



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATION
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

"THE GRINDER"

December 18, 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

First, I want to send out greetings from the Miller family. Mary, Jacy, and I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and warm as the temperature drops. The Association continues to meet all obligations and maintain a great relationship with the Regiment and the Depot.

I have not been able to travel to Parris Island as much as I have in past years. Two surgeries have hampered my movement some what. I am fully recovered now. I have a lot of new hardware, but the pain is gone.

REUNION:

Planning is underway for our reunion in April. The dates are 11-14 April 2024. I am working with Traditions to try and keep costs down, however; cost will go up in 2024. We will try to keep them as reasonable as possible. Registration forms will be out early in the new year. We hope to add a farewell breakfast on Sunday at Traditions. Numbers will be the deciding factor. We must guarantee fifty people to have Traditions put it on. The cost could be as much as \$18.00. Breakfast will be on the registration form. If we do not get fifty people, we will refund the cost of the breakfast. We look forward to seeing you all in April.

We have not contacted a host hotel yet. Let me know if you want to go back to the Quality Inn Town Center.

MEMORIAL BRICKS:

We only install bricks once a year around reunion time. We already have orders for eight bricks. If you want a brick in the walkway, get your order in soon. I must give the engraver enough lead time to get them to our installer.

QUARTERMASTER GEAR:

We still have gear available. I have ordered more jackets and hope to have that order soon. I try to keep items in stock for your convenience. We will be trying to clear out some items this year. It will be a good time to catch a bargain. All monies from the sale of quartermaster goes back to supporting the Active-Duty Drill Instructor. I am sure you noticed that prices have increased on the website. The reason is to cover postage. Our postage prices have skyrocketed over the past few years.

MEMBERSHIPS:

We continue to have memberships trickle in throughout the year. We do not make a lot on memberships, but it helps us to stay on top of our mission. One of the biggest problems is some only renew when they are coming to a reunion. Take a moment to check your card and if you are expired, please send in your renewal. Every little bit helps.

DONATIONS:

We rely on donations to allow us to operate. Donations are tax deductible. Consider donating to support your Association.

M1A RIFLE RAFFLE:

Rick Branch donated his M1A Rifle to the Association. We are currently selling tickets for \$10.00 each. We need our membership to step up and help sell the tickets. You can contact me, and we will mail you as many books as you want to sell. The winner does not have to be present to win. The rifle is presently stored with a gun dealer here in Lenoir. It will be shipped via UPS to a gun dealer near the winner's home. Everything is being done legally. For our older members, the

M1A should bring back memories. We had one thousand tickets printed, so the chance of winning is better than the lottery. We have until the reunion in April to sell the tickets. Please help!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth D. Miller". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)
President