



President's Message

Richard B. Rothwell



Thanks to the generous support of the Rancho Mission Viejo Corporation and its CEO, Tony Moiso, CPHS

has partnered with writer and producer, Bob Kline, to produce an approximately one hour documentary celebrating the 75th anniversary of Camp Pendleton. In recent weeks, Tony and I have given videotaped interviews for the project. How many of our words will appear in the documentary and how many will be left on the cutting room floor remain to be seen. Mr. Kline intends to premier the video on Sept. 25, 2017, seventy-five years to the day after the official dedication of the base by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Your Board has established a Growth Planning Committee chaired by Director Cal Frantz. Cal and his committee is conducting research, to include meetings with other successful non-profits, and developing a plan that will allow us to play a larger role in helping the Marine Corps preserve and tell the history of Camp Pendleton. The committee presented its initial report at our July 2017 Board meeting.

I am very pleased to report that we have three new volunteer speakers who will help us spread the word about Camp Pendleton history and

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Joseph H. Pendleton and His Legacy

by Faye Jonason



Pendleton/Brown Collection

Joseph H. Pendleton, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, had served more than 18 years at various duty stations before he was promoted to Colonel. At that time, between 1898 and 1934, the United States was involved in a variety of skirmishes known as the Banana Wars to

protect American interests in Central America. Col. Pendleton received orders in September 1912 to take a regiment of Marines into Nicaragua. He led his troops through several battles, capturing Coyotepe Hill and gaining the city of Masaya's surrender.

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Continued front page, Pendleton

In 1913, Woodrow Wilson became the 28th U.S. President and established a neutral foreign policy. American investors had capitalized a billion dollars on Mexico's natural resources and nearly 50,000 Americans resided there.

An American "Preparedness Movement" was changing military training theories so that Marines whose duty had been guarding and policing at sea now gained training to set up naval guns, artillery, mines, etc. The Navy realized at the January 1914 "1st Advance Base Exercise," that Marines had refined Advance Base concepts and were able to organize operations units. The forerunner of today's Physical Readiness Training (PRT) Program was thus established.

In April, Col. Pendleton was ordered to quickly organize the 4th Marine Regiment from the 25th, 26th and 27th Companies in Bremerton, Washington and the 31st, 32nd, 34th and 38th Companies from Mare Island. The regiment sailed southward, patrolling the coast to quiet threats to U.S. citizens in Mexico where bloody upheavals became the norm. German merchant ships carried arms for sale to opposition forces in Mexico.

Returning in July, Col. Pendleton and the Regiment encamped as the first permanent U.S.

Marine detachment on North Island. Named after the Pacific Fleet Commander in Chief, Camp Howard was established with more than 1,100 Marines and row upon row of canvas tents. In August, the Great War was announced in the Los Angeles Times newspaper.

A gala U.S.S. San Diego naming ceremony was set for Sept. 16, 1914, which the mayor declared a holiday and treated three thousand people to a barbecue in Balboa Park. At the U.S. Grant Hotel banquet and ball, Col. Pendleton gave a speech entitled, "San Diego As A Marine Advance Base", advising the prominent San Diego Chamber of Commerce that due to the opening of the Panama Canal, a permanent Marine Corps training base in San Diego was needed.

The 4th Marine Regiment received orders to support

both expositions at San Francisco and San Diego to add "military pomp and ceremony" for visitors. In December 1914, Col. Pendleton telegraphed Marine Headquarters that Marine Barracks Balboa Park was established. Two Corporals and 27 Privates remained behind to patrol North Island.

On New Year's Day 1915, the Panama-California Exposition opened in San Diego, fully incorporating military marches, exercises, drills and band concerts. Col. Pendleton described the exposition as "a picture of peace with preparedness."

In the Forward of the Exposition's Army and Navy Review, he wrote, "where could there be a more fitting place for an exhibition camp of United States Marines? San Diego's every advantage of climate, of strategic location, of wonderful natural formation of land and sea, make it the perfect, the ideal location for a Marine Corps Advance Base Station. When our visitors see the training of the Marines, their varied instruction in the different trades of warfare required in Advance Base and Expeditionary work, when they see the benefit of this thorough training in the almost instantaneous movement of these men when called upon... they can appreciate why San Diego should have a permanent Marine Advance Base."



Official USMC photo; courtesy of Camp Pendleton Archives

In December, President Wilson urged Congress toward defense after the repeated sinking of passenger ships by German U-boats. Germany boldly conducted all-out submarine attacks and a secret war inside the U.S., inciting labor unrest, buying up Allied-bound war supplies, and planting time-bombs on munitions ships destined for Britain and France.

The 4th Marines left for expeditionary duty off the coast of Mexico leaving one company at Balboa Park. First Battalion 4th Marines from the San Francisco exposition joined two 2nd Battalion companies led by Col. Pendleton to surveille the Gulf of California through the end of the year, returning to San Diego in February 1916. In June, leaving a detail of Marines to operate the

Continued page 2, Pendleton

San Diego post, the 4th Marine Regiment deployed by train to New Orleans and sailed to Santo Domingo where revolution raged.

Col. Pendleton led the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment and was designated the commander of all naval forces operating ashore. American forces successfully put down the revolution, protecting lives of the American Legation. Admiral Dewey was moved to ask for funding increases, pointing out the extensive use of San Diego as a point of readiness, base of supplies and fuel, a liberty port, and a fleet drill grounds during the disturbances in Mexico and Central America.

When the Exposition closed on Jan. 1, 1917, the Marines were granted the use of the Exposition's buildings. During World War I, the barracks detachment had grown from platoon size to 10 Officers and 300 enlisted Marines.

In January 1917, Germany announced an unrestricted submarine campaign to sink all merchant ships, including U.S. ships, in the identified danger zone. Merchant ships were sunk at rate of nine per day. Germany's intent to gain Mexican alliance against the U.S. was published. In President Wilson's War Message, he said, "the world must be made safe for democracy," calling it a "War to end War".

In support of the war, the San Diego community provided 214 acres of land to the Navy. The Government assumed control of North Island in August 1917 and by November, Naval Air Station San Diego became the first naval operating base in San Diego.

In 1918, after serving as Acting Military Governor in Santo Domingo, Brig. Gen. Pendleton became commander of Marine Barracks, Parris Island. The 4th Marine Regiment remained on occupation duty until the establishment of an elected government and did not leave the Dominican Republic for San Diego until August 1924.

Brig. Gen. Pendleton returned to San Diego and, in 1919, activated Headquarters, 2nd Advance Base Force at Marine Barracks, San Diego. On Dec. 1, 1921,

General Pendleton placed the new Marine Barracks into commission as the Marine Advanced Expeditionary Base, San Diego, and moved the Marines from Balboa Park. In 1923, the Marine Recruit Depot of the west coast relocated from Mare Island Navy Shipyard to its new home at the San Diego Marine Base. On March 1, 1924, the base that had been developed as a result of the vision and efforts of General Pendleton became Marine Corps Base, San Diego. In 1948, the base was officially renamed as Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

In 1933, the Marine Corps reorganized into the Fleet Marine Force, formally establishing "command and administrative relations" between the Fleet and the Marine Corps. The "Advance Base Force" is the forerunner of the present-day Fleet Marine Force, maintained in constant readiness to move to any area of trouble at any time.

General Pendleton's legacy includes other Marine Corps Bases:

- Camp Holcomb (1934 to 1940)
- Camp Elliott, with temporary training camps Linda Vista, Green Farm, Jacques Farm and Parachute School (1940 to 1961)
- Camp Gillespie (1942 to 1955)
- Marine Rifle Range, La Jolla (1918 to 1942)
- Camp Matthews (1942 to 1964)
- Marine Corps Air Station Miramar (1945 to 1947; re-opened in 1997)

Having received the Navy Distinguished Service Medal for

the Santo Domingo campaign and medals for the Mexican, Nicaraguan, West Indian, and Spanish campaigns, he was awarded the United States Navy Cross for his service in the First World War.

Brig. Gen. Pendleton was promoted to Major General in December 1923 and retired in June 1924. In civilian life, he served on the Coronado School Board, City Council, and was Mayor from 1928 to 1930. Maj. Gen. Pendleton died on Feb. 4, 1942.

Marine Corps Base Camp Joseph H. Pendleton was dedicated on Sept. 25, 1942 in honor of the pioneering Marine whose idea was to create a West Coast Marine Corps training base.

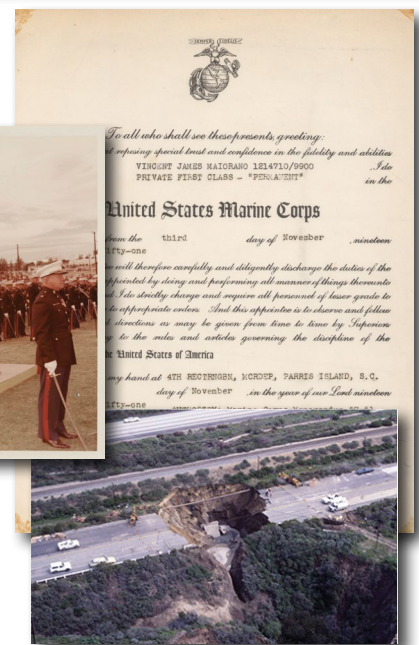
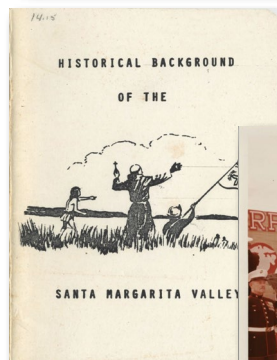
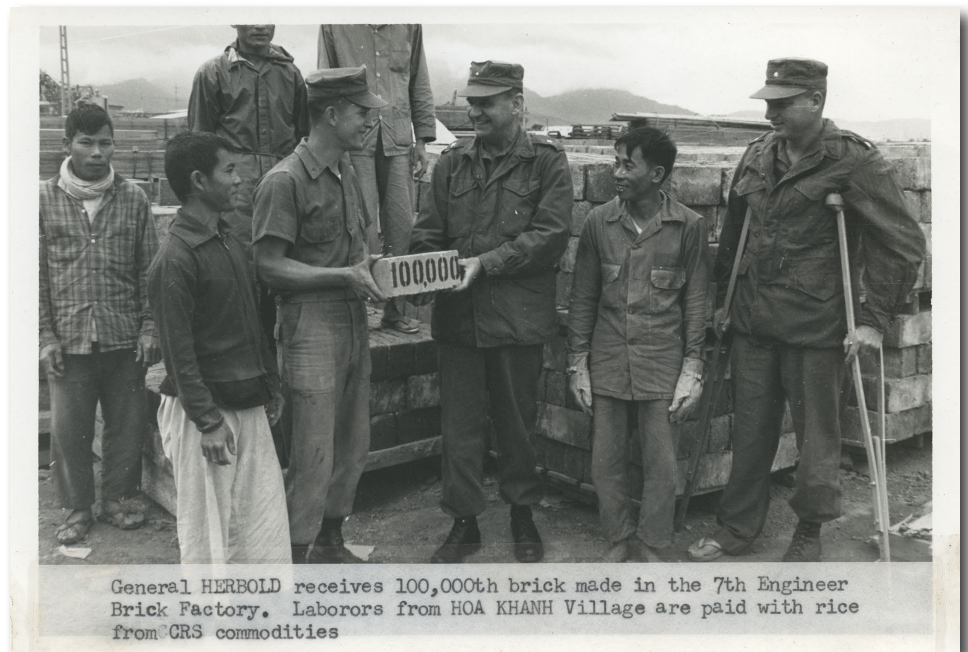


Official USMC photo; courtesy of Camp Pendleton Archives

Artifact / Archive Donations

Over the past few months, the Camp Pendleton History Museum office received donations and temporary loans of historical photographs, original documents, and books with CPHS coordinating some of the donations.

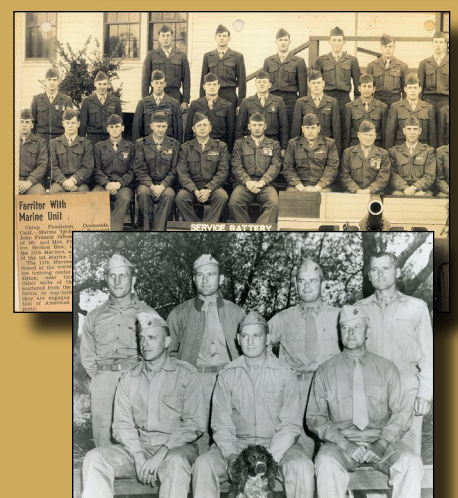
Donors included families of Col. Joseph Schabacker and Harry Witman (Ranch Manager, Rancho Santa Margarita); Carlsbad Library; Command Museum, Marine Corps Recruit Depot (San Diego); Base Assistant Chief of Staff, G-7/ Community Plans and Liaison Office; and Vietnam War - era Marine veteran John Hiatt. Temporary loans (for digitizing purposes) included families of Maj. Gen. Donn Robertson; Cpl. Ralph Daily; Public Affairs Office, 1st Marine Logistics Group; and Korean War-era Marine veteran Vincent Maiorano. Donated and loaned items covered periods ranging from World War II, Korea and Vietnam Wars, and the Gulf War (1991).



Keep your eye out for ...

We're still searching for and interested in donations of original US Marine Corps photographs of Camp Pendleton, especially from the 1942-1960 time frame. If you have photographs of Camp Pendleton or know someone who does, and would like to donate them or allow us to scan them for inclusion into the

Camp Pendleton archives collection, please contact the CPHS Secretary at cphs.secretary@gmail.com. Besides photographs, we're interested in obtaining original ceremony programs/booklets from 1942-1980 and Pendleton Scout newspapers (in good condition) from 1942-1950.



Moments In Time

by Jan Siegel, San Juan Capistrano Historical Society



An exhibit of artifacts on display at the Leck House. Photos courtesy of Jan Siegel

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Camp Pendleton. In cooperation with the Camp Pendleton Historical Society and the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society, an exhibit of artifacts and memorabilia are on display at the Leck House, located on the grounds of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society on Los Rios Street. Memorabilia from WW II, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm are on view. Besides the Camp Pendleton items, there are artifacts and photos from local residents who have served or who had relatives who served during these wars. Co-chairs for this event are WW II veterans Jim Behmerwohld, US Navy; Bill Hardy, US Navy ace pilot; and Don Tryon, US Coast Guard. Also honored is Col. Chandler Johnson, father of Historical Society member Sue Goode.

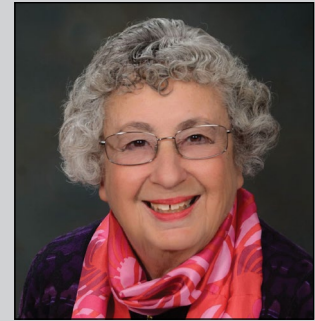
The most famous photograph of WW II is the American flag-raising on Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima on Feb. 23, 1945. But this famous photo captured the second flag that was raised on this spot. The first one was the flag raised and photographed by a Marine Corps cameraman, who along with the 40 man combat patrol who fought their way up to the that mountain top. The commander of that patrol was Lt. Col. Chandler Johnson. Following the success of capturing Mt. Suribachi, Col. Johnson continued fighting for ground on Iwo Jima. Unfortunately, he

was killed by a bursting mortar shell as he moved from one observation post to another vantage point. Sue Johnson Goode received the Navy Cross, posthumously awarded to her father for his “extraordinary heroism”.

Cpl. Madeline Helen Corcoran served in the US Army in the air division from 1943-1945. The mother of local resident Marianne Taylor, Corcoran served in England where she worked in the kitchen and as a hand radio operator. She was also a barber. She joined the service because of love of country. Her two brothers were also in the service. After the war, she married and raised her family. She helped her husband in his plumbing business and was an active gardener, member of Fatimas group of women at her local church and helped the homeless. She suffered from PTSD from the chronic bombings in England and the horrors of war. She requested a military funeral and when she passed away in 2007 at the age of 85, she was buried at the Pt. Loma Military Cemetery.

Glider pilot, Walter Lindberg-Cota was killed in Tours, France on Feb. 22, 1945. His daughter, San Juan Capistrano resident, Alana Jolley was born a couple months later and never knew him. When Alana was 30 years old, she began researching her father’s family. She has learned that her father was a

CPHS Member Spotlight



Jan Siegel is a 30-year resident of San Juan Capistrano who has spent 20+years as a member of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society, serving as its Secretary and currently the Museum Curator. Jan writes the “Moments In Time” articles on San Juan Capistrano history for The Capistrano Dispatch newspaper. She is a Docent for Architectural Walking Tours and Mission Art Walk and was recognized as the Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year (2005), San Juan Capistrano Wall of Recognition (2007), and San Juan Capistrano Volunteer of the Year (2011). Jan and her husband and best friend, Hon. H. Warren Siegel, Judge of Orange County Superior Court (Ret), have been married 53 years.

descendant of “Soldados Cueras” who were the first soldiers, explorers, colonizers and builders of the cities of Alta California. Alana’s sixth great grandfather Andres Cota and his brother came with Father Serra on the first expeditions to California.

There are many more unsung hero stories which are portrayed in this exhibit. You can spend a “moment in time” by stopping by the Historical Society from now until Veterans Day and celebrate the history of Camp Pendleton and the special place San Juan Capistrano plays in that history.

For more information, visit the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society web site at sjchistorysociety.com.

Project Updates

Flagpole Project

Due to an unforeseen administrative requirement to gain Secretary of the Navy acknowledgement and tentative acceptance of the flagpole gift offer, the CPHS has temporarily postponed advancing this planned project. We originally planned to have a replica flagpole in place prior to the anniversary of the original dedication date of the base (Sept. 25) but gaining the requisite acknowledgement prior to construction would not allow us enough time to have the flagpole in place before the base dedication observance. CPHS will continue to pursue the project and plan for its future construction and a dedication ceremony.

Preservation of General Pendleton's Two-Star Flag

Steady progress continues on the flag preservation; anticipate completion in early September. The flag has undergone examination, testing for fiber and color stability, and conservation cleaning. Harmful adhesives were successfully removed and the flag is being minimally hand sewn to a support fabric. The flag will be temporarily displayed in an enclosed exhibit case as part of the 75th Anniversary Evening Colors exhibit at the Pacific Views Event Center.



Photo courtesy of Sharon Shore

Ranch House Wagon

Board Member Mike Lewis and local expert wheelwright, Andrew (Andy) Brochu, searched for, located, and purchased a historically representative wagon used during the 1870 - 1920 time period. Andy is currently working on the full restoration of the wagon; we anticipate that the wagon will be completed by mid-October 2017. The wagon will be placed at the entrance of the Santa Margarita Ranch House, replacing the dilapidated wagon previously donated by the Padre Junipero Serra Riders de Las Tortugas in 1987.

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our Society: Cal Frantz, Mike O'Neil, and Barbara Greenbush. If any readers have ties to organizations near Camp Pendleton that would like to schedule one of our speakers please send your request to our Secretary, Bill Parsons, at cphs.secretary@gmail.com.

Our Events Committee, chaired by Mike Lewis, is planning a "Golf With A Hero" Golf Tournament at the Camp Pendleton Memorial Golf Course on Sept. 29, 2017. Mike, who played a significant role in the project that linked each hole with a significant event in Marine Corps history, is directing his passion for the sport in organizing and running a top flight tournament on this beautiful course. More information will follow, but mark the date and join us for a great time.

I look forward to reporting our continuing progress in the next Groundbreaker. In the meantime, thank you for your support. Without it we would be unable to help the Marine Corps preserve and tell the history of the wonderful land we know today as Camp Pendleton.

Richard B. Rothwell

Camp Pendleton Facts: March Aboard!

9th Marine Regiment marched 55 miles from Camp Elliott (San Diego, Calif.) to Camp Joseph H. Pendleton in early September 1942. 9th Marine Regiment and its attached units were the first Marine Corps units to occupy the initially constructed structures built aboard the new base.



- Reactivation: Organized as 9th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division at Camp Elliott, San Diego on Feb. 12, 1942
- Nickname: "Striking Ninth"
- Commander: Col. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., USMC (Marine Corps Commandant, 1952-1956)
- Duration of March: four days (Sept. 1-4, 1942)
- Initial Unit Location: Areas 11-17 (Mainside), Camp Pendleton
- World War II: Transferred to the newly activated 3d Marine Division on Sept. 8, 1942; fought on islands of Bougainville, Guam, and Iwo Jima; inactivated at Camp Pendleton on Dec. 31, 1945

Upcoming CPHS Events



Friday, Sept. 29, 2017

CPHS will sponsor and conduct the "Golf With A Hero" Golf Tournament. This charity tournament will be conducted at the Marine Memorial Golf Course, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Each foursome for this tournament will be composed of one (1) active duty Marine and three (3) other golfers. This event provides an opportunity to converse with Marines

who have recent experience carrying out the missions of the Marine Corps. A silent auction will be held at this golf tournament. We're also looking for eight volunteers to assist with conducting the tournament. For more information, visit the CPHS Events web page at <https://camppendletonhistoricalsociety.org/events>

October 2017 (date TBD)

A social gathering of CPHS Board of Directors, Council of Advisors, Base Leadership and Staff, and CPHS supporters and members is being planned for the Camp Pendleton San Onofre Beach Club.

Food and drinks will be provided to all invited guests. Information regarding this planned event will be provided via the CPHS web site and Facebook page as details are finalized.

Camp Pendleton 75th Anniversary Events

The final official command event of the Camp Pendleton 75th Anniversary commemoration is the Evening Colors ceremony; regrettably, this event is by invitation only and not open to the general public. The ceremony and succeeding reception will be conducted at the Pacific Views Event Center on Friday, Sept. 29.

Though official events open to the general public have concluded, the Mechanized Museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, as part of the 75th Anniversary celebration. The

Mechanized Museum will continue to display and message the 75th anniversary theme until the end of 2017.

Thanks to the RSMYLF Docents, several new dates for 75th Anniversary tours of the Santa Margarita Ranch House are available on Sept. 25, 26, and 27. There is also a tour available for the Las Flores Adobe tour on Sept. 8. Reservations for either tour are required; please email MCBCAMPEN_history@usmc.mil or phone (760) 725-5758 to reserve a spot.



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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome aboard to our newest members who recently joined our cause:

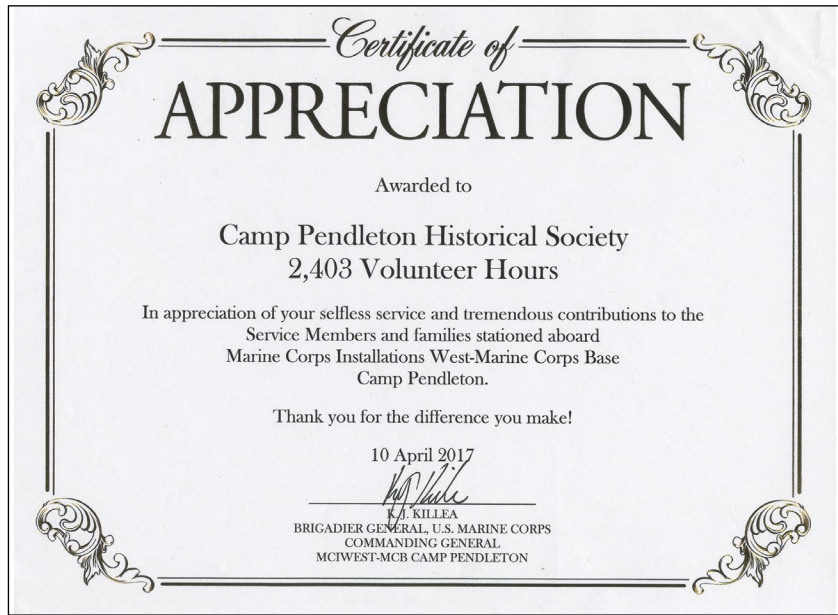
Wayne Donaldson
Ronald and Karen Mazzola
Mike O'Neil

A special thanks to the following for their monetary donation to CPHS:

Scott and Katherine McEldowney

Many thanks to our loyal members for their recent membership renewal:

Charles Clements
Wyatt and Susan Hart
Mark Sheehan
General Thomas Waldhauser, USMC



Certificate presented to CPHS by the Base CG for our volunteer efforts



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75 September 25
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