



THE EVOLUTION OF A MONUMENT

By Richard B. Rothwell

How could something that seems so easy be so difficult? I am talking about giving something to the government. Take taxes. Each year we total our income and adjust for deductions to file our annual income tax return. Sometimes we include a check for what we owe; occasionally the government sends us one for overpaying. It is relatively simple and straight forward. But, if you decide to give something to the government not required by law, it becomes considerably more challenging. Try donating a monument for example.

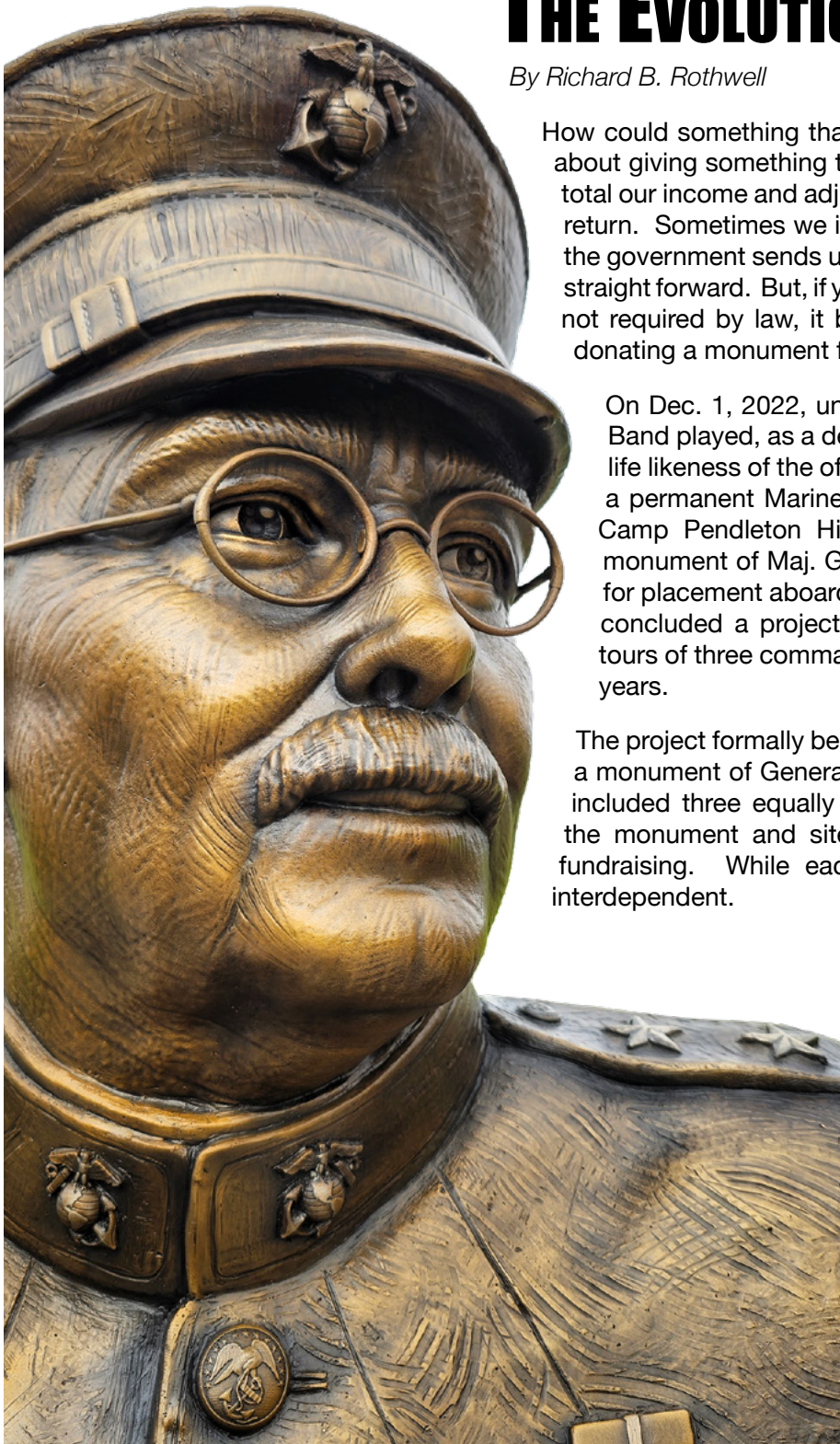
On Dec. 1, 2022, under threatening skies, the 1st Marine Division Band played, as a detachment of Marines unveiled the larger-than-life likeness of the officer who had played a vital role in establishing a permanent Marine Corps presence in Southern California. The Camp Pendleton Historical Society (CPHS) officially donated a monument of Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Pendleton to the Marine Corps for placement aboard his namesake base. The one-hour ceremony concluded a project that spanned more than four years and the tours of three commanding generals. This is the story behind those years.

The project formally began in July 2018 when CPHS offered to donate a monument of General Pendleton to the Marine Corps. The project included three equally important, parts: concept and production of the monument and site, government acceptance of our offer, and fundraising. While each advanced independently, they were very interdependent.

Concept and Production

During a 2015 CPHS Board of Directors meeting, Faye Jonason, the Camp Pendleton History and Museum Director and an *ex officio* member of the CPHS Board, mentioned that Camp Pendleton did not have a statue of Maj. Gen. Pendleton. She was making an observation, not a request. That would have been inappropriate because the Marine Corps is not permitted to seek donations. It did stick in my mind, however. Camp Lejeune has a monument to its namesake. Why not Camp Pendleton?

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Evolution, Cont.

Following our successful installation of the Staff Sgt. Reckless monument in 2016, the Board began considering new challenges. Faye Jonason's comment resurfaced. Why shouldn't Camp Pendleton have a monument to its namesake? Not only would it add to the history of the base in an attractive manner, but it would hone CPHS fundraising skills, which is important to all nonprofits.

An early task was to find a sculptor and develop a concept. I contacted Jocelyn Russell, the talented artist who had created the Staff Sgt. Reckless monument. She declined to join this project because her focus was on animals. Instead, she recommended a young artist from Alpine, Idaho, Scott Streadbeck. After reviewing his online portfolio, Scott and I began exchanging emails and together developed a concept. Scott prepared a rendering depicting Pendleton as a visionary. He stood, holding a pair of binoculars in one hand while his other arm and hand swept broadly towards the future. It became the image for the donation offer and fundraising.

Donation Offer and Approval

With the monument concept adopted, we needed to select a site. The Board selected one site on the south end of the 11 Area Parade Field, near the old Marine Corps Exchange complex in the part of Camp Pendleton known as Mainside. Then, carefully following the Secretary of Navy (SecNav) Instruction that listed the requirements for donating items to the Marine Corps, CPHS crafted and submitted a formal donation offer to Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West (MCIWEST) - Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton on July 13, 2018.

The Secretary of the Navy considers monuments to be real property, just like a building. All donation offers of real property, regardless of value, require approval by an Assistant



Col. Holt atop a ladder, siting the future Pendleton monument location. Photo courtesy of Camp Pendleton Public Works Dept.

Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations, and Environment). That meant our donation offer would have to go through three levels of review: MCIWEST; Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. From our experience with the Staff Sgt. Reckless monument, we knew that the wheels of bureaucracy tend to turn very slowly. Approval would take time.

As it turned out, CPHS unintentionally contributed to the lengthy timeline. While MCIWEST was reviewing our donation offer, we became aware of an extension of San Jacinto Road, near the Pacific View Events Center and the Staff Sgt. Reckless monument, not far from the main gate. Part of the road extension included a traffic circle that, from the historical society's perspective, was a better site for the Pendleton monument. The Base's commanding general, who was about to end his tour, gave a tentative approval for the new site, subject to the concurrence of his successor. Disappointingly, the new commanding general concluded that a monument there would create a traffic hazard by becoming an attraction to pedestrians. The "perfect site" was disapproved and our donation offer, now without an agreed location, was in limbo.

Fortunately, Col. Jeffrey C. Holt, MCIWEST Deputy Commander, took an interest in our project. With several members of his staff present,

he stood on a ladder to simulate the height of the monument and proposed a site on the north end of the 11 Area Parade Field, across E Street from the 1st Marine Division Headquarters building. CPHS agreed and submitted a revised donation offer on March 20, 2020. The review started anew. While no one knew it at the time, Col. Holt's recommendation for the revised site would itself be revised.

On Oct. 8, 2020 Brig. Gen. Daniel B. Conley, MCIWEST Commanding General, forwarded our donation offer to Headquarters, Marine Corps recommending approval, completing the first of the three reviews. It also opened the door for our fundraising campaign.

Fundraising

Before asking our members and friends of the Corps to give money to our project, we wanted confidence that it had a good chance of success. CPHS decided to begin fundraising only after MCIWEST officially supported our donation offer. We reasoned that if the local command wanted the monument and determined that our offer met the requirements of SecNav instructions, the risk of higher-level objection was considerably less. If one occurred, it would likely be an administrative matter that we could resolve through negotiation.

The estimated cost of creating the monument and constructing its site was just over \$200,000. We knew that that amount could easily increase if the two remaining reviews proved lengthy. We had three fundraising sources or targets: CPHS funds on hand, proceeds from future fundraising events, and donations.

CPHS dedicated \$50,000 from our Frontwave Credit Union accounts as seed money and as matches for gifts from potential donors. We wanted everyone to know that CPHS had

skin in the game. Our Board of Directors also approved channeling 50% of net proceeds from future fundraising events to the monument. We promoted the project in the CPHS *Groundbreaker* newsletter and through the San Diego Union-Tribune (UT), thanks to the help of reporter Linda McIntosh.

Some support came from unexpected sources. Shortly after an article written by Linda McIntosh appeared in the UT, I received a call from reader Bill Smith. He spoke of his fond memories of deceased retired Marine and former Commanding General of Camp Pendleton, Maj. Gen. Carl Hoffman. His memories were not related to Maj. Gen. Hoffman's military service but to their mutual love of music. After retiring, Hoffman formed and led a very popular band that played at many San Diego events. Bill Smith helped arrange some of his gigs and the two became good friends. Linda McIntosh's article rekindled those memories and led to a very generous donation from Bill Smith.

I wrote a letter to another Smith, Fred, founder and CEO of FedEx. We had never met, but I knew that he was a former Marine Corps officer and hoped that he would find our project interesting. Several weeks later my phone rang. The conversation went something like this:

Me: Hello

Smith (in a country voice): This is Fred Smith. I want to talk to Col. Richard Rothwell.

Me: This is he. Good morning Mr. Smith. Thanks for calling...

Smith: It's Fred! Call me Fred!

We talked about his time as the leader of the 81mm mortar platoon in the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. The next morning before breakfast the doorbell rang. My wife opened the door to see a smiling FedEx driver who handed her an envelope that contained Fred's very generous donation.



Progression of the digital sculpt; image courtesy of Scott Streadbeck

Other freehearted friends provided significant help: Council of Advisor member and long-time CPHS supporter Tony Joseph; great friend of the Corps, Timothy Day; and Tony Moiso, whose family had once owned Camp Pendleton. They and others made the project financially possible.

Approval

The wheels of bureaucracy did turn very slowly. After a review of over six months, MCIWEST had forwarded the donation offer to HQMC recommending approval. There it underwent seven months of reviews until May 11, 2021, when Headquarters, Marine Corps forwarded the offer to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, also recommending approval. It had been some 34 months since we had submitted our initial donation offer and 14 months since submission of the current one.

While the review time at each level was not unusually long, the combined wait began to wear on some supporters. "What's the delay?" some asked. One major donor suggested that he might reconsider his pledge because of concern that the delay signified ultimate government rejection of our donation offer.

A well-respected advisor, talking about the relationship between CPHS and the Marine Corps, once told me that CPHS and the Marine Corps were on the same team. I see it differently. We are allies rather than teammates. We both want the same outcome, in this case a monument, but each has

different considerations on how to achieve it. The Marine Corps is beholden to regulations, the chain of command, and the priorities of matters vying for attention. CPHS is simply beholden to its donors. Those who donate money deserve our best efforts to produce what we promise.

We believed that waiting patiently for the wheels of bureaucracy to render a decision was increasingly becoming a poor option. Our donation offer was not complex, but it was competing for attention with matters the Marine Corps and Assistant Secretary of the Navy considered more important. We had learned from the Staff Sgt. Reckless project that lower priority matters can get mired in the bottom of staffer in-baskets. We also knew that over time, current higher priority matters would be resolved and replaced by newer, equally important ones. To meet donor interests, CPHS needed to be proactive. The chain of command and higher priority projects were not our friends.

In for a dime, in for a dollar. In February 2022, I began a two-prong effort to achieve a decision: one political, the other internal. I wrote Representative Mike Levin (D-CA). Camp Pendleton is in his 49th Congressional District. I also contacted Maj. Gen. Michael R. Lehnert, USMC (Ret), a good friend and a member of the CPHS Council of Advisors. He had high level friends in the Pentagon. After explaining the situation, I asked each separately for assistance in obtaining a decision from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Both agreed to help. Through their efforts, the logjam gave way. On April 18, 2022, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations, and Environment) Meredith Berger formally acknowledged our donation offer. Her letter provided the green light for Camp Pendleton to authorize construction of the monument site to begin.

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End of story? Not quite. We needed a dedication date. CPHS proposed the third week of September 2022 to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the dedication of Camp Pendleton. Press coverage of the monument story would complement the public relations campaign surrounding the anniversary. The MCIWEST staff countered with an October 19 dedication date. That was mildly disappointing, but acceptable. Unfortunately, the October date did not fit the schedule of Brig. Gen. Jason Woodworth, Commanding General MCIWEST-MCB Camp Pendleton. He wanted to attend but would be away from the base at that time. Ultimately, we agreed to hold the dedication on Dec. 1, 2022.

While the dedication date was an administrative matter, an unexpected construction issue also came to light. Once we received the Assistant Secretary's acknowledgement, Eddie Ferrell, CEO of Enviroscope Constructors, our site construction contractor, began preparing engineering drawings. It soon became evident that the site recommended by Col. Holt had a previously undetected

flaw. The plan included a walkway connecting the monument pad to E Street, the road between the 11 Area Parade Field from the 1st Marine Division headquarters building. The engineer determined that in order to meet the American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirement that the walkway slope to be very shallow to accommodate wheelchairs, the walkway would have to be extended into the line of march of Marines passing in review. Clearly this was unacceptable.

The solution proved easy and cost effective, an uncommon combination. Rather than connect the monument from E Street with a walkway, we brought the monument closer to E Street by building a "peninsula" next to its sidewalk.

Construction of the site proceeded without further incident. Well, almost. The site was ready, but something was missing – the monument. It waited fully assembled in Sculptor Scott Streadbeck's Idaho studio, some 700 miles to the north. Scott arranged delivery with a commercial trucker who promised to deliver it

within a 12-hour window within a three-day period. The uncertainty of arrival date and time and knowledge that a delay in gaining base access would increase freight charges, created a challenge. How could we get the truck smoothly through the highly security conscious Marine gate sentries? One option was to request assistance from Base Security. Given the uncertainty of both the arrival date and time, we were skeptical that this would be satisfactory. Instead, we met the challenge through a jury-rigged cell phone network that included the truck driver, our construction crew, and a very helpful member of the MCIWEST staff. The driver called the construction crew when he was one hour out. The construction crew passed the arrival time to the Base staff member, who met the truck at the gate to escort it through security and on to a temporary storage site. If only the multi-layered donation review could have worked as smoothly.

The long project concluded on Dec. 1, 2022. Well, almost. One more step remained – formal acceptance of the monument. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy had acknowledged our donation offer, which was important, but acknowledgement and acceptance are two different things. We needed the government to formally accept our donation before our project was finished. With Maj. Gen. Pendleton firmly secured on his site, CPHS waited with much greater patience for completion of this final event. The wait ended on Feb. 13, 2023 when CPHS received a letter from the Commanding General, MCIWEST-MCB Camp Pendleton, accepting the gift of the General Pendleton monument on behalf of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations, and Environment). Mission complete.



L to R: Brig. Gen. Jason Woodworth; Lt. Gen. George Smith, Jr.; Pendleton family members Lesta Vogel, Eddie Pendleton, and Dayl Spagnolo; and Brig. Gen. Ryan Rideout. Photo by Deb Hellman



THE PENDLETON STATUE



FROM SKETCHES
TO
FINISHED BRONZE



Total Height (Bronze and pedestal) 125"
Bronze Height 87.5"
Width 47"
Depth 35"



87.5"

125"

20'

30'

Digital sculpting was used not only to create the design of the General Pendleton statue but was also used to create visualizations for possible landscaping and pedestal designs. The above depicts the original monument proposal.

FOAM CORE AND CLAY SCULPTING STAGE



The digital sculpture file was given to the foundry and used to CNC (Computer Numerical Control) rough mill a full-size version of the sculpture in foam. This saves the artist time and clay. It also gives the artist all major forms of the sculpture that the artist can further refine and detail in clay.



BRONZE PRODUCTION STAGE



The first step was to make a silicon production mold on top of the original clay.

The blue material is the silicon rubber used to create the mold. The white topping is plaster that will act as a "mother mold" to support the flexible rubber.

We then use that mold and cast wax copies of the original clay. Each section is no bigger than 2.5 feet x 2.5 feet, so it can fit through the machinery at the foundry.

These wax pieces will then be dipped again and again in a

ceramic slurry creating another mold.

Then the wax pieces, now covered in ceramic, will then be heated.

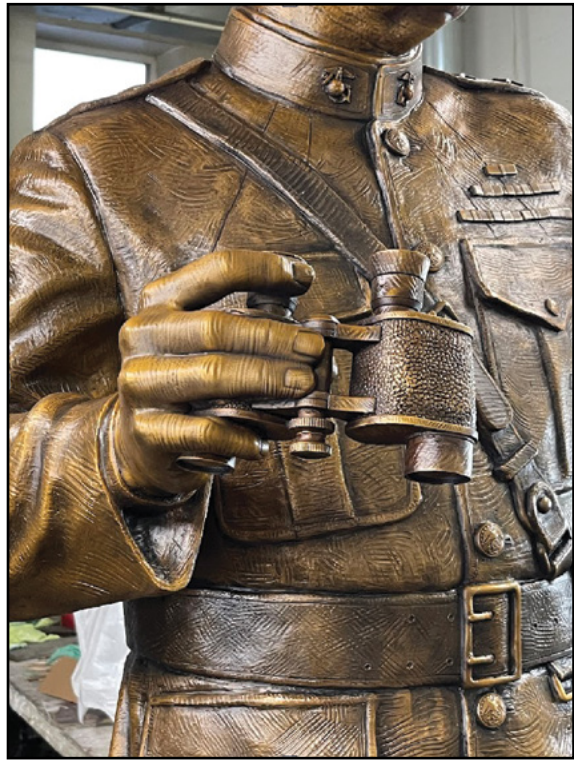
The wax will melt out and leave room for the bronze to be poured in; 2000°F bronze will be poured into the ceramic shells.

Once they are cooled, the ceramic is chipped and sandblasted away.

The remaining bronze pieces will then be reassembled in the bronze department.



FINISHED BRONZE



The sculpture is shown here with its completed patina. The patina (coloration) is created using various chemicals the oxidize the metal and change it to the desired color. Once the desired color is obtained the sculpture is protected by a coating of lacquer

and then wax. This double layer of protection will help prevent the sculpture further oxidizing in the elements once installed.

A few details shots are shown to show the intricate detail of the hands, binoculars, and buttons.



Photos courtesy of Scott Streadbeck



In addition to the 11 Area Parade Field, CPHS explored other locations such as the I-5 Main Gate, Pacific Views Event Center, Rattlesnake Canyon Road area, MCIWEST-MCB Camp Pendleton HQ (Bldg 1160), and the Marine Memorial Golf Course.



Block wall nearing completion (Oct. 29, 2022)



Overview of site construction progress (Oct. 29, 2022)



Grading of monument site landscaping (Nov. 9, 2022). Photos by Bo Hellman



Placement of Pendleton statue on monument pedestal by Enviroscope Constructors (Nov. 18, 2022). Photo courtesy of Enviroscope Constructors

MONUMENT DEDICATION CEREMONY



Ensemble from the 1st Marine Division Band



Brig. Gen. Jason Woodworth



Sculptor Scott Streadbeck



Richard Rothwell



U.S. Marines with Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton unveil the monument dedicated to Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Pendleton, during a ceremony on Camp Pendleton, California, Dec. 1, 2022. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Nataly Espitia



CPHS Advisor and Pendleton monument donor
Anthony B. Joseph



Ann and Richard Rothwell



Among the 100+ guests who attended the dedication ceremony were CPHS Board Members, Advisors, and monument donors. Photos by Deb Hellman



MONUMENT DONORS

This monument was made possible through the encouragement, support and generosity of our donors.

\$50,000+

Camp Pendleton Historical Society
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony B. Joseph
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick W. Smith
W&E Smith Foundation, Inc.,
in memory of
MajGen Carl W. Hoffman, USMC
and the
Bill and Elaine Smith Family

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Timothy T. Day Foundation

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

Col Joseph J. O'Brien, USMC & Mrs. O'Brien
Col Richard B. Rothwell, USMC (Ret.) & Mrs. Rothwell

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Lee Anderson
Mike Beckdolt
BGen John W. Bullard, USMC (Ret.) & Mrs. Bullard
Tom & Carol Dillon
Kathleen Maledon
Patrick Norton

Along with contributions from
members, donors, and sponsors of the
Camp Pendleton Historical Society

COMMEMORATIVE COIN PRESENTATION



Former CPHS President Dick Rothwell met with several of the Marines that supported the monument dedication ceremony. Dick gave a brief history about Maj. Gen. Pendleton and then presented each of the Marines with one of the 3-inch commemorative Pendleton monument coins (shown above) in appreciation of their support for the event.

MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH H. PENDLETON
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MONUMENT DEDICATION CEREMONY



MARINE CORPS BASE
CAMP PENDLETON, CA

1 DECEMBER 2022



Marines from Headquarters and Support Battalion, MCB Camp Pendleton gather at the Pendleton monument for a group photo with retired Marine Col. Richard Rothwell. Photos by Deb Hellman



JOSEPH H. PENDLETON AND HIS LEGACY



By Faye Jonanson

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.

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



Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Pendleton, 1924

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."

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 surveil 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 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



Brig. Gen. Pendleton; undated. Official USMC photos; courtesy of Camp Pendleton Archives

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.



Col. Pendleton, Coyotepe Hill, Nicaragua, 1912

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; reopened 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.

President's Message

Jay Bullard



On March 1, 2023, Dick Rothwell passed the gavel over to me to serve as President. All of us are thankful for Dick and Ann Rothwell's tremendous support and lasting impact. Both of them

put their heart and soul into CPHS and made a tremendous difference. Maj. Gen. Mike Lehnert, who serves on our Council of Advisors, was kind enough to make several pens from a eucalyptus tree that had fallen near the Ranch House. We presented one of these exclusive pens along with a plaque thanking Dick for his leadership and vision. Dick will remain with CPHS in his role as President Emeritus and continue to support us as we move forward.

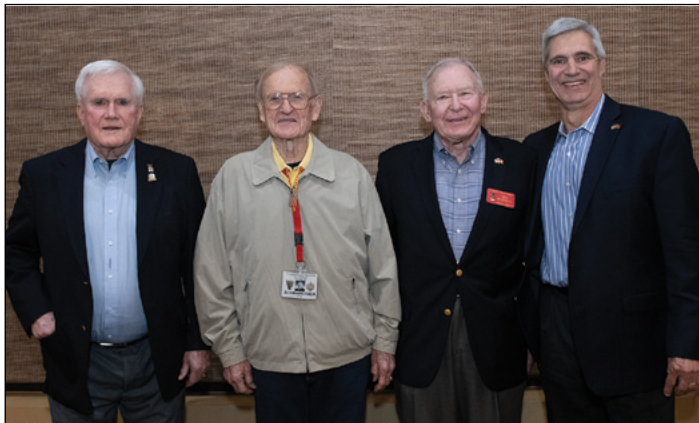
With the passing of the gavel, it was a good opportunity to review our mission statement and purpose. As a Board, we had to ask ourselves several questions: "where are we" and "where do we want to go". Mike Kelley led us in a strategy review session where we evaluated our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. From this effort, we have revised our mission to state: "CPHS increases the public's understanding and knowledge of the history of the land currently known as Camp Pendleton by supporting the collection, preservation, and interpretation of that history." We will continue with this process of reviewing our strategy to further develop our vision and applying goals towards achieving this vision.

I'm pleased to announce the addition of a new Associate Board Member, Jerry Blandford. Jerry had served in a variety of infantry billets throughout his career in the Marine Corps. He retired in 2005 and joined the MCIWEST - MCB Camp Pendleton staff, working in the G-3/5 Operations Directorate and was Director of the Knowledge Management Office. Also, Wayne Eggleston has agreed to serve on our Council of Advisors. Wayne had served as the Mayor of San Clemente and established Park Semper Fi in San Clemente. Jerry and Wayne bring a wealth of experience to CPHS and we look forward to their contributions.

Our 7th Annual "Golf with a Hero" golf tournament will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 at Marine Memorial Golf Course on MCB Camp Pendleton. This is fundraiser for CPHS as well as an opportunity for 36 active-duty Marines or Sailors from Camp Pendleton to golf with members of the community. Each foursome will include one active duty Marine or Sailor who plays at no cost. You can register through the CPHS website or email events@gmail.com for more information. Please come out and support CPHS. Remember, a bad day on the golf course is better than a good day at work.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. Please renew your membership and donations are always appreciated. Camp Pendleton has a unique history from the Native Americans to the Missionaries, Ranchers, and to the Marines. This story is unique and needs to be preserved.

Jay Bullard



The three original CPHS Board Members, Jim Williams, Joe Kirkpatrick, and Dick Rothwell, with CPHS President Jay Bullard at the Pacific Views Event Center on March 1, 2023.



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

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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

Larry Baber

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

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Dave Davidson
Elizabeth Draper
Trina and Marc Lamkin
Frandy and Jeremy Laster

Anne Marie and Jim Leonard
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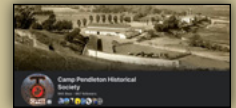
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"...the good weather and proximity of the harbor to the new Panama Canal makes San Diego a natural choice as a base for the Marine Corps' Advance Base Force to be stationed on the west coast."

Col. Joseph H. Pendleton, Speech at U.S. Grant Hotel, San Diego, Sept. 6, 1914