

EXTRA!



Extra #1

19 February 2013

United States Submarine Veterans - Charleston Base Newsletter

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"



REMEMBERING H. L. HUNLEY AND USS HOUSATONIC – 149TH MEMORIAL SERVICE



18 February 2013 A memorial service, marking the 149th anniversary of the loss of the Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley and the loss of the Federal sloop-of-war USS Housatonic, was held last evening at the Sunrise Presbyterian Church on Sullivan's Island, SC.

The service, which honors the eight submariners lost on Hunley and the five crewmembers lost on Housatonic, also recognizes the first successful attack and sinking of a vessel by a submarine.

Last evening's event was sponsored by the Confederate Heritage Trust (CHT) and supported by representatives from the CHT Member Groups, the Charleston Police Pipes and Drums, and the Charleston Base of The United States Submarine Veterans (SUBVETS).

Master Chief Electronics Technician (Submarines) (Ret.) Carl Chinn, the Charleston Base SUBVETS Commander, presented a history of the evolution of the submarine force from H. L. Hunley's historic encounter 149 years ago to today's modern submarine.

South Carolina's Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Glenn McConnell gave the memorial address. Lieutenant Governor McConnell has been an ardent supporter of H. L. Hunley's restoration and preservation.

Representatives of the Charleston Base Submarine Veterans participated throughout the ceremony.



In addition to the Base Commander's opening remarks, Charleston Base SUBVETS presented a white rose to each lady in mourning. The ladies in mourning were re-enactors who posed as wives and sweethearts of the lost Confederate and Federal sailors.

At the conclusion of the service, Master Chief Quartermaster (Submarines) (Ret.) Ken Hutchison and Senior Chief Torpedoman's Mate (Submarines) (Ret.) Richard Sparger led the procession from the church to Breach Inlet.



Artillerymen

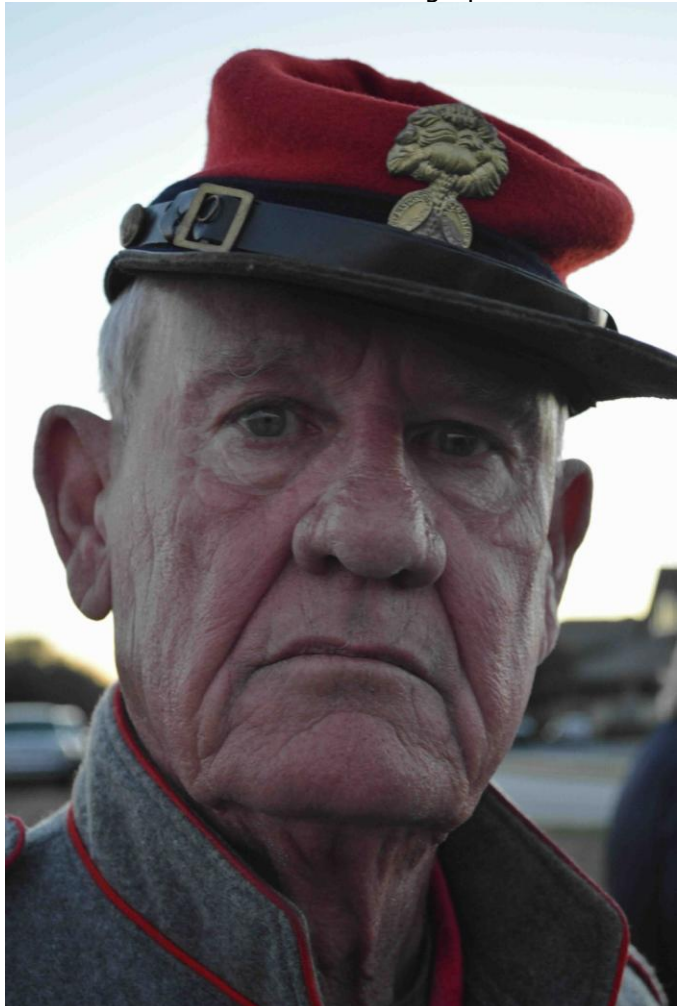


Re-enactors lining up



A solemn and quiet crowd followed these retired submariners to the site where H. L. Hunley departed on her last voyage. Two wreaths were placed at the water's edge to honor those lost on Hunley and Housatonic as onlookers tried to keep dry eyes. The hymn, Amazing Grace, played by the Charleston Police Pipes and Drums complemented the processional.

An 18-gun salute and three volleys of artillery fire by members of the CHT Member Groups completed the service.



SC Artilleryman



The crowd enthusiastically sang Dixie and took in the lovely mid-winter's night sky.