



# GROUNDBREAKER

www.camppendletonhistoricalsociety.org

First Quarter 2016

Volume 10 Number 1

## President's Message

*Richard B. Rothwell*



I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and that we all fare well in the New Year.

Our 2015 annual event, Afternoon at the Ranch House, was a tremendous success thanks to the hard work of our Board of Directors led by Directors Jerry Polyascko, Don Gressly, and Mike Lewis. Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr., USMC (Ret.) and his wife, Bonnie, joined us as special guests.

I reported in my last message the sad passing of Yuriko Frantz and the departure from the Board of her husband, Cal. While we all remain saddened by Yuriko's death, we are pleased that Cal has decided to return to the Board. I look forward to working with him in 2016 and beyond.

Since my last report, the Under Secretary of the Navy has approved author Robin Hutton's offer to donate a larger than life monument of the Korean War warhorse, SSgt. Reckless, to Camp Pendleton. CPHS has partnered with Robin to make this happen. We are now working with Camp Pendleton leadership on the installation plans that we hope will lead to a monument dedication later this year. Thanks to the generous support of our members

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## CPHS Annual Fundraising Event

*By Jerry Polyascko*

Our fundraiser event held on Oct. 17 at the Ranch House was a success. We thank all those who contributed to that effort. In particular, Don Gressly and Mike Lewis were essential to our planning and detailed execution.

A special thanks to the many donors for their financial support of the event:

### Patron Donors (\$1,000+):

- Judith Burns
- Rancho Mission Viejo Cow Camp Caridades
- Pacific Marine Credit Union
- CPHS Board Members

### Sponsor Donors (\$500-\$999):

- Jack Cumming
- Issa Family Foundation
- Mary West

### Associate Donors (\$100-\$499):

- Charles and Victoria Crawford
- Joseph C. Fegan III
- Scott and Katherine McEldowney
- Robert Olsen
- Wanda Prosser
- Lorne Sugar
- CPHS Board Members



Dick Rothwell speaks to the guests at the Ranch House.



California Indian Basket Weavers Association assisted attendees making baskets during the event.

*Continued page 2, Fundraiser*

# Continued front page, Fundraiser

We would like to acknowledge and thank the exhibitors and vendors who graciously supported and helped make our annual event very successful:

- Bagby Beer Company
- Beach House Winery
- California Indian Basket Weavers Association
- Camp Pendleton Mechanized Museum
- Docents, Rancho Santa Margarita y Las Flores
- Guns of the Round Table
- Los Salazar Mariachi Band
- LouZiana Food
- K-9 Section, Security and Emergency Services Battalion, Camp Pendleton

Over 120 people attended the event though many of our members were not able to attend. We look forward to increased attendance by our membership for future upcoming events in 2016. Comments are welcomed by all those who did attend as to what we may do to ensure future events are even more successful; please send your comments to Jerry Polyascko via email at polyascko@aol.com.

We were honored to have Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr., USMC (Ret.) in attendance with his wife, Bonnie; General Hanlon is a recent addition to our Council of Advisors.

In addition to receiving funds to contribute to our efforts to preserve the history of Camp Pendleton, author Robin Hutton ("Sgt Reckless - America's War Horse") was present and received donations for the Sergeant Reckless monument project as well as selling and signing a number of books to interested attendees.

Thanks again to all for your support of our annual event; we look forward to meeting you at future CPHS events.



Members of the Guns of the Round Table perform for the guests at the Ranch House. Photos by Deb Hellman



Docent Diane Brooks conducts a tour of the Ranch House.



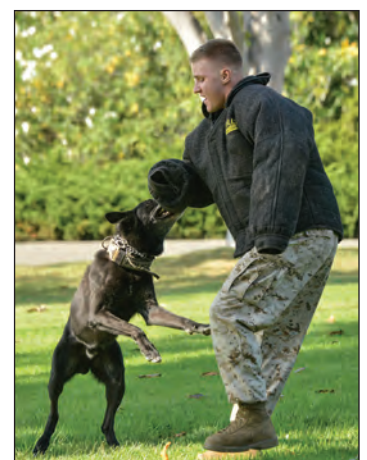
Cal Frantz greets guests as they arrive at the Ranch House.



Lt.Gen. Ed Hanlon (right) talks with Bill Birnie and other CPHS guests at the event.



Above Left: MSgt. Lynn Mattocks, USMC (Ret.) after winning the Beach House Wine gift basket. Above Right: Marines and dogs from the K-9 Section put on a working dog demonstration at the event.



# Upcoming CPHS Events



## Friday, Jan. 29, 2016



Iron Mike's Staff Non-Commissioned Officer's Lounge at Pacific Views

CPHS is having a no-host social on Friday, Jan. 29, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Iron Mike's Staff Non-Commissioned Officer's Lounge at the Pacific Views Event Center aboard Camp Pendleton. All members are invited to attend; come and meet your Board of Directors!

Details regarding the event will be posted on the CPHS Facebook page.

## April 2016 (date TBD)

At our November 2015 Board Meeting, we discussed holding an event at the recently renovated San Onofre Beach Club on Camp Pendleton.

Event specifics are currently being coordinated; details will be posted on our Facebook page by mid-February 2016. Stay tuned for additional information.

## 75 Year Anniversary of the Dedication of Camp Pendleton

Your Board of Directors is working closely with the Base Commanding General's Staff to support the 75 year anniversary of the dedication of the Base in September 2017. While we have ideas in mind, we'd appreciate your feedback as to events or observances you would like to see as part of this diamond anniversary celebration. Please send your comments via email to [cphs\\_info@yahoo.com](mailto:cphs_info@yahoo.com). We'll also be looking for members to volunteer for various committees in support of the Base's anniversary planning efforts. More to follow.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mary Fay Pendleton, and GySgt Carl A. Ostrom, USMC at the dedication of Camp Pendleton on Sept. 25, 1942. Defense Dept. Photo (Marine Corps)

## Continued front page, Message

and matching funds from CPHS, we will donate over \$65,000 to this worthy cause.

Greg Goodman, whose employer has transferred him out of country, has left the Board. We thank Greg for his contributions and wish him well in his new assignment.

I believe that 2016 will be a banner

year for CPHS. I look forward to reporting our accomplishments as we move forward.

As always, I thank you for your continued support without which we would not be able to help the Marine Corps preserve and tell the history of Camp Pendleton.

*Richard B. Rothwell*



### CPHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Col. Jim Williams, USMC (Ret.)  
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Sgt.Maj. Bill Birnie, USMC (Ret.)  
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MGySgt. Mike Lewis, USMC (Ret.)  
Col. Jerry Polyascko, USMC (Ret.)  
Maj. Dal Williams, USMC (Ret.)

Faye Jonason  
*Ex Officio Member*

Danielle Page  
*Ex Officio Member*

### COUNCIL OF ADVISORS

*A distinguished group of advisors is helping to guide us as we grow. We are pleased to acknowledge their support.*

Lt.Gen. Matthew T. Cooper, USMC (Ret.)  
L. Patrick Forster  
Lt.Gen. Edward Hanlon, Jr., USMC (Ret.)  
Anthony B. Joseph  
Maj.Gen. Michael Lehnert, USMC (Ret.)  
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# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Many thanks to our loyal members for their recent membership renewal and continuing support of our efforts to tell the Camp Pendleton story.

Elmer Anderson  
Robert and Alma Crabtree  
Buster and Irene Diggs  
Marlin Doody  
Lawrence and Katherine Forster  
Don Gressly  
Jennifer Hiatt  
William Keys  
Kevin and Evelyn Leahy  
Marine Corps Tankers Association  
Chris Martin  
William McDonald

Scott and Katherine McEldowney  
Stewart and Yanna Navarre  
Robert and Lois Newkirk  
Jerry Polyascko  
Michael Ryerson  
Willa Schlegel  
Warren and Jan Siegel  
Janet Spaulding  
Lorne Sugar  
Rainier Welding, Inc.  
Donna Upson

A special welcome to the following new members who recently joined our cause.

Janet Coley  
Bartley Moore

## Action Requested

In the coming month, all members will receive correspondence via mail requesting a review of your contact information that we currently have on file. We would appreciate your review of the information and return of the form so we can update our records.

In conjunction with this effort, we'd greatly appreciate our members providing their current email address to our Membership Director at [cphsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:cphsmembership@gmail.com).

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Help us get to our next goal of **500** likes



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*...preserving a rich and colorful history*