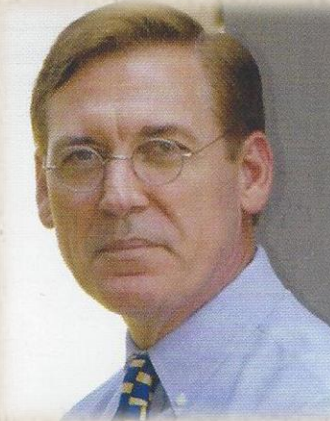
a war grave? Measures had to be taken to protect the Hunley from treasure hunters until it could be raised and brought to its eventual home in the

conservatory in Charleston. The H.L. Hunley was declared U.S. Government property in order to give it legal protection from looters, thus allowing it to remain safe while it rested on the ocean floor, ensuring that once it was raised, it would be intact and that people today and in future generations could observe the vessel and the artifacts recovered from it. We, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, pay honor to this famous submarine and its brave crew as a lasting symbol of our Confederate Navy.

Compatriots of Camp 302 can be pleased and proud that we chose a few years ago to contribute an annual sum of \$100.00 to help, in a small way, the continued preservation efforts to the H.L. Hunley. Remember, we are officially members of *The Friends of the Hunley* and as such, we are among corporations, institutions private and public, governmental agencies and numerous SCV camps throughout the Confederation who contribute to the Hunley's preservation.

Sources & Data: Photos, Pg.1, *Raising The Hunley*, Brian Hicks & Schuyler Kropf, 2002
Pg.4, *The Blue Light*, Vol 56, 2020, Newsletter of The Friends of The Hunley

Jim Stephens





Recently, during one of our early ZOOM conferences, Treasurer Roy Adair had a photo of Georgia's Stone Mountain behind him. Looking at this brought back fond memories to me. As a teenager, my friends and I, for years, hiked and climbed all over this mountain where it was safe to do so, long before it became a state park. Located about sixteen miles from Atlanta, the mountain looms over the landscape and can be seen for miles around. In the nearby city of Stone Mountain, Georgia, a large number of Confederate veterans lie buried there in the local cemetery.

Stone Mountain is considered the largest exposed solid granite monolith on earth. It is over seven miles in circumference at its base and exceeds 1,000 feet high on its steepest side. The carving of President Davis, Generals Lee and Jackson of the face of the mountain, at about the 600 foot level, has long been a source of pride for us native Georgians.

Unfortunately, with attacks on anything relating to the Confederacy and our Southern heritage, even this mountain and its carving has, in recent years, been under attack by those wishing to eradicate the vision of our Confederate leaders. The mountain has long been owned by the State of Georgia which has kept it safe from those wishing to destroy the massive carving, but with the changing political climate even in the Deep South states, the winds of social change are ever present.

With that said, I want to reprint a humorous article I did in the March 2015 issue of *The Conquered Banner*. It was titled: "The Last Confederate." The tale is from a stand-up routine by the late Louis Grizzard, an Atlanta newspaper columnist, author and humorist. This was told many years ago. In these trying times of political adversity, it is always good to lighten up a bit and put a smile on our face. Here then, is **The Last Confederate:**

General Sherman, after he was finished with taking Atlanta, was marching toward Savannah with 120,000 Union troops. Moving East on I-20 and then the Stone Mountain Expressway, they soon came alongside Stone Mountain. From atop the granite monolith came the loud, resounding yell of a lone Confederate soldier. He was spouting the most vile profanity and epithets one could imagine down to the passing Yankees. Sherman, hearing this, called a halt to the marching soldiers. He ordered his aide-de-camp to come forward.

"Get someone up there and get that rebel down now" Sherman ordered. "We've got CBS, and CNN with us and I don't want this to make us look bad. You know how I hate the news media."

The aide got a volunteer from a Minnesota regiment named Swartz to go up the mountain.

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(Stone Mountain continued from Page Five)

Shortly, Swartz's dead body came tumbling down. Sherman told his aide that this would not do.

"Send more men up there if you have to and silence that Reb."

"Yes Sir," replied the aide.

Off went ten blue coats up the slope to finish the job. Soon, when the sounds of distant fighting died down, the bodies of these ten men were found lying in a heap.

Sherman was furious when he found this out. He demanded of his staff what it would take to get that loud-mouth Confederate off the mountain. Soon, 120 brave yanks moved up the stony precipice to put an end to the fiasco. After much musket firing, the reverberation of cannon blast, and the shouts and curses of fighting soldiers, silence pervaded the scene.

Eventually, a lone, bloodied Union soldier staggered into the camp.

"General," the soldier muttered in his dying breath, "It's a trap! There's two Rebs up there."

Stone Mountain, undoubtedly, is the largest Confederate monument in the world considering the size and scope of the carving on its face, measuring about 17,000 Square feet and 40 Feet in depth in places that are carved out of the side of this massive mountain. During stormy weather, workmen were known to have taken shelter in the mouth of Lee's horse.

The man first tasked to undertake the carving in the early 1920's was Gustave Borglum, famous for his work at Mt. Rushmore. A dispute with money early on led him to abandon the project after only a portion of Lee's head was carved. It was started up again in 1928, headed by Henry Augustus Lukeman, only to be halted once more due to budget shortfalls; probably *The Great Depression* played a part in that. The carving of the three gallant leaders of the Confederacy, that we observe today astride their horses, was completed and dedicated in 1968. An interesting sidelight to this story is that granite blocks, quarried from Stone Mountain, have gone into the construction of the U.S. Capitol Building and the Panama Canal among other projects.

Visitors to the mountain can ascend to the top on foot via a gently sloping path on one side or ride to the summit on a Swiss built cable car that passes close to the carving. Today, with the changing demographics coupled with the youth of the local residents and that of the international visitors, the significance of the carved images and what they relate to can mostly go unnoticed. We know the types of individuals and groups who protest for and against the eradication of this great Confederate monument. The Sons of Confederate Veterans does not need in anyway, the white radicals—we know who they are—that demonstrate for this monument, they only add to the unfounded hatred of our Confederate heritage.

Andrew Young, an early black mayor of Atlanta and long involved with Georgia politics has even said that removing the carving will only add to the division that exists today and it should be left alone. A moderate statement indeed. Let's hope that his thoughts and those of others who think likewise, will win out at the end of the day.

Jim Stephens

“ZOOM”

How many of us had even heard of this word until the effects of a *stay-at-home* and *social-distancing* edict came to the public as a result of the COVID virus that turned the year 2020 upside down and is still topsy-turvy today?

Obviously, Zoom meetings via computer and smart phones has enabled all kinds of folks, including us in Camp 302, to meet electronically to discuss issues with the added advantage of bringing more of us together that otherwise would not happen.

The camp has had one Zoom business meeting on January 9th and, on January 22nd, we turned to this form of media again for a special meeting to discuss and raise a motion to vote on a proposal to donate funds to the SCV for the purpose of financing the eventual reinternment of General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife, Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest. This action would bring their remains from Memphis, Tennessee to their final resting place at Elm Springs, Tennessee - Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Besides the monetary costs which is estimated to be around \$100,000, there are archeological tasks to be considered, weather will be brought into play as warmer weather is required when removing granite and marble statuary and monuments to prevent cracking. Also, the need for security, portable toilets, fire and ambulance service to name a few areas that require such a large sum of money to bring about this long-planned event to bring the general and his wife home.

Eight members were able to sign on to this Zoom meeting with an additional six members voting yea in absentia for whatever sum was voted on. When the discussion commenced, it was a given that the camp members desired to donate. A motion was made to donate \$500.00 with a second motion approving with further open discussion. All camp members agreed that the sum discussed was sufficient. The vote followed with all saying yea to make this a unanimous approval.

The eight members present were: Commander Millsap, Lieutenant Commander Faircloth, Adjutant Stephens, Compatriots Steve Musgrave, Steve Perdue, Dave Ham participating from New Mexico, Mike Climo (Lieutenant Commander, California Division,) and John Ford. Those members voting in absentia: Bob Johnson of Virginia, Ira Lack, Roy Adair, Steve Smith, Steve Hughes and Chuck Meadows.

Adjutant Stephens will submit the check for the sum voted upon to SCV Headquarters in the coming days. Commander Millsap extends thanks to all members signing on and those who approved in absentia. The camp donation is going to a great cause and all members can be pleased to know that these are camp funds well spent.

Division Executive Council Meeting

California Division Commander Robert Williams conducted a pre-reunion meeting on Sunday, February 14, 2021 at his home in Mission Viejo. So that several council members could attend *virtually*, A ZOOM session was set up by Camp 302 Adjutant Jim Stephens.

Commander Williams called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00 AM. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag in person and electronically through the ether. Council members present included Division Lieutenant Commander and Camp 302 member Mike Climo, Camp 302 Commander Millsap, former Division Commander and Camp 302 member Steve Smith and Ryan Williams of Camp 1770. Attending via ZOOM: Jim Stephens Camp 302, Greg Frazier, Camp 2048, Robert Crook, Camp 1208 and Jon Hussey, Camp 1742.

For obvious reasons, the crux of the gathering was to lay out most of the final details and logistics of the March 12th-14th 2021 Reunion in Bakersfield at the Four Points Sheraton. These included, but were not limited to, the following: massing of the flags, and the distribution and type of food to be served at the Lieutenant Colonel Dan Showalter themed hospitality suite. Commander Williams emphasized the importance of security with Mike Climo, showing the special ID badge and lanyard all participants will have on their person. Jim Stephens suggested a Sergeant-at-Arms be designated to check on everyone to insure only authorized persons be in the vicinity, but as everyone will be spread out due to *social distancing*, it was decided that all division members present just needed to be vigilant. It was suggested by Steve Smith that a reception table be placed in the lobby of the hotel where attending members will be checked in and receive their badges.

Functions to be carried out by the attending camps and council members were assigned. Color Sergeant Greg Frazier will be responsible for organizing the *Massing of the Flags* and the posting of colors during the banquet. Camp 302 will coordinate and conduct the *Silent Auction*. Adjutant Stephens will provide funds from the camp treasury for Camp 302 members to give change during the auction.

Procedures for the business session on Saturday were gone over. LCDR Climo spoke on how the camps were to submit their *Camp reports*. Such things as introducing the guests that will include: SCV Commander-in-Chief Larry McCluney, Jr. and Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief Jason Boshers and, Army of Trans-Mississippi Commander J.C. Hanna. SCV Chief of Heritage Operations, Walter "Donnie" Kennedy will be the featured guest. He is the author of "The South Was Right" There will be a book signing made available during his visit. It was decided during the DEC that a list of questions for the national officers will be written out in advance so as not to create confusion during the Q&A and round table discussion.

As the Division H.L. Hunley Award Coordinator, Jim Stephens will provide Commander Williams with a current report on the status of the Hunley award both nationally and at the division level. His discussions with the National Hunley Coordinator, Hoyle Vinson, will be part of the report.

The Sunday Memorial Service at Union Cemetery will take place as usual. Procedures for the *Last Roll Call* in which each camp will call out those members who answered that call this past year. Mike Climo has requested each camp provide him a list of names prior to this ceremony.

The Conquered Banner will report on and provide additional details regarding the reunion in the May/June issue .

Commander's Message



Now that we have 2020 behind us, let's hope for the best in 2021. This will be a bumpy ride with the COVID Vaccine roll-out, but hopefully everyone will be vaccinated by the summer months. Let's hope so.

Our online "ZOOM" Camp meetings have been well received and very effective, thanks to Adjutant Jim Stephens. We will continue this format for 2021 until in-person meetings at local restaurants are deemed safe.

Godspeed...Deo Vindice

Jim Millsap