



EAST COAST DRILL INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATION  
PARRIS ISLAND CHAPTER

## "THE GRINDER"

March 7, 2024

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

First Mary, Jacy and I hope everyone is doing well. We look forward to seeing everyone next month at Parris Island. Praying for safe travels.

Our 36<sup>th</sup> reunion is just a few weeks away. Registrations are down, with less than one hundred people registered to date. It is very important that we know how many are attending. We guarantee a certain number of attendees. I must let Traditions know two weeks out. If you plan to attend, please get those registrations in as soon as possible. There will be a TRAM tour available immediately following the Memorial Service.

Our Guest of Honor this year is the Depot Sergeant Major, Sergeant Major Sael G. Garcia. As the Sergeant Major of MCRD and the Eastern Recruiting Region he should be able to give us the big picture.

### **MEMORIAL BRICKS:**

The cut off for this year has passed and we have ordered 12 bricks. They are scheduled to be delivered and in place before the reunion.

### **AUCTION:**

We are fortunate to have Mike Thompson to conduct our Auction again this year. The live auction will take place Friday at the picnic. He always has a treasure of pictures and other items. Please support this event.

**PICNIC:**

We are trying something new this year to cut down on movement. The picnic will be held at Traditions with MCCS catering. This will eliminate the need to jump through hoops if the weather does not cooperate.

**HOST HOTEL:**

The Quality Inn has agreed to sponsor the Association again this year. The rates are the most reasonable in the area. The rate is \$88.00 plus tax. For reservations call 843-524-2144 select option 2 and be sure to mention the Association.

**QUARTERMASTER:**

Quartermaster items will be on sale Friday at the picnic. They will be available only on Friday. Sales are declining, save money on shipping by purchasing at the picnic. There are a couple of new items available.

**RIFLE RAFFLE:**

We are going to need everyone's help if we are going to reach our goal. Tickets will be available at the reunion until they are gone. Thanks to everyone who sold tickets so far. We are halfway there and just need to keep up the intensity. If you would like tickets just let me know.

**BANQUET:**

The goal for every reunion is for everyone to be comfortable and have a great time. I would just remind everyone to dress appropriately. Any tattered clothing should be avoided. Thank everyone in advance for your cooperation.

**DONATIONS:**

This is the hardest part of the letter for me. I do not know everyone's personal situation. If you can afford a donation, it will be put to good use. No amount is too small.

Semper Fidelis,

SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller USMC (Ret)