



The Crescent Moon



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Low Country Fraternal Order of Police Law Enforcement Memorial

May 11, 2016

~ Hosted by FOP Lodge Berkeley County Lodge #19, Charleston Metro Lodge #5, Tri-County Lodge #3

National Police Week originated in 1962 when President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. The Memorial Service began in 1982. Decades later, the event more commonly known as National Police Week, has grown to a series of events which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to national and regional events.

Yesterday, the event was celebrated in Charleston with hundreds of law enforcement officers in attendance. The Felix C. Davis Community Center, Park Circle, North Charleston, SC was the site. The displayed names and photos were read as officers walked to the front of the room placing a red carnation on a star in memory of each fallen law enforcement officer. A total of 64 individuals were honored.

The conclusion of the ceremony presented the spectators with Amazing Grace (North Charleston Police Department), 21 Gun Salute (SC Highway Patrol Honor Guard), and Taps (Summerville Police Department Honor Guard).

After the Ceremony, a special service was held by our own SC SR Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Samuel Whatley to honor his father, Mickey Whatley, former Police Chief of North Charleston and State Legislator who passed away on August 16, 2011 at the age of 75.

Rev. Whatley was accompanied by his two children on the dais, Samuel Whatley II and Jasmine Whatley, C.A.R. Members. In the photo below, the family is accompanied with the current North Charleston Police Chief, Eddie Driggers.



The unveiling of a Memorial Plaque dedicated to former Police Chief Mickey Whatley and a life like Sculpture representing law enforcement everywhere was the highlight of the service. Please note the long list of accomplishments of Rev.

Whatley's father on the plaque. The plaque represented both the FOP and the Sons of the Revolution. His son Samuel and grandson Samuel II are both SR members.

After the ceremony, a motorcade of police delivered the memorial plaque and statue to Mickey Whatley's grave site at the Carolina Cemetery. This location will be registered on a number of National and State historical and protected sites.

Editor Ivan Bennett, Sec. SC SR



