



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATION
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

"THE GRINDER"

June 21, 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Mary, Jacy and I would like to wish you all a happy Summer. I am so thankful that our nation is digging out from this terrible Pandemic. As things slowly return to normal, we are diligently planning our 33rd Annual Reunion. Circumstances have required a move to October, more on that later.

Your Association continues to thrive with the support of our members. We have continued to meet every obligation and have even taken on a new one. The board and I feel that the recognition of active-duty Drill Instructors is essential to our success.

We were able to visit the Depot recently for the 2nd Battalion SgtMaj Relief and Appointment Ceremony. We have been drastically restricted in our visits to the Depot due to COVID. The CG, Depot SgtMaj and Protocol have made every effort to allow us access when possible.

When we meet in October literally ever officer, board member and trustee will be open for election. Unfortunately, we have lost several members this year. If you would like to throw your hat in the ring and be considered for a position let it be known to your brothers and sisters so that you can be nominated. As Jacy gets older Mary and I will have less time to devote to the Association. We will still be as active as possible when our time comes to step down. There will be one more newsletter in September before we meet. I will go into specifics at that time. We

just wanted to plant the seed in everyone's mind for something to think and plan about.

This has been a challenging period for our Association. Each of you has made it much easier with your encouragement and support. I am honored to serve as your President.

Stay healthy and we look forward to seeing everyone in October.

FINANCES:

Mary completed the end of year accounting and reported to the trustees. She also completed the 990ez with the IRS. Both those documents are available for your inspection on the website. We also completed our annual application for fundraisers with the state of South Carolina.

REUNION:

We have long had our annual reunions during the month of April. Unfortunately, due to COVID we were not able to gain access to the Depot for all our members. Working closely with Protocol we decided, with the concurrence of the Board, to move the reunion to the Fall to allow things to return to normal. While not a guarantee we are deep in the planning process for this reunion. We can decide as a membership how we want to proceed in future years. The key this year is once announced, and registration forms are available get them in early. Mail directly to me at 804 Lynview St. NE., Lenoir, NC 28645. The host hotel is the Quality Inn Town Center. We went to several hotels and asked for quotes. Their rates were close to double the Quality. Their number is 843-524-2144. Mention the Association for the block rate.

BRICKS:

If you would like a brick installed in the walkway at the monument, please do not wait until the last moment. I currently only have a couple of requests for bricks. The more we have the less the cost to the Association to have them engraved. Send the forms to me here at 804 Lynview St. NE, Lenoir, NC. If you send them to

the Parris Island address, they will sit there until we make a trip to Parris Island. I must receive all orders no later than 27 August 2021 to insure placement.

MEMBERSHIP:

We still have quite a few members whose membership has lapsed. We send out reminders twice a year. While response is good, we still remove many members each year due to nonpayment of dues. There is not a penalty if you are late. Dues are our major source of income without them we could not continue our good work.

QUARTERMASTER:

Inventory is limited right now, with some sizes and colors out of stock. I plan to place an order in advance of the reunion. PIDI shirts are still in stock in all sizes. A new item that will be a hit at the reunion is a challenge coin. This has been in the planning for several years and has finally come to fruition. They will be \$10.00 per coin. They are available on the website now and will be available at the reunion.

Semper Fidelis,


Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)
President