



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATION  
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

## "THE GRINDER"

December 10, 2021

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

As we get closer to the end of 2021 let us all take time to reflect on what Christmas is really about. I am the first to realize it is a time to give and receive gifts. A time to watch the little children as they wake up to the magic of Christmas morning with presents under the tree. I ask that we all reflect on the true reason for the season and that is the birth of our savior Jesus Christ. Mary, Jacy and I send our best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. We pray that everyone has good health in 2022.

I am proud and humbled to continue as the president of the Drill Instructors Association. We are already planning our next reunion and hope things are relaxed enough to have a better turn out.

This time of year presents some challenges as we close out the year. The Association's books must be closed out for the year. This is Mary's 12th year as your Secretary-Treasurer, and she has always balanced and gotten the records to the Trustees on time. I foresee no difference this year.

We continue to meet all our obligations to the Regiment. We were also able to donate \$500.00 to MCCS for Operation Santa. I am so proud of this Association with your generous heart of giving. We sure have come a long way.

## **REUNION:**

Planning is well underway for 2022. I am very pleased to announce that the SgtMaj of the Marine Corps, SgtMaj Troy Black, and his wife have accepted our invitation as co-guests of honor. I have tried for years to this end. I am looking forward to their attendance.

I am looking into a host hotel. There were dated problems with the Quality Inn this year. The problem is they gave us the best deal plus a Hospitality Room. If we change hotels it is going to be more expensive, and we may lose the Hospitality Room. I am open to suggestions. I will be going to Beaufort in January and will look into other hotels in the area.

## **QUARTERMASTER GEAR:**

While I still have many items of quartermaster items in stock some items are gone. The khaki jacket that was so popular is no longer available. I still have several mediums in stock. If you would like one get your order in before they are gone. Since I store these items in my home, I usually don't place a replenishment order until closer to the reunion.

The challenge coin is now available at a cost of \$10.00 each plus shipping. These items make great gifts.

## **MEMORIAL BRICKS:**

Last year we placed the fewest bricks I can ever remember. If you want a brick, get your request in soon. I will have to place the order around the first of March to get them delivered in time. The bricks make a nice tribute to the time we spent at Parris Island or to honor someone who is no longer with us. Consider getting one as a Christmas gift, imagine their surprise seeing it at the reunion in April. Several members have pitched in together to purchase a brick honoring someone they served with. I bought one to recognize the many sacrifices Mary has made in support of not only me but the Association. If you want one get your order in soon, since we pay more per brick the fewer, we order.

## **DONATIONS:**

Donations naturally fell off during the pandemic, but due to the generosity of many of our members donating 2020's Reunion Registration we came through pretty much unscathed. The Depot was easy on us as well, keeping costs for the 2021 reunion close to prior years. This is the hardest part for me every newsletter, asking for donations. I don't know anyone's situation. I ask only that if you are able donate what you can to ensure that we never have to renege on a commitment that we made.

Semper Fidelis,

SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)  
President