



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION  
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

## "THE GRINDER"

December 11, 2020

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

This has been a year for the records. I hope this letter finds all our members in good health and getting ready for Christmas and the New Year. We have been exceptionally low key for the second half of this year but have managed to honor all our commitments aboard the Depot.

I wish I had better news concerning the 2021 Reunion; however, we are in a waiting mode. The Depot can not give permission until the Corona Virus is under control. News of a vaccine is encouraging but we must wait and see. We remain hopeful that we will be able to have a Reunion in 2021. The Commanding General has voiced her support and will try to honor our request if possible. The final word may not come until after the first of the year. The late notice will present new challenges as we try to get everything planned and in place prior to the date. Keep a watch on the website and I will get the information out as soon as I have it.

Mary and I were extremely fortunate to be invited to come to Parris Island in November. We were able to meet all the newest Senior Enlisted leadership in the Regiment. I was also invited to be the Parade Reviewing Official for Echo Company's graduation. It was a different experience without visitors, only the base staff and their families could attend. On Saturday morning I also got to

witness the Crucible Marines receiving their EGA. We also had the opportunity to deliver the Holiday Meal and Christmas donations.

I am very saddened to announce that we lost our Vice President, Roger Stembridge, to the Corona Virus. Roger is just one of several long-time members who have passed this year. Go to the website under Fallen Comrades for the complete list. Bud Apple has volunteered to assume the Vice President position until our next member's meeting.

### **QUARTERMASTER SALES:**

In addition to the items already for sale on our website, we are glad to announce the book that we have been given the rights to is now for sale on Amazon. You can access the link from our website. This would be a great Christmas gift or just an addition to your library. Please spread the word the more we sale the more the Association makes to help our cause.

### **MEMORIAL BRICKS:**

This year's bricks are now in place. Our vendor was not granted access to the Depot until 11 November. If you want a brick for next year, we are accepting orders now. Whether we have a Reunion or not the bricks will be ordered and installed.

### **DONATIONS:**

Donations continue to be one of our biggest sources of revenue. I know everyone's situation is different. If you are able please make a tax-deductible donation to your Association.

### **MEMBERSHIPS:**

We sent out reminder cards to all members whose membership had lapsed. The response was good; however, there are some members who did not respond, and their name will be removed from the rolls. Please keep your membership current as every membership helps.

**DRILL INSTRUCTOR SCHOOL:**

I have been approached by Drill Instructor School to possibly support another award. The award would be a DI Hat Press. I have asked them to do the leg work and get us a figure. We will only undertake this if it is sustainable. I will be working with the Board of Directors moving forward.

Semper Fidelis,

  
SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)