



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

"THE GRINDER"

March 24, 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I hope this edition finds everyone recovering from the disaster that is COVID-19. In past years we would be busily planning for our annual reunion. While things appear to be improving, we are unable to hold our reunion in April. We are keeping a close watch on this situation and are striving to hold a reunion this year in the Fall. The tentative dates are 7-10 October. Be sure and mark it on your calendar. I hope the membership will support this decision and attend. The daily operation of the Association is still doing well. We managed to support all our obligations to the Depot. Mary and I were able to visit the Depot for the RTR SgtMaj's Relief and Appointment. SgtMaj Jesse Becker is the new RTR SgtMaj. He immediately joined the Association which shows the continued support from the Depot. Please continue to stay safe and we hope to see as many of you as possible in October.

MEMORIAL BRICKS:

While we were unable to hold a reunion in 2020, we still installed all bricks ordered in the walkway at the monument. If you would like a brick installed during the reunion in October now is the time to get your order in. The forms are available on the website or you can contact me directly for a form.

MEMBERSHIP:

We recently sent out reminders to members whose membership had expired. The response was good, but we still have a lot of members who will be removed from the active roster. Once removed from the active roster members will no longer

receive reunion notifications via USPS. Our Reunion in the fall may be limited in numbers and members and their guest would have priority. Membership is essential to maintain our presence at Parris Island. I regret we are currently unable to offer Life memberships. The dues are a small price to pay to support active-duty Drill Instructors, their families, and the community. Please keep getting the word out for new members.

CHALLENGE COIN:

For several years we have been considering a challenge coin for our Association. We are entering the home stretch. I feel sure we will have a coin at the reunion, if not before. The coins will be affordable, and I am sure most of you will want several. The coin has the monument on one side and the logos from RTR, DI School and the 5 battalions on the reverse side. I am attaching a picture of the coin artwork.

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED:

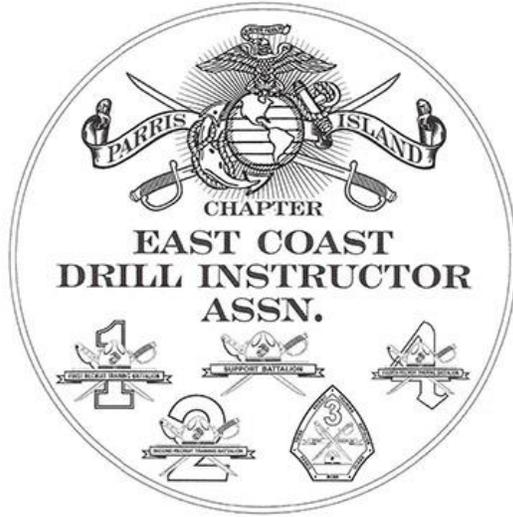
I have received a request from Frederick Coffey for a memory search. Frederick is building a scale model of the old Receiving Barracks, (Bldg. 631) and would like answers to the following questions. Where were the yellow footprints? Where did the bus stop? Were the footprints directly in front of the hatch or on the street just off Panama Street? Send any information to me and I will forward it to Frederick.

DONATIONS:

We are blessed as an Association to have many generous members. Donations along with membership dues keep the Association relevant. Please consider a donation to support the many programs we have in place to honor and support active-duty Drill Instructors and their families. All donations are appreciated and are tax deductible.

Semper Fidelis,

SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)



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THESE RECROUS ARE ENTRUSTED TO MY CARE,
 I WILL TEACH THEM TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY,
 I WILL DEVELOP THEM INTO SMARTLY DISCIPLINED,
 PHYSICALLY FIT, BASICALLY TRAINED MARINES,
 THOROUGHLY INDOCTRINATED IN LOVE OF
 THE CORPS AND COUNTRY.
 I WILL DEMAND OF THEM AND DEMONSTRATE
 THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF CHARACTER,
 MORALITY AND PROFESSIONAL SKILL.



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