

## KEEPING THE SCOUT'S HISTORY ALIVE

The Camp Pendleton Scout volumes stored by the History Division. Photo by Lance Cpl. Adrian Estrada USMC

by Lance Cpl. Adrian Estrada, USMC

The fate of the Camp Pendleton Scout newspaper's illustrious history hangs in the balance, teetering on the brink of obscurity, seeking to be seen. The vital documentation of past events and achievements *The Scout* once produced serves as a crucial link to our organization's legacy and overall identity. To keep this valuable piece of heritage alive, it must be properly archived.

*The Scout* ran from 1943 to 2009, reporting on the happenings of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, with everything from historical events of the first female sergeant major of the base to Marilyn Monroe visiting the troops and everything in between. Every edition of *The Scout* preserved the history of the base.

Records of historical significance should be safeguarded for future generations. History links us to our past, providing insight into the rich tapestry of human experience and achievements. Protecting and properly archiving these precious documents, photographs, and artifacts, ensuring they are accessible for research, education, and inspiration for years to come.

William Murtagh, the first Keeper of the Records for the National Register for Historic Places, once said, "It has been

said that, at its best, preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future."

Over 66 years of stories, events, and history within *The Scout* sit locked in the History and Museum Division archive at MCB Camp Pendleton, without much attention or fanfare. These articles hold the stories of MCB Camp Pendleton and the Marines stationed there throughout the years, and now the Camp Pendleton Historical Society is working to preserve those articles through the digitizing process.

The CPHS's goal is to have *The Scout* completely digitized and accessible online by 2025. Then, the public would be able to easily access the archives on the CPHS website.

Digitizing ensures physical content remains safe and easily accessible in case of any unforeseen circumstances, such as fire or flood. By using digital preservation methods, you are not only protecting valuable information from physical harm but also guaranteeing it will remain intact for future reference or retrieval purposes.

"For one, it would preserve [*The Scout*], if anything ever happened, we would have a digital copy of it," said Robert "Bo" Hellman, a board member of the CPHS.

*Continued page 2, Scout*

Scout, Cont.



Front page of *The Pendleton Scout* newspaper, July 10, 1947. Images courtesy of the Camp Pendleton Archives

However, the process of digitizing years of information is more challenging than it might seem. One of the difficulties for the MCB Camp Pendleton History and Museum Division is storing some of the oldest products, which are extremely sensitive. The History and Museum Division also stores microfilm, and if stored properly, it has a shelf life of about 500 years.

Microfilm is a highly reliable long-term storage solution, particularly when it comes to things like historical records, but there are precise storage requirements to achieve this. The storing of microfilm requires a climate-controlled area at all times and be inspected every 2 to 5 years, depending on the year produced, according to the National Archives.

“Another challenge that comes is the process of microfilm,” said Hellman. “Some of the microfilm images the Camp Pendleton History and Museum Division have are skewed because the newspapers (in bound volumes) were reproduced without ensuring a proper alignment.”

Hellman described how his wife, Deb, who used to work at Palomar College in photojournalism and took on the tedious and meticulous newspaper digitizing project of decades of print issues of the student newspaper. During the project she had to cut the bindings of bound newspapers to separate individual issues so she could lay each page flat on a flatbed scanner for a high-quality scan allowing optical character recognition to become keyword searchable later.

Digital scanning and document management solutions offer cutting-edge technology to help streamline and modernize workflow. By digitizing these documents, it can eliminate the need for physical storage space and reduce the risk of lost or misplaced files. Advanced scanning technology ensures high-quality digital copies with precise image capture and text recognition capabilities, allowing the document to be keyword-searchable.

Keywords or phrases play a crucial role in helping the public navigate the vast expanse of information available on the internet, to eventually include the nearly seven decades of *The Scout*.

“With this [CPHS] website, users can look up a keyword to easily find the article they are looking for. If Aunt Sally or Uncle Joe were in the Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton in 1963 and you were wondering if anyone ever wrote an article about them, you could quickly look this up,” said Hellman.

In the digital age, information is constantly at our fingertips. While we may no longer read print newspapers often, getting accurate news is still a necessity, and the digitized *The Scout* publications will only aid in that necessity.

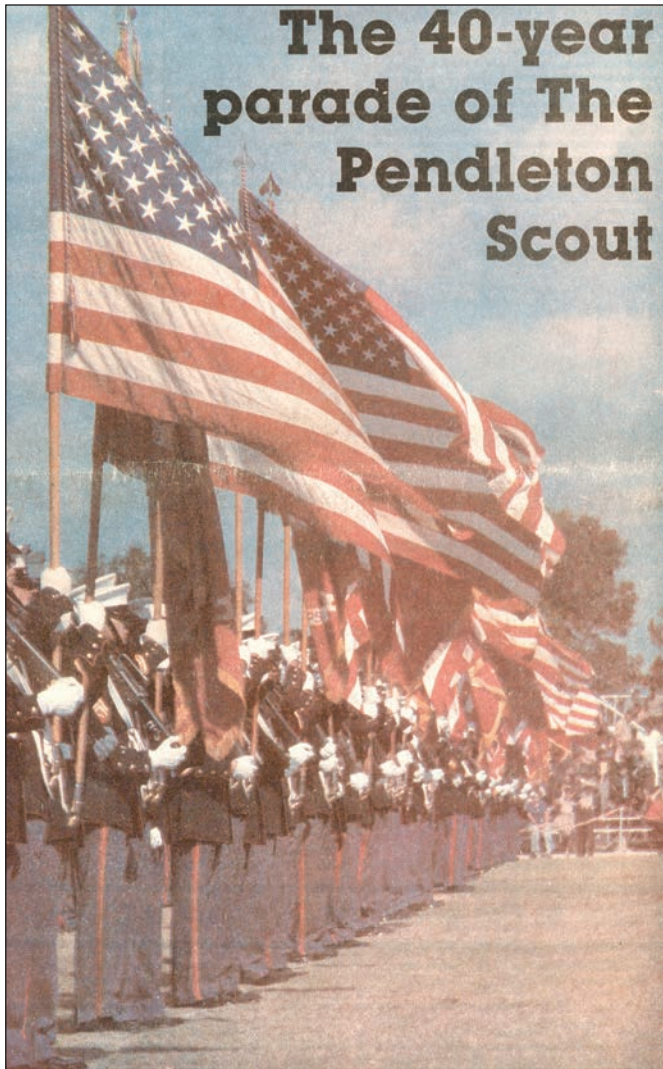
“Let’s pull this great resource out of the dark and make it available to everybody,” said Hellman.

*The Scout* was crucial to not only MCB Camp Pendleton but also to the entire region. For decades, *The Scout* informed military members, surrounding communities, and their families about Marine Corps and installation activities, updates, and news. After *The Scout* archive becomes digitized, it will allow the public to access the vast history of the installation with more ease.



Masthead of *The Pendleton Scout* newspaper, Jan. 3, 1944

# The 40-year parade of The Pendleton Scout



**Editor's Note:** This is a reprint of the article, "Scout turns another page in 40-year history", published in the Sept. 9, 1982 issue.

Out with the old and in with the new! October will mark the biggest change in *The Pendleton Scout* in its 40-year history.

Beginning Oct. 1, the base newspaper, which will be renamed *The Scout*, will be published by South Coast Newspapers, Inc., a civilian publishing group which owns several local papers, including *The Blade Tribune* in Oceanside and the *San Clemente Sun Post*.

Publication by a "civilian enterprise" means that government appropriated funds will no longer be used to pay for the production of the newspaper. The publisher sells space in *The Scout* to commercial advertisers and keeps all advertising revenue.

The biggest changes, other than the shortening of the name and the presence of commercial advertising, will be in circulation and distribution. The 10,000 *Scouts* currently published each week will be increased to 28,000. Distribution, beginning with the Oct. 7 issue, will be done by the publisher and will include delivery to every family residence aboard Camp Pendleton and in Sterling Homes in Oceanside. Distribution aboard the base will also be to individual commands and centers of activity.

Other changes will include: increasing the size to the same as local metropolitan newspapers; increasing the number of pages from 12 to between 22 and 44 a week; increased use of color reproduction; and the publication of a second

(Sports) section.

The Joint Public Affairs Office (JPAO), MCB, Camp Pendleton, located in Bldg. 1160 (Base Headquarters), will continue to produce and control the editorial content of *The Scout*. The JPAO will also continue to be the contact point for news and feature stories. Unit information officers (UIOs) and others are encouraged to contact the JPAO operations officer or the press chief, at extension 5566, with any newsworthy items or upcoming events that could be covered.

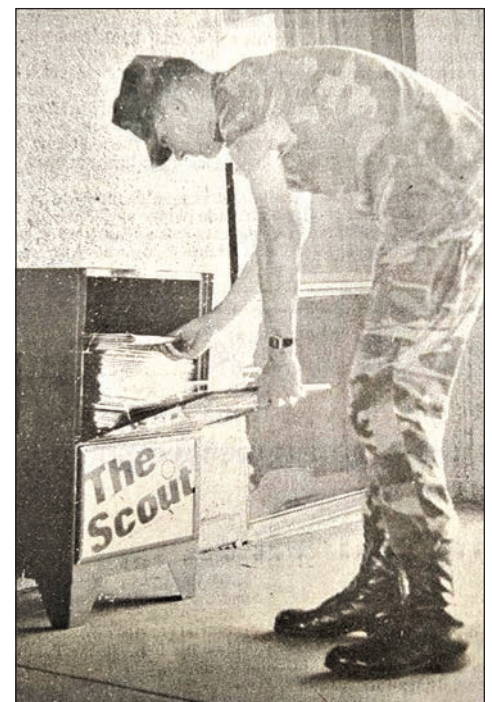
Active duty servicemembers stationed at Camp Pendleton and their dependents, retired military and their dependents, and civil service workers employed at Camp Pendleton will still be eligible for free classified ads in *The Scout*, of the same type currently allowed. These ads must be twenty or fewer words in length and must not be of a commercial or business nature. They will appear separate from paid

advertising in a special section. The deadline for receipt of these ads will continue to be noon, the Thursday before the date of publication. The paper will come out on Thursdays, as always. Ad forms are available at the JPAO, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays.

All paid classified ads and commercial advertising will be handled strictly by the publisher. Readers interested in placing paid classified ads should call 433-7010. Paid commercial/display ads may be placed by calling 433-7333.

*Scout* subscriptions which expire after Oct. 1 will be honored by the new publisher through their dates of expiration. New subscribers and those renewing subscriptions after Oct. 1 will need to contact the publisher directly at 433-7333, extension 266 or 267.

Changing *The Scout* was not a snap decision. During the past two years, the idea has been studied, considered, reconsidered, negotiated and approved. The final decision was based on what would best serve the readers. With that in mind, the change is seen as a dynamic move not only to continue, but also to improve, the 40-year service to the readers of *The Scout*.



**READ ALL ABOUT IT.** *The Scout* has positioned 22 newspaper racks across the base to serve readers. *The Scout*, June 21, 1985, Page 3

# HISTORY FOUND HIDDEN AMONGST THE PAGES

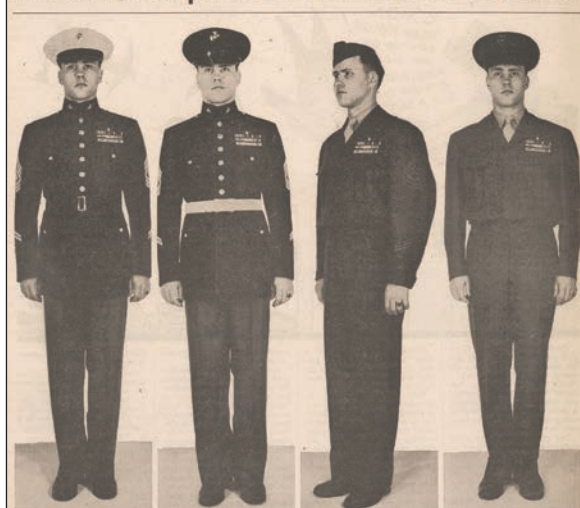


The first increment of Vietnamese refugees are welcomed at Camp Talega and are helped to their temporary quarters. *The Pendleton Scout*, May 1, 1975, Page 7



**SAFETY CHECK** - Sgt. N.W. Gordon, Base Transport, checks the windshield wipers of a car during a safety check at Pendleton's Main Gate as Pfc. C Cantu, also of Base Motors, fills out a safety check list. The Base Leathernecks give every vehicle on Camp Pendleton a safety check before its driver is issued a Base sticker. *The Pendleton Scout*, Jan. 13, 1961, Page 3

## Advance Dope On New Marine Uniforms



Advanced notice that the production of new uniforms were being manufactured and would start rolling out in September 1946. *The Pendleton Scout*, April 8, 1946, Page 3



**CAM PEN'S "CYCLE PATROL," ONE OF THE BEST**

Photo following a regular inspection of the CamPen's Motorcycle Patrol. 13 "bikes" and their riders appear in the photo. *The Pendleton Scout* - Feb. 19, 1945, Page 5

**Mike Lewis**

**Coach**  
From Page C1

Lewis' Merits in the type of team nobody wants to join. It might not be the most talented team on the coast, but it is the most fun to watch. Lewis is always ready to make the adjustments with the team's progress. This is a big reason Lewis is always ready to play the Merits.

They're the type of team that can make it tough, and Lewis knows exactly how to do it. They always seem to hang around for the first three minutes, and if you don't make it, they don't want to catch them on a bad day.

That's not saying that Lewis' team is the best, but Lewis knows how to make the adjustments between first and fourth in regular season play.

That's the reason, a finished fourth in the regular season, the first three games and several players. Lewis' Merits have had several players. Lewis' Merits have had several players. Lewis' Merits have had several players.

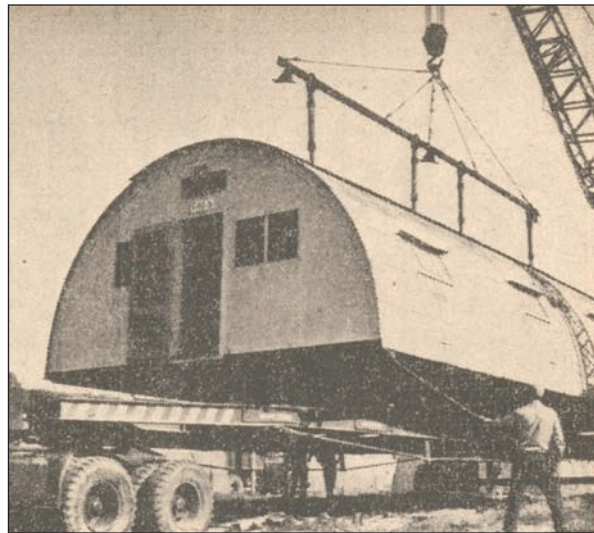
At the beginning of every season, and a few times during the season, Lewis has the players know that nobody is with attitude and that they have to play well for me. It's not because they play well for themselves, they're doing well for the coach.

I know that attitude has a lot to do with a team's success. They know I make the calls, right or wrong. They are ready to listen, but the coach is the one who makes the decisions. It's not that Lewis' Merits are the best, but Lewis knows how to make the adjustments between first and fourth in regular season play.

You have to stay positive to get positive.

**LEFT:** Even CPHS Board Member, Mike Lewis had an article written about him coaching. *The Scout*, May 22, 1997, Page C4

**RIGHT:** PICKING IT UP. Once of the 117 Quonset huts being picked up from old Homoja Housing Area near the main gate and relocating to a former tent camp at the Camp Las Pulgas. Each Quonset hut takes 18 minutes to put onto M-52 trucks and 45 minutes to an hour to transport. They will serve as quarters for the Reserves. *The Pendleton Scout*, March 19, 1956, Page 5





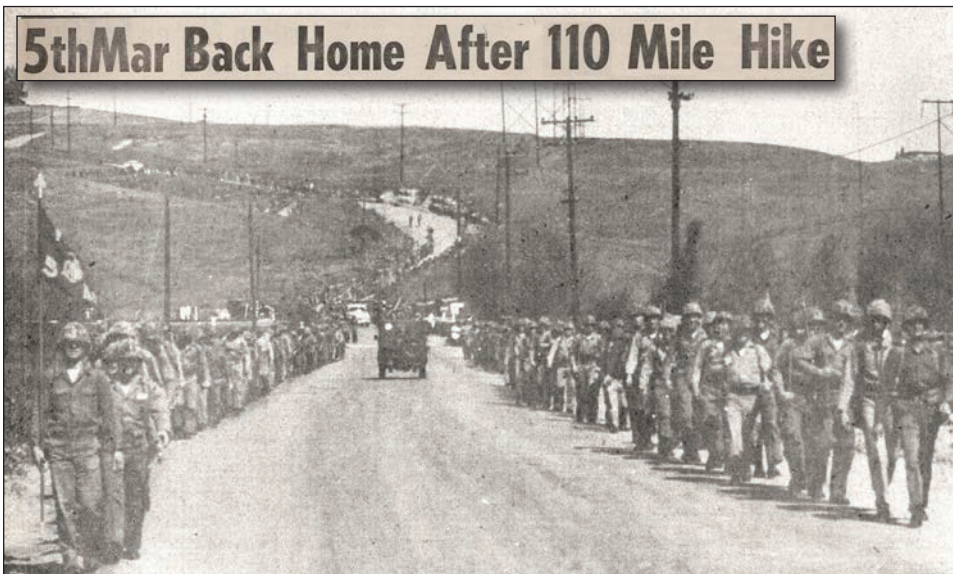
School of Infantry has started the only women's boxing team in the armed forces. Ten women signed on to be part of the team. *The Scout*, Feb. 20, 1997, Page C1

### 29 Palms to Pendleton

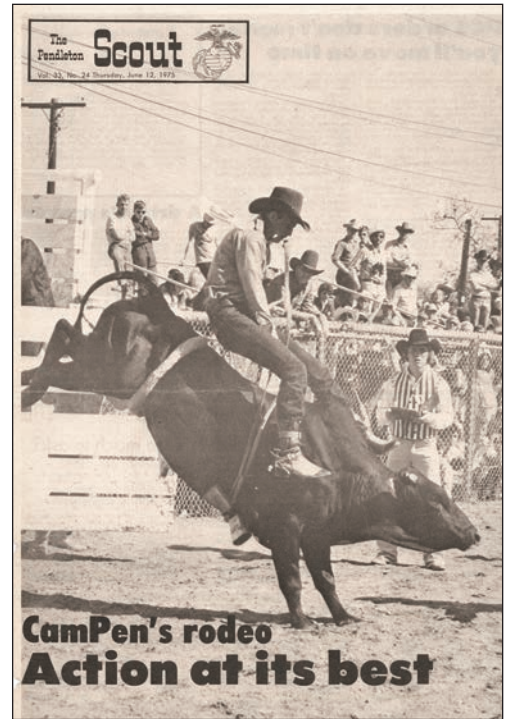


Marines from 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st FSSG, run in formation for the last leg of their 140-mile Twentynine Palms-to-Camp Pendleton relay run. The run which capped a 36-day field exercise took 18 hours to complete. *The Scout*, Oct. 20, 1983, Page 1

### 5thMar Back Home After 110 Mile Hike



In the longest regimental hike since World War II days, the chore resulted in putting one foot in front of the other. (Sgt.) Reckless even joined in the march. *The Pendleton Scout*, March 13, 1958, Page 8



The Scout has decades of articles and photos representing long history of the CamPen's Rodeo. *The Pendleton Scout*, June 12, 1975



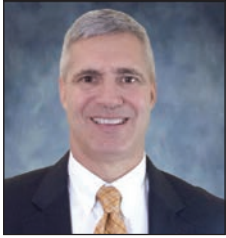
POLISHES NEW BARS. Making sure brother Bob gets off to a GI start in the MarCorps, Bing Crosby polishes the new bars. Recently commissioned a Reserve 2dLt & attached to the 5th Div, Bob Crosby was greeted recently by Bing at CamPen. *The Pendleton Scout*, Aug. 7, 1944, Page 6

Scan the QR Code for updates on our Scout digitizing project



## President's Message

Jay Bullard



Dear Members and Supporters,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season; we sincerely appreciate everyone's continued support.

As I mentioned in our December newsletter, we sent out a membership survey. If you haven't received a survey and would like to provide your input, please send an email to [cphs.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cphs.secretary@gmail.com). The intent of this survey is to hear back from you about the Historical Society. We view the expansion and sustainment of our membership as being critical to the Historical Society's future. The board collectively feels that we can increase the number social activities for its members and increase our membership participation. In other words, we want to look at opportunities for members to meet other members and celebrate our common cause to preserve and promulgate the history of Camp Pendleton. Therefore, please support our membership survey. Take a few minutes and answer the questions; there are no right or wrong answers. We would just like to hear from you.

At our January board meeting, we decided to move ahead with the digitization and cloud storage of the Camp Pendleton *Scout* newspaper. This will be a slow-going, labor-intensive process as old paper copies of the base newspaper are manipulated so they can be electronically scanned. We encourage any donations or support towards this endeavor. Capturing our Marine Corps base history through the Camp Pendleton *Scout* base newspaper and proving digitized access ensures our

history is not forgotten. Camp Pendleton and the personnel that have served are part of a unique history. Capturing and preserving this history allows the stories and the insight behind the story to be passed on to future generations.

Our 8th Annual "Golf with a Hero" golf tournament will be held on Friday, May 10, 2024 at Marine Memorial Golf Course on MCB Camp Pendleton. Please mark this date on your calendar. 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 [cphs.events@gmail.com](mailto:cphs.events@gmail.com) for more information. Please come out and support CPHS. This event is our primary fundraiser and a wonderful opportunity to have some fun.

Our General Pendleton statue finally received its plaques. Both plaques have recently been completed and were shipped for installation; the two plaques will be displayed at the base of the statue. One plaque will recognize key donors and the other plaque will recognize Maj. Gen. Pendleton's vision for a west coast base. If you haven't already, please stop by and visit the statue. The statue is located in front of the former 1st Marine Division HQ building.

I sincerely thank everyone for their continued support and participation. Our story is a story worth telling and sharing with future generations.

*Jay Bullard*

# T 8TH "GOLF WITH A HERO" GOLF TOURNAMENT



**A limited number of tickets are still available**



## JOIN US

for the 8th "Golf With A Hero" Golf Tournament on May 10, 2024 at the Marine Memorial Golf Course, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Each team will consist of three (3) golfers and one active duty Marine or Sailor. The cost per player is \$160.00.

Tickets sales are available on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and end on April 26, 2024.

For additional information, scan the QR Code or email [cphs.events@gmail.com](mailto:cphs.events@gmail.com).



**Special Thanks to our "Golf With A Hero" sponsors**

**SEMPER FI LEVEL**

**Judith Burns  
Cal Frantz**



**OTTERBOX**

**ESPRIT DE CORPS LEVEL**

**BGen Jay Bullard,  
USMC (Ret)**



**DEVIL DOG LEVEL**



## CPHS Supports the MCIWEST Spouses Spring Engagement



Visitors speak with representatives Diane Brooks of the Rancho Santa Margarita y Las Flores Docents and Mike Lewis of the Camp Pendleton Historical Society during the Marine Corps Installations West (MCI-West) Spouses Spring Engagement at the Marine Corps Mechanized Museum at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, Jan. 23, 2024. Renee Woodworth, wife to U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Jason Woodworth, the commanding general of MCI-West, MCB Camp Pendleton, hosted the event to build camaraderie and connect with spouses within MCI-West. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Erin A. VandeHoef)

## Volunteer Recognition - CPHS Board Member Tim Anderson



Congratulations to Tim Anderson, Project Manager, Defense Sector, and Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG) Co-Lead, for receiving the 2023 George & Marilyn Pedersen Community Service Award. This community service award recognizes employees who go above and beyond in giving back to their local and global communities.

ManTech Community Services Committee (CSC) recognized Tim based on his many hours (180+) of volunteer work for organizations near his home in San Diego, CA. Tim has donated his time to the Veteran Career Transition Assistance Program (VetCTAP) and the Camp Pendleton Historical Society (CPHS) whose missions focus on supporting Veterans and Military Spouses in the Southern California area.

Tim is the treasurer for CPHS and actively manages the budget while also assisting with event planning, such as their annual "Golf With A Hero" golf tournament. Tim also volunteers with VetCTAP as their golf fundraiser co-chair and The Century Club of San Diego as an Assistant Hospitality Director and Military Volunteer Coordinator.

Congratulations, Tim!

## Membership News

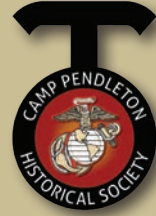
Many thanks to our loyal members for their recent renewal:

Richard Althouse  
Janet Coley  
Martin O'Connor

Duane & Patti Siegmann  
Robert Warrick

Donation:

Col. Jim Williams, USMC (Ret)



### CPHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Base History and Museum Division*

Kelli Brasket  
*Base Environmental Security Dept.*

### COUNCIL OF ADVISORS

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

Maj. Gen. Vincent Coglianesse, USMC (Ret)  
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## Camp Pendleton Mechanized Museum Project

During the month of February 2020, the Boy Scouts from Oceanside Troop 752 completed an Eagle Scout project in the Camp Pendleton Mechanized Museum. The Eagle Scout project consisted of researching each vehicle in the museum, creating an informational placard for each vehicle, and then mounting the placards into a metal frame to be displayed in front of the vehicles. This project allowed people visiting the museum to conduct a self-guided tour and provided much more information than was available in the past. At the time there were 16 metal frames available for the scouts and they filled all sixteen frames which are now on display within the Mechanized Museum. The project took 18 months to complete.

The Camp Pendleton Historical Society (CPHS) has decided to complete this project by having



16 additional frames completed, and also completing the research necessary for the remaining vehicles in the museum. This project will encompass all vehicles inside and outside of the museum. CPHS has partnered with United Association Veterans in Piping (UAVIP), a welding school for active duty Marines aboard Camp Pendleton, to construct the metal frames. Most of the materials necessary to construct the frames were generously donated to the project by the Marine Corps Installations West (MCIWEST) Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3/5, History and Museums Division. The remainder of the materials will be purchased by CPHS.

This will be a long-term project spanning one to two years. Keep an eye out for the new signs as they are added to the museum. We hope you enjoy the finished product.



New placard in stand by display vehicle

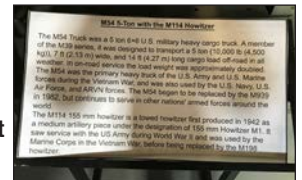
**M54A2C 5 TON TRUCK**

	<p><b>Service Years:</b> 1953-1965</p> <p><b>Type:</b> Cargo/Gun truck</p> <p><b>National Origin:</b> United States of America</p> <p><b>Manufacturer:</b> International Harvester</p> <p><b>Height:</b> 2.95 m(9 ft 8 in.)</p> <p><b>Length:</b> 7.59 m(24 ft 11 in)</p> <p><b>Width:</b> 2.46 m(8 ft 1 in)</p> <p><b>Weight:</b> 15,945 lbs</p> <p><b>Power:</b> Continental 1D5-463-1A, a 478 cu in (7.8 L) turbocharged inline 6 cylinder developing 175 hp</p> <p><b>Speed:</b> 52 mph</p>	
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The M54 was the main heavy cargo truck of the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. Gun trucks were a field expedient, with improvised armor and twin, or M45 Quadmount, 50 caliber M2 machine gun. The M54A2 trucks were used in the Vietnam War to ship materials and to take troops to camp. The M54 became gun trucks because they were quite vulnerable to ambushes on the road and they weren't usually armored. Gun trucks were improved to protect the cargo or whatever they were carrying. Gun trucks were put together by left over scraps that the soldiers could find. Not all M54s were transformed into gun trucks because they were used as escorts in convoys and not as many weapons were readily available to mount on the M54s.

Example of a completed informational placard

**Right:  
Informational  
placard before  
the Eagle Scout  
project**



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